

**Leigh  
Academies  
Trust**

**Annual Report and Financial  
Statements**

31 August 2025

Company Limited by Guarantee  
Registration Number 02336587  
(England and Wales)

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## Reference and administrative information

<b>Members</b>	Lord Leigh of Hurley Mr A F X Green Professor G Randsley de Moura Professor D Moore
<b>Directors</b>	Mr A F X Green (Chairman) Mr S P Beamish Sir P Carter Mr M Costello Mrs T Davies Mr K Ellis Mrs H Esmonde Mr J Nicholson Dr J Wetherall Dr J Wales
<b>Secretary</b>	Ms F Reizopoulou
<b>Trust Executives</b>	
Chief Executive	Mr S P Beamish
Deputy Chief Executive	Mr R Taylor
Chief Financial Officer	Ms F Reizopoulou
Chief Infrastructure Officer	Mr P Whittall
People Director	Mrs L Mottram
Academies Director	Mrs D Biggenden
Academies Director	Mrs T Trusler
Academies Director	Mrs E Elwin
<b>Registered office</b>	Strood Academy Carnation Road Rochester ME2 2SX
<b>Company registration number</b>	02336587 (England and Wales)
<b>External Auditor</b>	Buzzacott Audit LLP 130 Wood Street London EC2V 6DL

## Reference and administrative information

**Bankers** HSBC plc  
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Dartford  
Kent  
DA1 1DG

NatWest Bank  
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ME14 1ST

**Solicitors** Stone King LLP  
16 St John's Lane  
London  
EC1M 4BS

**Actuaries** Barnett Waddingham  
Cheapside House  
138 Cheapside  
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One London Wall  
London  
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Mercer Limited  
1 Tower Place West  
Tower Place  
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The Directors present their report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the period from 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025. The annual report serves the purpose of both a Trustees' report and a Directors' report under company law.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 48 to 54 of the attached financial statements and comply with the Trust's Memorandum and Articles of Association, applicable laws and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

### **Background and constitution**

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are its primary governing documents. The Trustees are also Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as Leigh Academies Trust (LAT).

Members of the company are nominated by the sponsors, Sir Geoffrey Leigh, the University of Kent and the University of Greenwich.

Since February 2008, LAT has been a multi-academy Trust with Master Funding Agreements (MFA) and separate Supplemental Funding Agreements (SFA) to govern each academy.

### **LAT Academies**

There were 33 academies within the Trust on 31 August 2025 as shown below. It should be noted that LAT embarked on a phased change of academy names in September 2024. The purpose of this change was for a clearer brand identity across all academies in the Trust and to also reinforce the fact we are one community. By September 2025, all our academies were using the common academy naming convention. Leigh Academy Minster joined the Trust as at 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024.

- ◆ Leigh Academy Bearsted (a 3-11 Primary School and Nursery)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Bexley (an 11-19 Secondary School)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Blackheath (an 11-19 Secondary School)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Cherry Orchard (a 3-11 Primary School and Nursery)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Dartford (a 3-11 Primary School and Nursery)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Ebbsfleet (an 11-19 Secondary School)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Halley (an 11-19 Secondary School)

- ◆ Leigh Academy Hartley (a 3-11 Primary School and Nursery)
- ◆ Leigh Academy High Halstow (a 4-11 Primary School)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Horsmonden (a 4-11 Primary School)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Hugh Christie (an 11-19 Secondary School)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Hundred of Hoo (a 4-19 all-through School)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Langley Park (a 3-11 Primary School and Nursery)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Longfield (an 11-19 Secondary School)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Marden (a 4-11 Primary School and Nursery)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Mascalls (an 11-19 Secondary School)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Milestone (a 3-19 Special School)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Minster (an 11-19 Secondary School)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Molehill (a 3-11 Primary School and Nursery)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Oaks (a 3-11 Primary School and Nursery)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Paddock Wood (a 3-11 Primary School and Nursery)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Peninsula East (a 3-11 Primary School and Nursery)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Rainham (an 11-19 Secondary School)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Tonbridge (an 11-19 Secondary School)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Tree Tops (a 3-11 Primary School and Nursery)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Strood (an 11-19 Secondary School)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Snowfields (an 11-19 Special School)
- ◆ Leigh Academy Wilmington (an 11-19 Secondary School)
- ◆ Leigh Stationers' Academy (an 11-19 Secondary School)
- ◆ Leigh Stationers' Primary Academy (a 3-11 Primary School and Nursery)
- ◆ Leigh UTC Dartford (an 11-19 Secondary School)
- ◆ Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy (an 11-19 Secondary School)
- ◆ Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School (an 11-19 Secondary School)

### Members' liability

Each Member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Trust 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.

### Directors Indemnities

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Trust has purchased insurance to protect directors, governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £10million on any one claim.

### Directors

The Articles of Association require the appointment of at least three Directors (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution). Directors are appointed to the Board by the Members. Governors are appointed to Academy Boards by the Directors.

The training and induction provided for new Directors depends on their existing experience. Where necessary, induction provides training on charity, education, legal and finance matters. All Directors are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents to undertake their role as Directors.

The following Directors served throughout the period from 1 September 2024:

Director	Committees
Mr S P Beamish	
Sir P Carter	Resources
Mr M Costello	Standards (Chairman)
Mrs T Davies (Vice Chair)	Resources (Chairman), Audit
Mr K Ellis	Audit (Chairman)
Mrs H Esmonde	Standards
Mr A F X Green (Chairman)	
Mr J Nicholson	
Dr J Wetherall	Resources
Dr J Wales	Standards

During the year under review the Trust Board held three full meetings and nine committee meetings.

### Organisational Structure

The Board of Directors governs the activities of the Trust and oversees the work of the Academy Boards. It is also ultimately responsible for the strategic direction of the Trust and its overarching policies. Each Academy Board governs the work and outcomes of its assigned academies. Individual Academy Board governors are directly attached to a secondary or primary academy; they carry out regular visits to monitor progress at the

Academy and report their findings to the next available meeting. The Trust's Scheme of Delegation sets parameters for decision-making by executives and approvals by governors.

The senior managers of the Trust are the CEO, Deputy CEO, Chief Financial Officer, three Academies Directors, Chief Infrastructure Officer and People Director. They lead and manage the Trust, setting strategy and implementing policy in conjunction with the Board. Principals lead and manage the individual academies.

### **Subsidiary companies**

The Trust has three wholly owned subsidiary companies:

- ◆ LAT Enterprises C.I.C., a community interest company incorporated in February 1991.
  - ◇ The objects of the C.I.C. are to carry on activities which benefit the community and in particular by making available sporting and other facilities to individuals and community groups. Proceeds from the hiring of facilities to the community are gift-aided to academies within LAT for the benefit of students.
- ◆ The Hundred of Hoo Nursery and Kids Club, a company limited by guarantee incorporated in October 2007.
  - ◇ The objects of the company are to advance education by the provision of a full childcare service and nursery for children from the age of 0 to 11. The Nursery and Kids Club is located on the site of The Hundred of Hoo Academy and its activities are closely aligned with those of the academy.
- ◆ Connected Hub Apprenticeships C.I.C. (formerly LAT Apprenticeships C.I.C.), a community interest company incorporated in October 2019.
  - ◇ The objects of the Company are to carry on activities which benefit the community and in particular to provide training opportunities, including apprenticeships, for members of the community. Many apprentices on the C.I.C's training programmes are employees of LAT and the Trust governs its activities.

The financial results of the subsidiary companies are included in the notes to the financial statements.

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

The pay and remuneration of key management personnel are set by the Senior Pay Committee which comprises the Chairman of the Trust Board, the Chairman of the Resources Committee, the Chairman of the Audit Committee and the Chief Executive Officer. The key management personnel comprise the Executive Directors and Academy Principals. The pay and remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer is determined by the Chairman of the Trust Board, Chairman of the Audit Committee and the Chairman of the Resources Committee.

### Trade union facility time

The following information is provided in accordance with the provisions of the Trade Union (Facility Time Publications Requirements) Regulations 2017.

#### Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full-time equivalent employee number
29	27.6

#### Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	0
1%-50%	29
51%-99%	0
100%	0

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

Provide the total cost of facility time	£32,707
Provide the total pay bill	£173,441,000
Provide the percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time, calculated as: (total cost of facility time ÷ total pay bill) × 100	0.02%

### Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

No Director received any remuneration in respect of their services during the year, nor for any other work undertaken on behalf of the Trust, with the exception of Mr S P Beamish in his capacity as an employee of the Trust. Governors of individual academies are from sponsoring organisations, employers, local authorities or other organisations, some of which from time to time have dealings with the Trust in the course of their usual work. All transactions between these organisations and the Trust were carried out at arm's length and all material transactions were at standard rates.

### Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

As a Trust we believe that engaging with our workforce is a fundamental aspect of day-to-day operations and accordingly we have the following mechanisms in place:

- ◆ Operate a Joint Consultative Committee with trade unions to consult on all key matters relating to the employment of teaching and support staff.

- ◆ We undertake staff engagement pulse surveys six times a year which are sent to all staff with the results forming key action plans by academy. The results of these surveys are also reviewed by the Trust and actioned accordingly.
- ◆ We have a staff portal that contains news and policies as well as details of any initiatives for wellbeing and other projects.
- ◆ We operate a number of staff network groups to ensure that staff from specific communities have a voice and are able to be involved in the direction of the Trust.
- ◆ We also regularly publish documents on the future direction of the Trust, its vision and goals for the year ahead as well as the long-term future.

#### **Engagement with suppliers, customers and others in a business relationship with the Trust**

The Trust meets regularly with all of its principal suppliers in the spirit of cooperation and mutual interest. The Trust's academies work in partnership with suppliers at local level on the day-to-day delivery of services and Trust Executives engage with regional or national representatives to address contract management and value for money. Through its wholly owned subsidiary, LAT Enterprises C.I.C., the Trust maintains a strong dialogue with customers in the community who use academy facilities. This engagement is led by a dedicated team within the C.I.C.

The Trust and its academies engage fully with parents and guardians of our students. This engagement ranges from termly newsletters to specific, issue-based communications at academy level and through parent/guardian consultation events which address the progress of students.

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Objects and Aims**

The objects of LAT are summarised as follows:

- ◆ To advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, by establishing, maintaining, running, managing and developing schools which offer a broad and balanced curriculum or are specifically organised to make special educational provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs; and
- ◆ To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of the areas in which the Academies are located and the surrounding areas the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure.

##### **Objectives, Strategies and Activities**

The Trust's *Vision 2030* sets out an Excellence Charter which establishes the context for the LAT Performance Agreement. The Charter commits the Trust to do the following:

- ◆ We will ensure excellent teaching so that young people achieve their ambitions.

- ◆ We will ensure outstanding leadership to drive improvement in our own academies and across the sector.
- ◆ We will ensure an exceptional International Baccalaureate curriculum.
- ◆ We will ensure a world class digital strategy for education.
- ◆ We will ensure a highly developed and engaged workforce who make a difference.
- ◆ We will ensure a small school model of education that delivers high quality pastoral care.
- ◆ We will ensure disruption-free learning and a wide personal development programme.
- ◆ We will ensure targeted support for those who need it so that they can succeed.

### **Public Benefit**

In setting the Trust's objectives and planning its activities, the Directors have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

## **STRATEGIC REPORT**

### **Achievements and performance**

#### ***Overview***

On 1 April 2024, Hugh Christie School joined the Trust following its transfer from a local authority maintained school, under Kent County Council. On joining LAT, the school's name changed to Leigh Academy Hugh Christie. In September 2024, the Trust opened Leigh Academy Minster following the closure of Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey. These two academies have seen a period of significant achievement and profound transformation. Our commitment to fostering an environment where every student can excel has yielded measurable improvements across all key performance indicators. Outcomes have seen a notable uplift, with both academies recording their best-ever results at Key Stage 4 and 5, demonstrating significant improvement on prior performance and compared to national data in key academic subjects. This success is underpinned by the radical overhaul of our teaching and learning model. The introduction of the 'Excellence in the Classroom' framework, focusing on quality of teaching, has led to more engaging, challenging, and research-informed lessons. This focus has directly translated into students who are more confident, resilient, and prepared for their next steps, as evidenced by the sustained improvement in personal development metrics, including leadership skills and community engagement.

The academies' transformation extends beyond academics to the core of the student experience: behaviour and attendance. Leigh Academy Minster and Leigh Academy Hugh Christie have successfully embedded a culture of high expectations and mutual respect, which is reflected in a substantial reduction in fixed-term exclusions and an improvement in the overall climate for learning. The strategic implementation of tailored support and early intervention programmes has driven attendance figures to an all-time high, representing a

significant improvement compared to the previous reporting period and national benchmarks. This success is not accidental; it is the product of collaborative work between leadership, staff, students, and parents, ensuring that every young person feels safe, valued, and motivated to attend. The combined progress in outcomes, behaviour, attendance, personal development, and the quality of teaching provides a robust platform for sustained excellence in the years ahead.

### ***International Baccalaureate***

LAT is committed to providing all of its pupils with an outstanding educational experience that gives them the knowledge, skills and personal attributes they need to be successful lifelong learners. It is for this reason that LAT took the ground-breaking decision to introduce International Baccalaureate (IB) programmes across all phases of education in its academies. IB programmes are delivered in 150 countries worldwide and participation in the development of the IB programmes has given our staff the opportunity to engage with the best research and training from around the world.

All academies are either fully accredited International Baccalaureate World Schools or, for the schools newest to LAT, candidate World Schools.

<b>Primary Years Programme (PYP) World Schools</b>	<b>Middle Years Programme (MYP) World Schools</b>	<b>Career-related Programme (CP) Diploma Programme [DP]</b>
Leigh Academy Bearsted	Leigh Academy Halley	Leigh Academy Bexley CP (candidate)
Leigh Academy Cherry Orchard	Leigh Academy Hundred of Hoo (Secondary)	Leigh Academy Wilmington CP
Leigh Academy Dartford	Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy	Leigh Academy Halley CP
Leigh Stationers Primary Academy	Leigh Academy Blackheath	Leigh Academy Blackheath CP/DP
Leigh Academy Hartley	Leigh UTC Dartford	Leigh Academy Strood CP
Leigh Academy High Halstow	Leigh Academy Longfield	Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy CP
Leigh Academy Hundred of Hoo (Primary)	Leigh Academy Mascalls	Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy DP (Candidate)
Leigh Academy Horsmonden	Leigh Stationers' Academy	Leigh Academy Minster CP
Leigh Academy Langley Park	Leigh Academy Strood	Leigh Academy Rainham CP (Candidate)
Leigh Academy Molehill	Leigh Academy Wilmington	Leigh Academy Tonbridge CP
Leigh Academy Oaks	Leigh Academy Rainham	Leigh Academy Ebbsfleet CP
Leigh Academy Paddock Wood	Leigh Academy Ebbsfleet	
Leigh Academy Peninsula East	Leigh Academy Tonbridge	
Leigh Academy Tree Tops	Leigh Academy Snowfields	
Leigh Academy Marden	Leigh Academy Bexley (Candidate)	
Leigh Academy Milestone	Leigh Academy Hugh Christie (Candidate)	
	Leigh Academy Minster (Candidate)	

### ***The Leigh Institute***

Leigh Academies Trust is privileged to run four organisations mandated to provide fantastic opportunities for staff professional learning and development. The Thames Gateway Teaching School Hub (TGTSH), Kent and Medway Maths Hub (KMMH), Kent and Medway Training (KMT) and the newly re-named ConnectED Hub Apprenticeships collectively work with over 650 schools and academies across Kent and Medway. They oversee teacher training, development and apprenticeships providing professional qualifications inside and outside of education.

Each organisation has its own set of key performance indicators and financial structure, but key activity and personnel are increasingly focused on an aligned set of priorities, held under The Leigh Institute. Strategic oversight of all existing bodies is the responsibility of the Director of The Leigh Institute simplifying the direction, finance and governance whilst enhancing the delivery of all four. Whilst each organisation which is part of The Leigh Institute, holds its own reputation, The Leigh Institute's second year has increasingly secured its place as one of the regions' preeminent brands for teacher development, training and apprenticeships, utilising the strength of each organisation to provide a curriculum for life spanning from reception through public examinations, apprenticeships and professional qualifications. A child in reception can remain with LAT all the way through to employment and beyond.

Key achievements during the year:

**TGTSH** – more than **975** Early Career Teachers (ECT) worked with the hub this year as part of their induction period, with **370** starting the first year of their Early Career Framework professional development programme with the Hub. The full suite of National Professional Qualifications was delivered, with a pass rate of **94%**. **100%** of school leaders responding to the DfE (formerly ESFA) satisfaction survey rated the training they received from the Hub as good or better.

**KMMH** – the hub has worked with **297** primary and secondary schools this year, with **1315** participants engaging in at least one of its **81** workgroups. The Hub celebrated its tenth year this during 2025 and **81%** of schools across Kent and Medway have worked with the Hub since its formation.

**KMT** – **Over 220** associate teachers have trained with KMT this year and will be beginning their careers across our partner schools, with **100%** of those seeking employment gaining it. **Over 97%** of the mentors supporting our work also completed our mentor training programme. An additional cohort of candidates was also awarded Qualified Teacher Status through the 'Assessment Only' programme. More than **220** new trainees have been recruited to start with KMT next year.

**ConnectED Hub Apprenticeships** - Our re-branded apprenticeship provision has been realigned to build on our strengths and serve the needs of the education sector. Our first Teacher Apprentices completed their end point assessment, with a new cohort of **34** apprentices joining the programme in August. Our recruitment processes have been strengthened, leading to **60** new starts on-boarded over Summer 2025, ready for the next academic year. New programmes are in development ready to strengthen our two focused pathways, one in Teaching and one in Business and Leadership.

**OFSTED inspections**

During the year, eight academies received an OFSTED inspection and all achieved excellent judgements.

Academy	Ofsted judgement	Date of inspection	Ofsted judgement on joining LAT
Leigh Stationers' Primary Academy	Outstanding	Oct 24	Good
Leigh Academy Tree Tops	Inspection converted to a graded inspection within 1-2 years because inspectors believe that the academy may be outstanding overall	Nov 24	Inadequate
Leigh Academy Ebbsfleet	Inspection converted to a graded inspection within 1-2 years because inspectors believe that the academy may be outstanding overall	Dec 24	Good with RI sixth form
Leigh Academy Molehill	Outstanding	Dec 24	Inadequate
The Hundred of Hoo Nursery	Good	Mar 25	Good
Leigh Academy Langley Park	Inspection converted to a graded inspection within 1-2 years because inspectors believe that the academy may be outstanding overall	Apr 25	N/A
Leigh Academy Dartford	Outstanding	Jun 25	Inadequate
Leigh Academy Milestone	Outstanding (fourth time in a row)	Jun 25	Outstanding

These recent inspections take the total number of outstanding LAT academies to 56%. This is well above the national average of 15%. Not only is this figure over three times the national average, but LAT has outstanding academies across all school types.

**Primary Students' Performance**

The results are summarised below. In all key categories, LAT primary pupils have performed better than the national average.

*Primary Key Stage 2 SATs results 2025*

	LAT 2024	LAT 2025	National 2025
Reading expected standard	88%	89%	75%
Writing expected standard	88%	87%	72%
Maths expected standard	86%	86%	74%
Combined expected standard	80%	81%	62%
GPAS expected standard	83%	80%	73%

### Secondary Students' Performance

The results of Key Stage 4 and 5 students are summarised below:

Performance measure		LAT Average		National Average
		2024	2025	2025
GCSE	% of pupils achieving a grade 9-4 in English and maths	64	65	65
	% of pupils achieving a grade 9-5 in English and maths	43	44	45
Key Stage 4	Attainment 8	44.8	46.6	45.9
	Progress 8 (unvalidated)	0.03	N/A	N/A
	EBacc APS	4.06	4.26	4.08
Key Stage 5	Average point score per Academic entry	33	32	34
	Average point score per Applied General entry	29	30	29
	Average point score per IB entry	29	30	N/A
T Level	Average point score per T Level entry	43	40	N/A

### T Levels

Six academies in the Trust entered students for examinations in nine different T level programmes this academic year. The pass rate was 99% compared to 91% nationally. 74% of students achieved a Merit + compared to 65% nationally and Distinction+ was 27% in the Trust, higher than national at 16%. The average points score achieved across all programmes was 40 which is the equivalent of a grade B at A level.

We attribute our success to the cross-Trust collaborative approach to the implementation of T levels, as well as the hard work and dedication of staff and students.

Three more academies within the Trust have added T level programmes to their post 16 provision. Student numbers are increasing as students and parents become more aware of the advantages of choosing a T level route.

### Going concern

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

### People strategy

In 2024 - 2025, we have delivered the first full year of our Stay & Grow strategy, a targeted two-year programme designed to strengthen staff retention, engagement, and professional growth across the Trust. The initiative brings together wellbeing, development, and recognition to ensure every colleague feels valued and supported to thrive in their role.

#### ***Key areas of focus this year have included:***

- ◆ Workload and Wellbeing: We have continued to prioritise wellbeing through initiatives that support physical, mental, and financial health. The newly established Workload Review Group, which met for the first time this year, is bringing leaders and staff together to identify practical ways to reduce workload and improve work-life balance across our academies. We have also begun investigating additional financial wellbeing tools to enhance support for colleagues.
- ◆ Recruitment and Retention: Recruitment activity this year has focused on improving candidate attraction and onboarding, with refinements to recruitment processes and new promotional campaigns to enhance applicant quality. Retention initiatives under Stay & Grow are now being implemented, targeting stronger induction, mentoring, and career development opportunities to support long-term engagement.
- ◆ Professional Development: Through Thrive and Steplab, we continue to deliver high-quality professional development for teaching and associate colleagues, supporting continual growth and professional reflection. The forthcoming Flightplan service, launching later this year, will build on this by providing tailored career advice and structured development planning to strengthen internal mobility.
- ◆ Reward and Recognition: Our pay and benefits frameworks have been updated for 2025 - 2026, ensuring fairness and transparency. The continued success of LAT Moments, our staff recognition platform, has reinforced a culture of appreciation and celebration across the Trust.
- ◆ Equality, Diversity and Inclusion: We remain committed to creating an inclusive and supportive working environment, ensuring that our policies and practices reflect the diversity of our workforce and the communities we serve.

By investing in our people, their wellbeing, professional development, and career progression, we continue to build a motivated, capable, and high-performing workforce. A strong and inclusive People Strategy remains central to delivering outstanding education and sustaining the Trust's long-term success.

### Infrastructure Strategy

Infrastructure Services is the new, amalgamated department formed from the integration of the former Estates and IT departments. This single, cohesive service is now responsible for all physical and virtual infrastructure across the Trust.

The department's comprehensive remit is designed to provide a holistic "building-to-browser" service, encompassing:

- ◆ Capital Projects & Facilities: Construction, major capital projects, and hard facilities management.
- ◆ Site Operations: On-site facilities management teams.
- ◆ Network & Security: Network Operations Centre (NOC), infrastructure management, and cybersecurity.
- ◆ IT Services: Including on-site technical support teams across all academies
- ◆ Contract Management: Management of all subcontracted "soft" services, including catering, cleaning, and grounds maintenance.
- ◆ Commercial Operations: Third-party hiring of LAT Estate.
- ◆ Compliance: A dedicated team supporting all academies and central services in Health & Safety and Data Compliance (including GDPR).

The strategic rationale for creating the Infrastructure Services Department was to build upon the Trust's already sector-leading services. By merging two teams with significant interconnecting responsibilities and skill sets, the Trust aims to unlock new efficiencies, enhance service resilience, and foster innovation by breaking down traditional departmental silos. This report will outline the department's progress of the former departments from September 24 and March 25 (when formed) to year end of Infrastructure.

### **Achievement and Performance**

#### **Construction and Hard FM Services**

During 2024/25, the Trust delivered a significant capital and infrastructure programme across multiple academies, improving capacity, accessibility, and learning environments in line with our long-term estate strategy. The works represented an investment of more than £10 million across major projects and strategic refurbishments, supported by strong collaboration with local authorities and external partners.

#### **Strategic Expansion and New Provision**

- ◆ The new *Leigh Academy Snowfields Satellite* at Minster opened in September 2025, creating 60 new specialist places for pupils with autism on the Isle of Sheppey. The £2.5 million scheme, funded by Kent County Council, reflects the Trust's role in meeting the region's growing SEND demand and reducing travel time for families.
- ◆ A new two-storey teaching block at *Leigh Academy Hundred of Hoo* has provided eight additional classrooms and enhanced learning facilities. Delivered with Medway Council support, the project increases capacity to meet sustained local demand and reinforces the academy's long-term growth plan.
- ◆ *Leigh Academy Rainham* completed phase one of its post-16 development, opening a new study and social space ahead of its sixth form launch in 2026.

### **Modernisation and Renewal**

- ◆ *Leigh Academy Bexley* continued its multi-year refurbishment, transforming specialist teaching spaces, student facilities, and common areas. The works have delivered visible uplift in quality, supporting the academy's academic and pastoral priorities.
- ◆ *Leigh Academy Milestone* completed the first phase of a £720,000 outdoor learning transformation, creating accessible play and sensory environments to extend inclusive learning beyond the classroom.
- ◆ *Leigh Academy Mascalls* and *Leigh Academy Paddock Wood* both advanced their modernisation programmes, replacing outdated structures, upgrading roofs, and refurbishing teaching areas to improve functionality and extend asset life.
- ◆ *Leigh Academy Oaks* and *Leigh Academy Langley Park* received site-wide redecoration to maintain standards and create vibrant, well-maintained spaces for staff and pupils.
- ◆ At *Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School*, investment focused on upgrading science and library facilities, supporting excellence in STEM and literacy provision.
- ◆ The *High Halstow Hatchlings Nursery* was established, converting existing space to expand early years provision and strengthen community access.

### **Promoting the success of the Trust to achieve its charitable purposes**

The Board of Directors consists of individuals with a wealth of experience in local government, primary, secondary and tertiary education, local business and national charities. The wide range of skills and experience enables the Board to understand the wider impact of its decisions on the local private and business communities. Trust Executives are challenged by Directors to maintain professional relationships in their day-to-day business with stakeholders and external organisations. Engagement with the wider community is a high priority for the Board and is underpinned by the Trust's values. Directors are cognisant of the diverse communities in which the academies are located and foster strong relationships with local academy boards to fully understand the impact the academies and the Trust have on local communities. The Directors have led and supported a number of initiatives which address staff wellbeing and operate in a manner which takes account of relationships with stakeholders.

### **Financial review**

#### ***Financial report for the year***

Most income is obtained from the Department of Education (DfE) in the form of recurrent grants restricted to particular purposes. The grants received during 2023/24 and associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Trust also receives grants for fixed assets from the DfE and capital donations from commercial sponsors. In accordance with the Charities SORP, Accounting and Reporting by Charities, such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted fixed asset funds. The restricted fixed asset funds are reduced by transfers of amounts equivalent to any depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

The net movement in funds for the Trust for the year was an increase of £8,926,000 (2024 – £62,942,000), including depreciation and amortisation of £11,742,000 (2024 – £11,457,000), actuarial losses to the pension schemes of £868,000 (2024 – actuarial losses of £1,764,000) and income from the transfers of academies to the Trust of £nil (2024 - £52,748,000).

The operational result for the year before transfers was a surplus of £3,749,000 (2024 – surplus of £4,554,000). This excludes movement on the fixed assets fund, adjustments relating to the Local Government Pension Scheme and funds from schools joining the Trust. This can be summarised as follows:

	2024/25 £000	2023/24 £000
Net income after losses/gains on defined benefit pension scheme	8,926	62,942
Net income attributable to the fixed assets fund	(3,835)	(57,940)
Revenue funds attributable to entities joining the Trust	—	(289)
LGPS adjustments	(1,342)	(159)
Operational surplus for the year before transfers to fixed asset fund	3,749	4,554
Less: fixed asset purchases from revenue funds	(1,602)	(2,759)
	<u>2,147</u>	<u>1,795</u>

One of the Trust's subsidiaries, Connected Hub Apprenticeships C.I.C., continues to have net liabilities and the Trust Board has agreed to stand behind the temporary net-liability position using unrestricted funds.

At 31 August 2025 the net book value of fixed assets was £445,944,000 (2024 – £440,507,000) and movements in fixed assets are shown in notes 13 and 14 to the accounts.

### ***Financial position***

The Trust held fund balances at 31 August 2025 of £456,790,000 (2024 – £447,864,000). This consists of unrestricted funds of £6,296,000 (2024 – £4,521,000), restricted general funds of £6,300,000 (2024 – £5,928,000), the Trust's fixed asset fund of £444,194,000 (2024 – £438,757,000) and the Trust's pension reserve liability of £nil (2024 – £1,342,000). The fund balances are currently adequate to fulfil the known obligations of the Trust and are in line with the reserves policy set out below.

The estimated value of the Local Government Pension Scheme provided by the scheme's actuary resulted in a net surplus at the year-end (£2024 – net deficit of £1,342,000). Management have determined that the Academy Trust is not currently able to recover any surplus under the schemes' rules, as a refund of the surplus is only recoverable at the point of exit of the Local Government Pension Scheme and any reduction in future contributions will only be determined by the next full triennial valuation of the full scheme. The Academy Trust has no plans to exit the scheme and therefore the net surplus has been capped at £nil on the balance sheet.

The Trust will inherit the pension liability or asset of any new schools that join the Trust, thus potentially increasing the overall liability. The Trust accepts its financial responsibilities, subject to assurances received from the Department for Education, and has fully implemented the provisions of FRS102 relating to the Pension Scheme.

The Trust has received confirmation that in the unlikely event that the operation of an academy ceased altogether, the Department for Education would undertake discussions with the relevant pension authorities as to the best way in which the deficit could be dealt with, having regard for that academy's members of the scheme. These discussions would recognise that the Trust was never funded to meet any outstanding pension deficit. 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.

### **Reserves policy and financial position**

The Directors consider it essential to review each year the reserves target. The unrestricted reserves at the year-end stood at £6,296,000 (2024 – £4,521,000) and restricted income reserves at £6,300,000 (2024 – £5,928,000). The Directors have determined that the target level of free reserves, not invested in tangible fixed assets or restricted or designated for specific projects, should be at least 5% of annual income. In the year we have achieved that target.

Some funding for essential building repairs comes from the DfE School Condition Allocation, but this does not cover all of the medium-term cost of maintaining the estate.

Although no further advances of funding were received during the year, the Trust is now repaying funds advanced from the DfE in previous years which have supported Leigh UTC Dartford.

Individual Trust academies do not hold reserves, and surpluses are managed centrally for the benefit of academies. Fund balances at academy level are therefore zero (Note 20).

Tangible fixed assets are all held for use by the Trust.

In the next year, the Trust will continue to make strategic use of reserves in renewing IT infrastructure, completing the programme to provide a Chromebook to every secondary-age student and in a range of measures to support improvement in educational outcomes.

### ***Investment policy***

The Trust invests surplus funds prudently to maximise interest returns with minimal risk.

### **Principal risks and uncertainties**

The Trust has a rolling programme of risk assessment and management through which risks across all areas of the Trust's operations are identified and managed. The risk register is reviewed at least three times a year by Directors and key members of staff.

Principal risks on the risk register are:

- ◆ Failure of, or disruption to the IT network due to a firewall security breach, ransomware or dedicated denial of service attack - mitigated by reinforcement of network security and the use of Artificial Intelligence to detect sophisticated cyber threats.

- ◆ Reduction in real terms funding adversely impacting on the delivery of high-quality teaching and learning – mitigated by efficient delivery of educational and support services and regular Board review of budgets and long-term plans.
- ◆ Failure to recruit and retain high quality staff – mitigated by implementation of a funded recruitment and retention strategy, with staff wellbeing at its core.
- ◆ Insufficient capital investment in buildings maintenance causes buildings to become unsafe – mitigation strategy is set out below. Measures in place to ensure the estate is safe, well maintained and complies with relevant regulations:
- ◆ Health and Safety strategy. The Trust has established a Health and Safety Board which is chaired by a Board Director. This board is supported by a network of H&S committees at academy level and its key priorities are as follows:
  - ◆ Reviewing the H&S task dashboard using *Compliance Pod* specialist software to ensure compliance with regulations.
  - ◆ Considering any accident or incident data.
  - ◆ Reviewing any reports from enforcing authorities.
  - ◆ Reviewing any legislative changes affecting the Trust.
  - ◆ Reviewing key discussions and outputs from academy H&S committee meetings.
- ◆ Prioritisation of capital investment. Decisions on the allocation of School Condition funding provided by the DfE are based on the following priorities:
  - ◆ Keeping school buildings safe and in good working order
  - ◆ Health and safety
  - ◆ Compliance with building regulations
  - ◆ Energy efficiency
- ◆ The Trust's Project Review Board meets quarterly to review the following information to populate a building condition risk register which informs funding allocations, based on the above priorities.
  - ◆ Trust and DfE condition surveys
  - ◆ Roof surveys
  - ◆ Planned maintenance defect rates
  - ◆ Health and Safety Executive and industry updates
  - ◆ Legislative changes affecting compliance risk
  - ◆ Decarbonisation strategies

### **Fundraising**

During the year the academies received donations from The Tallow Chandlers Company, The Stationers' Company, Sir Joseph Williamson's Charitable Trust and others. There has been no active fundraising this year and the Trust has received no complaints to do with fundraising in the year.

### **Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting**

#### ***UK energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions***

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

#### ***Organisational boundary***

In accordance with the 2018 Regulations, the energy use and associated GHG emissions are for those assets owned or controlled within the UK only as defined by the operational control boundary. This includes all thirty-three schools, along with Trust owned vehicles and personal vehicles utilised for business mileage (referred to as "grey fleet"). This reporting year saw the addition of Leigh Academy Minister in September 2024.

#### ***Reporting period***

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

#### ***Quantification and reporting methodology***

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

Electricity, gas, and oil consumption were based on invoice records, while mileage was used to calculate energy and emissions from fleet vehicles and grey fleet. Where invoices did not cover the full reporting period, consumption figures were estimated using the pro-rata, apportioning and direct comparison techniques. Renewable solar photovoltaic electricity was purchased from a third party for Leigh Academy Minister. Generation and export readings were used to calculate total renewable electricity consumed. No on-site solar data was available for Leigh Academy Wilmington for this reporting period. Due to discrepancies identified, a revised version of the 2023/24 SECR was made for an accurate comparison for this reporting period. Gross calorific values were used except for mileage energy calculations as per Government GHG Conversion Factors.

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

**Breakdown of energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh):**

Energy type	2024/25	2023/24
<b>Mandatory:</b>		
Gas	19,869,526	18,986,300
Oil <sup>1</sup>	123,528	123,538
Purchased electricity from the grid	10,315,317	9,341,758
Consumed electricity from renewable sources <sup>2</sup>	147,273	19,504
Transport fuel	472,762	366,573
<b>Total energy (mandatory)</b>	<b>30,928,406</b>	<b>28,837,673</b>

**Breakdown of emissions associated with the reported energy use (tCO<sub>2</sub>e):**

Energy source	2024/25	2023/24
<b>Mandatory:</b>		
<b>Scope 1</b>		
Gas	3,635.3	3,472.6
Oil <sup>3</sup>	30.5	30.5
Trust-Owned vehicles	48.1	24.7
Consumed electricity from on-site renewable sources <sup>4</sup>	0.0	0.0
<b>Scope 2</b>		
Purchased electricity (location-based)	1,825.8	1,934.2
Consumed electricity from renewable sources <sup>5</sup>	0.0	0.0
<b>Scope 3</b>		
Category 6: Business travel (grey fleet)	69.6	64.9
<b>Total gross emissions (mandatory)</b>	<b>5,609.3</b>	<b>5,526.9</b>

1: Oil is now reported as mandatory emissions.

2: 2023/24 solar generation has been classified under scope 1 emissions, whereas 2024/25 solar generation has been classified under scope 2 emissions. Solar is now reported as mandatory emissions.

3: Oil is now reported as mandatory emissions.

4: 2023/24 solar generation has been classified under scope 1 emissions, whereas 2024/25 solar generation has been classified under scope 2 emissions. Solar is now reported as mandatory emissions.

5: 2023/24 solar generation has been classified under scope 1 emissions, whereas 2024/25 solar generation has been classified under scope 2 emissions. Solar is now reported as mandatory emissions.

Note: 2023/24 intensity ratio(s) has been revised due to updated figures.

***Intensity ratio***

Two intensity ratios are reported: Mandatory emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) per pupil and per square meter of floor area. Emissions per pupil is the recommended ratio for the sector, ensuring consistency and comparability, with pupil numbers based on the Autumn 2024 census. Emissions per square meter floor area are reported to reflect the energy efficiency of the buildings, which are the primary source of emissions.

<b>Intensity ratios</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2023/24</b>
<b><u>Mandatory emissions only:</u></b>		
Tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> e per pupil	<b>0.228</b>	0.238
Tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> e per square meter floor area	<b>0.015</b>	0.020

***Energy efficiency action during current financial year***

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

- Leigh Academy Halley – Replacement windows with energy efficient models. Lowering energy consumption by improving insulation, reducing air leaks, and controlling solar heat gain, thereby lowering heating and cooling demands.
- Leigh Academy Tonbridge – Installation of new boilers. Reducing energy consumption by improving combustion efficiency, minimizing heat losses, and better matching heating demand through advanced controls.
- Leigh Academy Mascalls & Leigh Academy Molehill – New roof of one building. Enhancing thermal insulation and lowering heating demands.
- Leigh Academy Oaks – Installation of new roof on kitchen block and LED corridor efficiency. Upgrading to LED lighting improves energy efficiency by significantly reducing electricity consumption and heat output compared to traditional lighting technologies.
- Leigh Academies Trust – Change of gas supplier has provided better operational overview of all gas consumption across the Trust.
- The Trust remains committed to reducing its carbon footprint and continues to look out for new energy saving and funding opportunities going forward.

*Tonnes of CO2e per pupil*

Tonnes of CO2e per pupil	Mandatory emissions	
	2024/25	2023/24
Leigh Academy Ebbsfleet	0.320	0.465
Leigh Academy Bearsted	0.308	0.287
Leigh Academy Bexley	0.337	0.331
Leigh Academy Blackheath	0.171	0.173
Leigh Academy Cherry Orchard	0.081	0.091
Leigh Academy Dartford	0.172	0.209
Leigh Academy Halley	0.321	0.377
Leigh Academy Hartley	0.103	0.103
Leigh Academy High Halstow	0.171	0.137
Leigh Academy Horsmonden	0.160	0.209
Leigh Academy Hugh Christie	0.228	0.208
Leigh Academy Langley Park	0.127	0.129
Leigh Academy Milestone	0.527	0.566
Leigh Academy Molehill	0.184	0.201
Leigh Academy Oaks	0.132	0.157
Leigh Academy Paddock Wood	0.108	0.158
Leigh Academy Rainham	0.134	0.169
Leigh Academy Tonbridge	0.241	0.264
Leigh Stationers' Academy	0.305	0.299
Leigh Stationers' Primary Academy	0.163	0.172
Leigh Academy Longfield	0.140	0.137
Leigh Academy Marden	0.094	0.148
Leigh Academy Mascalls	0.224	0.174
Leigh Academy Peninsula East	0.136	0.136
Sir Geoffery Leigh Academy	0.158	0.174
Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School	0.271	0.281
Leigh Academy Snowfields	0.309	0.444
Leigh Academy Strood	0.216	0.287
Leigh Academy Hundred of Hoo	0.195	0.186
Leigh UTC Dartford	0.189	0.183
Leigh Academy Tree Tops	0.261	0.245
Leigh Academy Wilmington	0.179	0.165
Leigh Academy Minster	0.316	N/A

*Tonnes of CO2e per square meter floor area*

Tonnes of CO2e per square meter floor area	Mandatory emissions	
	2024/25	2023/24
Leigh Academy Ebbsfleet	0.017	0.025
Leigh Academy Bearsted	0.053	0.039
Leigh Academy Bexley	0.019	0.022
Leigh Academy Blackheath	0.019	0.018
Leigh Academy Cherry Orchard	0.013	0.013
Leigh Academy Dartford	0.034	0.039
Leigh Academy Halley	0.018	0.019
Leigh Academy Hartley	0.023	0.021
Leigh Academy High Halstow	0.024	0.019
Leigh Academy Horsmonden	0.025	0.033
Leigh Academy Hugh Christie	0.020	0.020
Leigh Academy Langley Park	0.019	0.018
Leigh Academy Milestone	0.037	0.039
Leigh Academy Molehill	0.028	0.027
Leigh Academy Oaks	0.021	0.022
Leigh Academy Paddock Wood	0.024	0.034
Leigh Academy Rainham	0.012	0.012
Leigh Academy Tonbridge	0.014	0.013
Leigh Stationers' Academy	0.014	0.015
Leigh Stationers' Primary Academy	0.022	0.022
Leigh Academy Longfield	0.014	0.015
Leigh Academy Marden	0.015	0.021
Leigh Academy Mascalls	0.017	0.014
Leigh Academy Peninsula East	0.015	0.014
Sir Geoffery Leigh Academy	0.018	0.020
Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School	0.032	0.033
Leigh Academy Snowfields	0.015	0.016
Leigh Academy Strood	0.019	0.024
Leigh Academy Hundred of Hoo	0.014	0.015
Leigh UTC Dartford	0.018	0.017
Leigh Academy Tree Tops	0.026	0.023
Leigh Academy Wilmington	0.018	0.017
Leigh Academy Minster	0.025	N/A

### **Plans for future periods**

Our young people are the adults of tomorrow, and we aim to equip them to shape a better future. Vision 2030 sets out our response to the major social, economic and technological challenges of our time, while ensuring that inclusion remains at the heart of everything we do.

#### **Challenge 1: Modern lifestyles are damaging the planet, widening inequality and affecting mental health.**

We will nurture resilient learners who act with empathy, compassion and ethical purpose. We will continue to expand our provision for children with additional needs through new specialist resource bases and special schools, ensuring that every learner is supported to thrive, regardless of background or circumstance.

#### **Challenge 2: Humans are overloaded with information.**

We will develop learners who think critically and apply knowledge with discernment. Through evidence-informed teaching, technology-rich classrooms and the International Baccalaureate framework, we will help pupils navigate complex information with confidence and clarity.

#### **Challenge 3: The pace of global change is accelerating.**

We will cultivate internationally minded learners who appreciate differences and hold wide perspectives. Our digital ecosystem will empower creativity, innovation and adaptability so that every young person can harness technology to shape a better world.

#### **Challenge 4: A shortage of employment skills threatens UK productivity.**

We will strengthen our focus on STEM, digital and employer partnerships to ensure that pupils leave education ready for high-value careers. Our academies will provide rich, applied pathways including T Levels and technical qualifications to meet regional and national workforce needs.

#### **Challenge 5: The post-pandemic economy and the impact of Brexit continue to affect growth.**

We will recruit, develop and retain excellent staff, building leadership capacity across every academy. By investing in our people, we sustain high standards for learners and strengthen succession for the future.

### **Inclusion and Access for All**

Our approach to inclusion is defined by exceptionally high expectations matched with expert support. Across 33 academies, nearly 6% of pupils have an Education and Health Care Plan, above the national average and around a quarter are eligible for free school meals. We are proud to educate all children within safe, ambitious and highly inclusive environments.

LAT operates two outstanding special schools, Leigh Academy Milestone and Leigh Academy Snowfields and in September 2025 we opened a new campus for Leigh Academy Snowfields. Many mainstream academies host specialist resource provisions to enable children with special educational needs to learn alongside their peers. The Trust's "small school model" ensures that every pupil and family is known, supported and valued.

Inclusion is reinforced by high-quality teaching, expert staff, a broad IB-based curriculum and a "warm-strict" approach to behaviour that provides calm, purposeful learning environments for all.

### **Estate Safety, Maintenance and Compliance**

The Trust's priority is to maintain a safe, compliant and sustainable estate that reflects our inclusive and aspirational ethos.

### **Health and Safety Governance**

A Health and Safety Board, chaired by a Board Director, oversees strategy and compliance, supported by academy-level committees. The Board monitors:

- ◆ Compliance dashboards
- ◆ Accident and incident data
- ◆ Reports from enforcing authorities
- ◆ Legislative updates
- ◆ Feedback from local academy H&S committees
- ◆ Launched Head Office Health & Safety Committee to ensure representation for all central staff
- ◆ Undertaken comprehensive health and safety risk audit conducted on behalf of LAT's insurer

Moving forward, we intend to widen the scope of the Committee to also look at our Environmental impact and where the Trust can drive better sustainability.

### **Asbestos Management**

Annual asbestos management surveys have been updated across all relevant sites, with live management plans now in place and monitored.

### **Capital Investment Priorities**

DfE School Condition funding is directed towards:

- ◆ Maintaining safe and functional buildings
- ◆ Meeting health and safety obligations

- ◆ Ensuring regulatory compliance
- ◆ Improving energy efficiency and sustainability

#### Capital Planning and Oversight

The Project Review Board meets quarterly to review estate data, informing a building condition risk register that drives funding decisions. The Board reviews:

- ◆ Condition and roof survey outcomes
- ◆ Maintenance and defect data
- ◆ Health and Safety Executive updates
- ◆ Legislative and compliance changes
- ◆ Progress on decarbonisation and sustainability

#### Cyber Security and Data Protection

Protecting information and ensuring the security of digital systems remain fundamental to the Trust's operations. As the use of technology across LAT continues to grow, our focus is on resilience, vigilance and continuous improvement.

Key priorities include:

- ◆ **Cyber Security:** Ongoing investment in multi-factor authentication, network segmentation, and endpoint protection across all academies. The Trust also maintains ISO-aligned policies for incident response, access control and system monitoring.
- ◆ **Data Protection:** Mandatory annual data protection and cyber awareness training for all staff, reinforced through scenario-based learning and simulated phishing exercises.
- ◆ **Governance and Audit:** Regular independent penetration testing, audit reviews and compliance checks, with results reported to Directors.
- ◆ **Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity:** All critical systems are backed up securely and tested routinely. The Trust's disaster recovery arrangements ensure that teaching, learning and business functions can resume quickly in the event of disruption.

#### Policies towards employees and disabled persons

The Trust's Diversity and Inclusion policy embeds equal opportunity for all colleagues, including those with disabilities, through a fair and consistent approach to the application of policies and procedures. This ethos is embedded in all stages of the recruitment and selection policy as well as throughout a colleague's employment. Managers who are responsible for recruitment, selection and promotion, or who supervise other staff are required to complete equal opportunities training. Other colleagues have the opportunity to access awareness training in equality to avoid discrimination.

The Trust engages in consultation with employees through termly meetings at least three times each year, with representatives from the following recognised trade unions: NEU, NASUWT, Unison, GMB, ASCL and Voice Community.

### **New Community Boards**

From September 2025, the governance structure within LAT has changed. The local layer has transitioned from 20 academy boards to 11 community boards, and the Standards Committee has been removed. This strategic transition aims to streamline local oversight, improve consistency across the Trust's network of schools, and align governance more closely with strategic objectives by grouping academies. The new structure allows the Trust to pool high-quality volunteers and ensures the local boards (now Community Boards) are primarily focused on standards, safeguarding, and community engagement for their specific cluster of academies, operating under a clear Scheme of Delegation set by the central Trust Board."

### **AUDITOR**

In so far as the Directors are aware:

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



A F X Green

Chairman

16 December 2025

### Scope of responsibility

As Directors, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that LAT 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.

The Directors have 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 agreements between the Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. The Chief Executive Officer is also responsible for reporting to the Directors any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

The Directors met three times during the year and at each of these scrutinised the financial reports of the Trust and its academies. The Board has agreed a scheme of delegation of financial powers and is supported in the discharge of its financial oversight responsibilities by the Resources Committee. The committee met three times during the year, scrutinising management accounts and holding executive budget holders to account for the effectiveness of financial management and budgetary control. The Audit Committee provides further support to Directors by setting the Trust's programme of internal scrutiny and reporting to the Board on the adequacy of the Trust's financial and other controls and management of risks. Local Academy Boards are sub-committees of the Board and provide Directors with further assurance on the adequacy of financial management and budgetary control through scrutiny of academy management accounts and by providing challenge to Principals. The Board is satisfied that these governance arrangements work effectively to assure Directors that they can fulfil their responsibilities for financial oversight of the Trust.

### Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Directors' report and in the statement of Directors' responsibilities. Outside of Trust Board meetings Directors give of their time generously. Each has a specific responsibility either as a Cluster Director, working with Chairs of Academy Boards, or for oversight of a central trust service.

Director	Number of meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr A F X Green (Chair)	3	3
Mr S P Beamish	3	3
Sir P Carter	2	3
Mr M Costello	2	3
Mrs T Davies	3	3
Mr K Ellis	2	3
Mrs H Esmonde	3	3
Mr K Ellis	3	3
Mr J Nicholson	2	3
Dr J Wales	3	3
Dr J Wetherall	2	3

## Governance statement 31 August 2025

The Resources Committee is a sub-committee of the main Trust Board. Its purpose is to focus on compliance with approved budgets, policies, legislation and regulations. It is responsible to the Board of Directors. Three meetings were held in the year. Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Number of meetings attended</b>	<b>Out of a possible</b>
Mrs T Davies (Chair)	2	3
Ms R Bahia	1	3
Sir P Carter	2	3
Prof L Drew	2	3
Mr S Lockwood	2	3
Ms C Robinson	0	3
Ms K Shiner	1	3
Dr J Wetherall	3	3

The Standards Committee is a sub-committee of the main Trust Board. Its purpose is to focus on delivering the Trust and Academy curriculum to students and ensure that quality of teaching remains high. It is responsible to the Board of Directors. Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Number of meetings attended</b>	<b>Out of a possible</b>
Mr M Costello (Chair)	3	3
Mr C Barker	1	3
Prof C Donovan	0	3
Ms H Esmonde	3	3
Mr B Sherwood	2	3
Mrs P Reid	1	3
Dr J Wales	2	3
Mr S Wilkins	2	3

The Audit Committee is a sub-committee of the Directors. It helps the Board oversee financial and other controls including risk management, in the context of the planned growth in the network. The committee exists to ensure probity, efficiency, and compliance with the requirements of the DFE Academies Financial Handbook. It is responsible to the Members. Three meetings were held in the year. Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Number of meetings attended</b>	<b>Out of a possible</b>
Mr K Ellis (Chair)	2	3
Mrs T Davies	2	3
Mr K Morrison	3	3
Mr J Nicholson	3	3
Mr A Styles	2	3

### **Conflicts of interest**

In accordance with the Articles of Association and the Academy Trust handbook, LAT maintains an up-to-date and complete register of interests for all governors, including Directors. The register is published on the Trust's website, is reviewed throughout the year and its accuracy and completeness are assessed by the Trust's independent internal assurance partner. Directors are required to disclose any potential conflict of interest at each meeting of the full board or its subcommittees, and the same requirements are in place for meetings of subsidiary company boards.

### **Governance structure**

As of 29 June 2025, there were 210 filled governance posts within LAT and another 34 posts vacant at that time. The Trust has an active recruitment strategy which enables it to attract new governors from a wide range of backgrounds, age profiles and experience. It carefully monitors the skills and attributes of each board to ensure that it can appropriately support and challenge its academy/academies.

### **Governance Professional and support**

A Governance Professional, Miss H English is in post to support the efficient functioning of the Trust Board. All governors are further supported by a dedicated governance team which provides effective induction and training, access to a wide range of information and resources regarding the role, as well as communication and documentation in advance of meetings and in relation to other Trust events.

### **Governance Audit and Review**

Outcomes from its audit process has led the Trust Board and its academy subcommittees to review their practice and enhance the quality of its governance. The most recent Trust wide governance audit took place between December 2023 and March 2024 reflecting the evolving cohort of governors across an increasing number of academies.

Terms of reference and expectations documents were reviewed and adjusted as required at the start of the year. The Scheme of Delegation was also reviewed, amended and approved by the Trust Board in March 2025. These documents can be accessed via the Trust website.

The Trust Board reviews at each meeting its compliance against the Schedule of Musts published within the Academy Trust handbook. The schedule is reviewed annually to ensure that it is consistent with the latest iteration of the Academy Trust Handbook.

### **Governance Training**

Governors have had access to a range of training opportunities and resources, covering a wide range of educational topics, finance, safeguarding through the LAT Thrive online portal. Programmes are tailored to meet governors' individual experience, skills and knowledge, as well as being specific to the type of academies for which they provide oversight.

All new governors undertake an induction process which ensures their DBS status and provides essential training on trust structures, expectations of the role, safeguarding, data protection and cybersecurity.

Dedicated training for all new Chairs and Vice Chairs of Academy Boards takes place to ensure that they are thoroughly prepared and supported to undertake their new role.

All governors have undertaken Safeguarding update training since September 2025 in line with the requirements of the DfE statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education (2025).

### **Communication**

- ◆ All governors receive regular communications via a range of channels to ensure they are fully informed. These include:
- ◆ A Governor Portal providing secure 24/7 access to governance documentation specific to their role.
- ◆ An online governor handbook, which is regularly updated with key information, advice and guidance.
- ◆ Dedicated governor email accounts to ensure safe and secure transmission of data and information.
- ◆ In person events where governors are able hear about and discuss with Directors the current and future strategic development of the Trust and work of the Trust Board.
- ◆ A summary of key actions by the Trust Board are communicated to all governors after meetings to enhance the connection between the work of the Board and Academy Board governors.

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

As Accounting Officer, the Chief Executive Officer has responsibility for ensuring that the Trust delivers good value for money 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 Directors where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where available. The Accounting Officer has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- ◆ streamlining the senior management structure of some academies and the central trust to maintain a balanced budget in a climate of funding pressures and to better align leadership structures on desired outcomes for students.

- ◆ continuing to enhance support services to academies across the Trust, including finance, human resources, estates management and IT to assist educational achievement in all academies. The centre delivers consistently high level educational and support services to academies with valuable economies of scale.

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

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

During the year there were no instances of fraud or loss.

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

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

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

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 reviewed and agreed by the board of directors.
- ◆ Regular reviews by the Board and Resources Committee of financial performance against forecasts, major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes.
- ◆ Setting targets to measure financial and other performance.
- ◆ Clearly defined asset purchase and capital investment guidelines.
- ◆ Delegation of authority and segregation of duties.
- ◆ Identification and management of risks and regular review of risks by the Audit Committee.

The Directors have considered the need for a specific internal audit function and decided to appoint Kreston Reeves LLP as internal auditor for the year. Upon receipt of their findings and recommendations, management reports to the Directors on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board's financial responsibilities.

Kreston Reeves delivered their schedule of work as planned. The work carried out was as follows:

- ◆ IT systems & Cyber security - reviewing of IT security and usage policies, removable media use, password policy, system monitoring, anti-virus and backup procedures and staff training.
- ◆ Strategic Financial Planning, Budget setting and monitoring – reviewing the accuracy of forecasting and budget submissions, verifying rigour and scrutiny in financial processes, confirming the Board monitors long-term financial sustainability and going concern status, and reviewing the existence and content of the reserves policy and asset management plan, alongside the integration of curriculum and financial planning.

Their findings and recommendations have either all been implemented or in the process of being implemented.

#### Review of effectiveness

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

- ◆ the work of the external auditor;
- ◆ the work of the internal auditor;
- ◆ the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- ◆ the work of the Trust Executive Board which is responsible for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

#### Conclusion

Based on the advice of the Audit Committee and the Accounting Officer, the Board of Directors is of the opinion that the Trust has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the Board of Directors on 16/12/2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Chairman of Board

A F X Green



CEO and Accounting Officer

S P Beamish

**Statement on regularity, propriety and compliance 31 August 2025**

As Accounting Officer of LAT, 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 Trust Board of Directors and DfE of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I, and the Board of Directors are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the 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 Directors and DfE.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Beamish', followed by a comma.

CEO and Accounting Officer - S P Beamish

Date: 16 December 2025

## Statement of Directors' responsibilities 31 August 2025

The Directors (who act as trustees of the Trust for the purposes of charity law) are responsible for preparing the Directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Directors 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 Trust and of its income and expenditure for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- ◆ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ◆ observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP FRS 102 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025;
- ◆ make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ◆ state whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- ◆ prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust will continue in operation.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Trust's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust 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 Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the Trust applies financial and other controls, which conform to the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from the DfE have been applied for the purposes intended. The Directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Trust'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 Directors on 16/12/25. and signed on its behalf by:



Chairman of Board

A F X Green

## Independent auditor's report to the members of Leigh Academies Trust

### Opinion

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

In our opinion, the financial statements:

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

### Basis for opinion

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

### Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Directors 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 charitable company'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 Directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

#### **Other information**

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

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

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

- ◆ the information given in the directors' report, which includes the strategic report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- ◆ the Directors' report, which includes the strategic report, has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' report including the strategic report.

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

- ◆ adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- ◆ the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;  
or

- ◆ certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- ◆ we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

### **Responsibilities of Directors**

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors (who are also the directors 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 directors 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 directors are responsible for assessing the charitable company'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 directors either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

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

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

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- ◆ the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- ◆ we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charitable company through discussions with management, and from our knowledge of the academy trust sector;
- ◆ the identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit;
- ◆ we considered the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the charitable company and determined that the most significant are the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019, the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025, the Academies

## Independent auditor's report on the financial statements 31 August 2025

Trust Handbook 2024, and the Trust's funding agreement with the DfE as well as legislation pertaining to safeguarding in the UK;

- ◆ we understood how the charitable company is complying with those legal and regulatory frameworks by making inquiries to management and those responsible for legal, compliance and governance procedures. We corroborated our inquiries through our review of the minutes of directors' meetings and papers provided to the directors.
- ◆ we planned and carried out a separate limited assurance engagement in respect of regularity, propriety and compliance in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts issued by the Department for Education, as set out in our separate independent reporting accountant's assurance report on regularity.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charitable company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- ◆ making enquiries of management and those charged with governance as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- ◆ considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- ◆ performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- ◆ tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- ◆ tested the authorisation of expenditure as part of our substantive testing thereon;
- ◆ assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in the accounting policies were indicative of potential bias; and
- ◆ used data analytics to identify any significant or unusual transactions and identify the rationale for them.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- ◆ agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- ◆ reviewing the minutes of directors' meetings;
- ◆ enquiring of management and those charged with governance as to actual and potential litigation and claims;
- ◆ reviewing any available correspondence with Ofsted, DfE and HMRC; and
- ◆ the work undertaken in relation to the limited assurance engagement in respect of regularity, propriety and compliance in accordance with the Framework and Guide for

## Independent auditor's report on the financial statements 31 August 2025

External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts issued by the Department for Education, as set out in our separate independent reporting accountant's assurance report on regularity.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. International Standards on Auditing also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

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](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### Use of our report

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



Katharine Patel (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of Buzzacott Audit LLP, Statutory Auditor  
130 Wood Street  
London  
EC2V 6DL

18 December 2025

**Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Leigh Academies Trust and the Secretary of State for Education**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 5 August 2025 and further to the requirements of the Department for Education (DfE), as included in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts, 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 Leigh Academies Trust during the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 have not been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament or the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

**Respective responsibilities of the Accounting Officer of Leigh Academies Trust's] and the reporting accountant**

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

### Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants 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.

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- ◆ An assessment of the risk of material irregularity and impropriety across all of the academy trust's activities;
- ◆ Further testing and review of the areas identified through the risk assessment including enquiry, identification of control processes and examination of supporting evidence across all areas identified as well as additional verification work where considered necessary; and
- ◆ Consideration of evidence obtained through the work detailed above and the work completed as part of our financial statements audit in order to support the regularity conclusion.

### Conclusion

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



Buzzacott Audit LLP, Reporting Accountant  
130 Wood Street  
London  
EC2V 6DL

18 December 2025

## Consolidated statement of financial activities Year to 31 August 2025

	Notes	Un-restricted funds £'000	Restricted funds			2025 Total funds £'000	2024 Total funds £'000
			DfE £'000	General £'000	Fixed assets £'000		
<b>Income from:</b>							
Donations and capital grants	2	116	—	233	15,577	15,926	17,144
Transfer from local authority on conversion	23	—	—	—	—	—	289
Transfers of academies to the Trust	23	—	—	—	—	—	52,748
Charitable activities:							
. Funding for the Trust's educational operations	5	—	189,105	24,421	—	213,526	181,055
. Teaching Schools	5	1,359	1,578	459	—	3,396	3,658
Other trading activities	3	1,333	—	3,826	—	5,159	5,834
Investments	4	756	—	—	—	756	941
<b>Total income</b>		<b>3,564</b>	<b>190,683</b>	<b>28,939</b>	<b>15,577</b>	<b>238,763</b>	<b>261,669</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Raising funds	6	58	—	350	—	408	469
Charitable activities:							
. Trust's educational operations	6	637	186,895	26,156	11,742	225,430	193,034
. Teaching Schools	6	1,094	1,578	459	—	3,131	3,460
<b>Total expenditure</b>	6	<b>1,789</b>	<b>188,473</b>	<b>26,965</b>	<b>11,742</b>	<b>228,969</b>	<b>196,963</b>
<b>Net income before transfers</b>		<b>1,775</b>	<b>2,210</b>	<b>1,974</b>	<b>3,835</b>	<b>9,794</b>	<b>64,706</b>
Transfers between funds	20	—	—	(1,602)	1,602	—	—
<b>Net income for the year</b>		<b>1,775</b>	<b>2,210</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>5,437</b>	<b>9,794</b>	<b>64,706</b>
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>							
Actuarial loss on defined benefit pension schemes	9	—	(868)	—	—	(868)	(1,764)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>1,775</b>	<b>1,342</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>5,437</b>	<b>8,926</b>	<b>62,942</b>
Balances brought forward at 1 September 2024		4,521	(1,342)	5,928	438,757	447,864	384,922
<b>Balances carried forward at 31 August 2025</b>		<b>6,296</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>6,300</b>	<b>444,194</b>	<b>456,790</b>	<b>447,864</b>

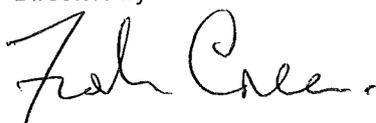
All of the Trust's activities derived from continuing operations during the above two financial periods. There is no difference between the net movement in funds stated above and its historical cost equivalent. The statement of financial activities analyses all the capital and income resources and expenditures of the Trust during the year and reconciles the movements in funds.

The comparative statement of financial activities is given in note 8 to the financial statements.

Balance sheet 31 August 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		Group £'000	Leigh Academies Trust £'000	Group £'000	Leigh Academies Trust £'000
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Intangible fixed assets	13	—	—	—	—
Tangible fixed assets	14	445,944	445,944	440,507	440,507
		<u>445,944</u>	<u>445,944</u>	<u>440,507</u>	<u>440,507</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	17	18,520	19,470	12,115	13,018
Stock		19	19	10	10
Short term deposits		9,200	9,200	10,200	10,200
Cash at bank and in hand		12,500	11,630	12,515	11,854
		<u>40,239</u>	<u>40,319</u>	<u>34,840</u>	<u>35,082</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(29,352)	(29,307)	(26,071)	(26,009)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>10,887</u>	<u>11,012</u>	<u>8,769</u>	<u>9,073</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>456,831</u>	<u>456,956</u>	<u>449,276</u>	<u>449,580</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	19	(41)	(41)	(70)	(70)
<b>Net assets excluding pension scheme liability</b>		<u>456,790</u>	<u>456,915</u>	<u>449,206</u>	<u>449,510</u>
Pension scheme liability	9	—	—	(1,342)	(1,342)
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u>456,790</u>	<u>456,915</u>	<u>447,864</u>	<u>448,168</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Fixed asset fund	20	444,194	444,194	438,757	438,757
Restricted income funds	20	6,300	6,553	5,928	5,928
Pension reserve	20	—	—	(1,342)	(1,342)
<b>Total restricted funds</b>		<u>450,494</u>	<u>450,747</u>	<u>443,343</u>	<u>443,343</u>
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>					
General fund	20	6,269	6,168	4,493	4,825
Funds retained with subsidiary	20	27	—	28	—
<b>Total unrestricted income funds</b>		<u>6,296</u>	<u>6,168</u>	<u>4,521</u>	<u>4,825</u>
<b>Total funds</b>		<u>456,790</u>	<u>456,915</u>	<u>447,864</u>	<u>448,168</u>

Approved by the Board on 16 December 2025 and signed on behalf of the Board of Directors by:



Chairman - A F X Green

Leigh Academies Trust – Companies Registration Number 02336587 (England and Wales)

## Consolidated statement of cash flows Year to 31 August 2025

		2025 £'000	2024 £'000
<b>Net cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities	A	(103)	3,003
<b>Cash flows provided by (used in) investing activities</b>	B	154	(11,571)
<b>Cash flows used in financing activities</b>	C	(66)	(612)
Cash flows from academies joining the Trust	23	—	289
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		(15)	(8,891)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2024		12,515	21,406
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2025</b>		12,500	12,515

### A Reconciliation of income to net cash flow from operating activities

		2025 £'000	2024 £'000
<b>Net income for the year (as per the statement of financial activities)</b>		9,794	64,706
<b>Adjusted for:</b>			
Depreciation charges (note 14)		11,742	11,457
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		(15,577)	(16,649)
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		—	(62)
Fixed assets transferred from conversions/ academies		—	(52,748)
Cash inherited on conversion of existing academies		—	(289)
Interest receivable (note 4)		(756)	(941)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable (note 9)		(1,801)	(1,629)
Defined benefit pension scheme finance (credit) cost (note 9)		(409)	(294)
(Increase) decrease in stock		(9)	16
Increase in debtors		(6,405)	(3,435)
Increase in creditors		3,318	2,871
<b>Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities</b>		(103)	3,003

### B Cash flows from investing activities

		2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		756	941
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(17,179)	(18,961)
Capital grants from DfE and Local Authority		15,529	16,633
Capital funding received from sponsors and others		48	16
Cash placed on deposit		1,000	(10,200)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>		154	(11,571)

**Consolidated statement of cash flows** Year to 31 August 2025

**C Cash flows from financing activities**

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Repayments of borrowing	(114)	(612)
Loan transferred from conversion/existing academies	48	—
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>	<b>(66)</b>	<b>(612)</b>

**D Analysis of cash and cash equivalents**

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Cash at bank and in hand	12,500	11,015
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	—	1,500
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>12,500</b>	<b>12,515</b>

**E Analysis of changes in net debt**

	At 1 September 2024 £'000	Cash flows £'000	At 31 August 2025 £'000
Cash at bank	11,015	1,485	12,500
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	1,500	(1,500)	—
Loans falling due within one year	(200)	37	(163)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(70)	29	(41)
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,245</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>12,296</b>

### **Statement of accounting policies**

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

### **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements of the Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their 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.

These accounts have been prepared for the year to 31 August 2025 with comparative figures provided in respect to the year to 31 August 2024. The accounts are presented in sterling and are rounded to the nearest thousand pounds.

Leigh Academies Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

### **Basis of consolidation**

The consolidated statement of financial activities and group balance sheet include the financial statements of the charitable company, its trading subsidiaries LAT Enterprises C.I.C. and Connected Hub Apprenticeships C.I.C. and its charitable subsidiary Hundred of Hoo Nursery and Kids Club Limited made up to the balance sheet date.

No separate statement of financial activities has been presented for Leigh Academies Trust alone, as permitted by Section 408 of the Companies Act 2006. The charity only surplus was £8,747,000.

### **Going concern**

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

### **Income**

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

### **Grants**

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

The 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 period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

Capital grants are recognised when there is entitlement to the funds subject to any conditions being met. Such conditions may include the Trust approving and contractually committing to the project being funded; and sufficient funding being secured by the Trust to fully fund the project. Capital grants are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended. Unspent amounts of capital grant are reflected in the balance in the restricted fixed asset fund.

### **Donations**

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

### **Other income**

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

### **Transfer on conversion**

Where assets and liabilities are received by the Trust on schools joining the 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 Trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as transfer on conversion within donations and capital grant income to the net assets received.



### **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets acquired since the Trust was established are included in the accounts at cost or deemed cost on the transfer in of property from a Local Authority school and other academy trusts. Assets other than land and buildings inherited on establishment of the Trust are assumed to be fully depreciated.

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. The related grants are credited to restricted fixed asset funds in the statement of financial activities and carried forward in the balance sheet when the associated assets are acquired.

Equipment, other than computer equipment and IT software, costing less than £5,000 per individual item or groups of related items is written off in the year of acquisition. All other equipment is capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are written off over their estimated useful lives on a straight-line basis at the following annual rates:

◆ Freehold and leasehold properties	2-4%
◆ Furniture and equipment	15 - 20%
◆ Computer equipment	33%
◆ Motor vehicles	20%

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the 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.

### **Liabilities**

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

### **Provisions**

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

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

#### **Leased assets**

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

#### **Financial instruments**

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

*Financial assets* – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 17. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due from the Trust's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

*Cash at bank* – is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value. Cash at bank and in hand represents such accounts and instruments that are available on demand or have a maturity of less than three months from the date of acquisition. Deposits for more than three months but less than one year have been disclosed as short term deposits.

*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. Amounts due to the Trust's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

#### **Investments**

The Trust's shareholding in the wholly owned subsidiary, LAT Enterprises C.I.C., is included in the balance sheet at the cost of the share capital owned, less any impairment, there is no readily available market value, and the cost of valuation exceeds the benefit derived.

#### **Stock**

Unsold uniforms and catering stocks are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

### **Taxation**

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

### **Pensions benefits**

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme, and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. As stated in note 9, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore 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 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.

### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds represent those resources which may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the Trust at the discretion of the Directors.

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received with restrictions imposed by the funder/donor and include grants from the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

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

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

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 9, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability.

### ***Critical areas of judgement***

There were no areas of judgement that had a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

### **Agency arrangements**

The Trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from the DfE. Payments received from the DfE and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the Trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The funds received and paid, and balances held are disclosed in note 26.

### 1 General Annual Grant (GAG)

Under the funding agreements with the Secretary of State, none of the academies within the Trust were subject to limits at 31 August 2025 on the amount of GAG that could be carried forward from one year to the next.

### 2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed assets funds £'000	2025 Total funds £'000	2024 Total funds £'000
Capital grants	—	—	15,529	15,529	16,633
Other donations	116	233	48	397	511
	116	233	15,577	15,926	17,144

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed assets funds £'000	2024 Total funds £'000
Capital grants	—	—	16,633	16,633
Other donations	495	—	16	511
	495	—	16,649	17,144

### 3 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2025 Total funds £'000	2024 Total funds £'000
Hire of facilities	126	—	126	131
Income from other charitable activities	323	1,282	1,605	1,862
Income from ancillary trading activities	—	2,193	2,193	2,685
LAT Enterprises C.I.C. Income	875	—	875	735
Connected Hub Apprenticeships C.I.C. Income	9	351	360	421
	1,333	3,826	5,159	5,834

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2024 Total funds £'000
Hire of facilities	131	—	131
Income from other charitable activities	—	1,862	1,862
Income from ancillary trading activities	111	2,574	2,685
LAT Enterprises C.I.C. Income	735	—	735
Connected Hub Apprenticeships C.I.C. Income	6	415	421
	983	4,851	5,834

#### 4 Investments

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2025 Total funds £'000	2024 Total funds £'000
Interest receivable - Academies	742	—	742	924
Interest receivable - LAT Enterprises C.I.C.	14	—	14	17
	<b>756</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>941</b>

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2024 Total funds £'000
<i>Interest receivable - Academies</i>	924	—	924
<i>Interest receivable - LAT Enterprises C.I.C.</i>	17	—	17
	<b>941</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>941</b>

#### 5 Funding for the Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2025 Total funds £'000	2024 Total funds £'000
<b>DfE grants</b>				
General Annual Grant (GAG) (note 1)	—	146,798	146,798	127,892
Other DfE grants				
. UIFSM	—	810	810	812
. Pupil Premium	—	7,128	7,128	6,220
. Recovery and Catch-up Premium	—	—	—	1,595
. Student Support Services	—	14	14	—
. 16-19 Core Education Funding	—	15,653	15,653	13,825
. Pupil Number Adjustment	—	(335)	(335)	(287)
. Insurance	—	401	401	140
. PE and Sports Grant	—	318	318	336
. Teachers pay Additional Grant	—	2,416	2,416	2,197
. Teachers' Pension Contribution Grant	—	3,863	3,863	1,770
. Mainstream Schools Additional Grant	—	—	—	4,181
. PFI Grants	—	3,588	3,588	1,984
. CSBG	—	5,619	5,619	—
. National Insurance Contributions Grant	—	1,015	1,015	—
. Others	—	1,817	1,817	2,301
	—	189,105	189,105	162,966
<b>Other Government grants</b>				
Local authority grants	—	23,881	23,881	18,089
	—	23,881	23,881	18,089
<b>Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations</b>	—	540	540	—
<b>Teaching school hub</b>				
DfE grants	700	1,578	2,278	1,222
Other income	659	459	1,118	2,436
	<b>1,359</b>	<b>2,037</b>	<b>3,396</b>	<b>3,658</b>
<b>2025 total funds</b>	<b>1,359</b>	<b>215,563</b>	<b>216,922</b>	<b>184,713</b>

Notes to the accounts 31 August 2025

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2024 Total funds £'000
<b>DfE grants</b>			
General Annual Grant (GAG) (note 1)	—	127,892	127,892
<i>Other DfE grants</i>			
. UIFSM	—	812	812
. Pupil Premium	—	6,220	6,220
. Recovery and Catch-up Premium	—	1,595	1,595
. 16-19 Core Education Funding	—	13,825	13,825
. Pupil Number Adjustment	—	(287)	(287)
. Insurance	—	140	140
. PE and Sports Grant	—	336	336
. Teachers pay Additional Grant	—	2,197	2,197
. Teachers' Pension Contribution Grant	—	1,770	1,770
. Mainstream Schools Additional Grant	—	4,181	4,181
. PFI Grants	—	1,984	1,984
. Others	—	2,301	2,301
	—	162,966	162,966
<b>Other Government grants</b>			
Local authority grants	—	18,089	18,089
	—	18,089	18,089
<b>Teaching school hub</b>			
DfE grants	—	1,222	1,222
Other income	1,799	637	2,436
	1,799	1,859	3,658
<b>2024 total funds</b>	<b>1,799</b>	<b>182,914</b>	<b>184,713</b>

## 6 Expenditure

	Staff costs £'000 (Note 9)	Premises £'000	Other costs £'000	Total 2025 £'000	Total 2024* £'000
<b>Expenditure on raising funds</b>					
. Direct costs	80	6	218	304	389
. Allocated support costs	63	—	41	104	80
	<u>143</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>259</u>	<u>408</u>	<u>469</u>
<b>Academy Trust's educational operations</b>					
. Direct costs (note 7)	146,457	10,558	11,002	168,017	142,000
. Allocated support costs (note 7)	25,214	19,474	12,725	57,413	51,034
	<u>171,671</u>	<u>30,032</u>	<u>23,727</u>	<u>225,430</u>	<u>193,034</u>
<b>Teaching School</b>					
. Direct support costs	1,217	10	115	1,342	1,488
. Allocated support costs	410	1	1,378	1,789	1,972
	<u>1,627</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>1,493</u>	<u>3,131</u>	<u>3,460</u>
	<u>173,441</u>	<u>30,049</u>	<u>25,479</u>	<u>228,969</u>	<u>196,963</u>

	Staff costs £'000 (Note 9)	Premises £'000	Other costs £'000	Total 2024* £'000
<b>Expenditure on raising funds</b>				
. Direct costs	309	—	80	389
. Allocated support costs	—	1	79	80
	<u>309</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>159</u>	<u>469</u>
<b>Academy Trust's educational operations</b>				
. Direct costs (note 7)	122,436	10,311	9,253	142,000
. Allocated support costs (note 7)	20,476	17,504	13,054	51,034
	<u>142,912</u>	<u>27,815</u>	<u>22,307</u>	<u>193,034</u>
<b>Teaching School</b>				
. Direct support costs	1,484	—	4	1,488
. Allocated support costs	413	1	1,558	1,972
	<u>1,897</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1,562</u>	<u>3,460</u>
	<u>145,118</u>	<u>27,817</u>	<u>24,028</u>	<u>196,963</u>

\* The allocation of expenditure for the year to 31 August 2025 was updated to more appropriately reflect nature of the expenditure. The allocation of expenditure for the year to 31 August 2024 was also updated in order to provide like for like comparatives.

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
<b>The result for the year is stated after charging:</b>		
Operating lease rentals	8,592	6,280
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	—	(62)
Depreciation	11,742	11,457
Fees payable to auditor for:		
. Audit	115	87
. Other services	10	8

7 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2025 Total funds £'000	2024* Total funds £'000
Direct costs - educational operations	—	168,017	168,017	142,000
Direct costs - teaching school hub	—	1,342	1,342	1,488
Support costs - educational operations	—	57,413	57,413	51,034
Support costs - teaching school hub	—	1,789	1,789	1,972
	—	228,561	228,561	196,494

	Fundraising £'000	Teaching school hub £'000	Educational operations £'000	2025 Total funds £'000	2024* Total funds £'000
<b>Analysis of support costs</b>					
Support staff costs	63	410	25,214	25,687	20,889
Recruitment and other staff costs	2	10	292	304	1,355
Depreciation and amortisation	—	—	1,174	1,174	1,146
Technology costs	22	66	4,930	5,018	3,683
Premises costs	—	1	18,300	18,301	16,360
Legal costs – conversion	—	—	—	—	42
Legal costs – other	—	—	113	113	133
Other support costs	5	1,292	7,267	8,564	9,173
Governance costs (legal and professional fees)	12	10	123	145	305
<b>Total support costs</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>1,789</b>	<b>57,413</b>	<b>59,306</b>	<b>53,086</b>

Support staff costs include the FRS 102 pension adjustment of £1,801,000 (2024: £1,629,000). See note 9.

Other support costs include FRS 102 pension finance credits of £409,000 (2024: £294,000).

## Notes to the accounts 31 August 2025

### 8 Comparative information

Analysis of income and expenditure in the year ended 31 August 2024 between restricted and unrestricted funds:

	Notes	Un-restricted funds £'000	Restricted funds			2024 Total funds £'000
			DfE £'000	General £'000	Fixed assets £'000	
<i>Income from:</i>						
<i>Donations and capital grants</i>	2	495	—	—	16,649	17,144
<i>Transfer from local authority on conversion</i>	23	—	—	289	—	289
<i>Transfers of academies to the Trust</i>	23	—	—	—	52,748	52,748
<i>Charitable activities:</i>						
<i>. Funding for the Trust's educational operations</i>	5	—	162,966	18,089	—	181,055
<i>. Teaching Schools</i>	5	1,799	1,222	637	—	3,658
<i>Other trading activities</i>	3	983	—	4,851	—	5,834
<i>Investments</i>	4	941	—	—	—	941
<i>Total income</i>		<u>4,218</u>	<u>164,188</u>	<u>23,866</u>	<u>69,397</u>	<u>261,669</u>
<i>Expenditure on:</i>						
<i>Raising funds</i>	6	469	—	—	—	469
<i>Charitable activities:</i>						
<i>. Trust's educational operations</i>	6	—	161,043	20,534	11,457	193,034
<i>. Teaching Schools</i>	6	1,601	1,222	637	—	3,460
<i>Total expenditure</i>	6	<u>2,070</u>	<u>162,265</u>	<u>21,171</u>	<u>11,457</u>	<u>196,963</u>
<i>Net income before transfers</i>		2,148	1,923	2,695	57,940	64,706
<i>Transfers between funds</i>	20	(2,759)	—	—	2,759	—
<i>Net income (expenditure) for the year</i>		<u>(611)</u>	<u>1,923</u>	<u>2,695</u>	<u>60,699</u>	<u>64,706</u>
<i>Other recognised losses</i>						
<i>Actuarial loss on defined benefit pension schemes</i>	9	—	(1,764)	—	—	(1,764)
<i>Net movement in funds</i>		(611)	159	2,695	60,699	62,942
<i>Balances brought forward at 1 September 2023</i>		5,132	(1,501)	3,233	378,058	384,922
<i>Balances carried forward at 31 August 2024</i>		<u>4,521</u>	<u>(1,342)</u>	<u>5,928</u>	<u>438,757</u>	<u>447,864</u>

**9 Staff costs**

**(a) Staff costs and other employee benefits**

Staff costs during the year were:

	Total 2025 £'000	Total 2024* £'000
Wages and salaries	126,406	108,444
Social security costs	14,601	11,049
Pension costs	29,449	22,924
Other employee benefits	96	77
Apprenticeship levy	622	533
	<u>171,174</u>	<u>143,027</u>
Supply staff costs	1,934	1,841
Staff restructuring costs	333	250
	<u>173,441</u>	<u>145,118</u>
	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
<b>Staff restructuring costs comprise</b>		
Redundancy payments	126	108
Severance payments	207	142
	<u>333</u>	<u>250</u>

**(b) Severance payments**

The Trust paid 19 severance payments in the year, disclosed in the following bands:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
£0 - £25,000	16	9
£25,001 - £50,000	3	1

**(c) Staff restructuring costs**

Included in staff restructuring costs are special severance payments totalling £206,693 (2024: £142,086).

Individually, the payments were: £1,500, £2,000, £2,400, £2,997.94, £3,000, £3,500, £3,500, £4,131.50, £5,000, £5,000, £7,166.66, £11,438, £13,400, £20,000, £20,000, £20,000, £25,775.27, £25,883.20 and £30,000.

**(d) Staff numbers**

The average numbers of persons (including senior management team) employed by the Trust during the year was as follows:

	2025 No.	2024* No.
Teaching	1,588	1,432
Administration and support	1,862	1,711
Management	43	40
	<u>3,493</u>	<u>3,183</u>

**(e) Higher paid staff**

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

	2025 No.	2024 No.
£60,001 - £70,000	224	173
£70,001 - £80,000	134	73
£80,001 - £90,000	60	38
£90,001 - £100,000	25	14
£100,001 - £110,000	10	6
£110,001 - £120,000	5	2
£120,001 - £130,000	5	8
£130,001 - £140,000	6	3
£140,001 - £150,000	4	3
£150,001 - £160,000	2	—
£160,001 - £170,000	1	—
£170,001 - £180,000	—	2
£180,001 - £190,000	2	1
£190,001 - £200,000	2	—
£200,001 - £210,000	—	1
£220,001 - £230,000	1	—
£350,001 - £360,000	—	1
£380,001 - £390,000	1	—
	<b>482</b>	<b>325</b>

**(f) Key management personnel**

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Executive Directors and Academy Principals. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £7,828,201 (2024: £6,559,967).

**(g) Pension and similar obligations**

The Academy Trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff. The Trust participates via three local authorities Kent County Council, London Borough of Bexley and Royal Borough of Greenwich. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

Prior to 31 August 2023, the latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2022. A further valuation of the TPS scheme, relating to the period ended 31 March 2020 was published in October 2023.

Contributions amounting to £3,488,389 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2025 (2024: £2,947,840) 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 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 make 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 specify 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 actuarial valuation of the TPS which applied during the year was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI. The key elements of the valuation outcome are:

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £22,642,144 (2024 – £18,822,000).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the [Teachers' Pension Scheme website](#).

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The Academy Trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the Academy Trust has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 and 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 (LGPS)***

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate Trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2025 was £10,790,000, of which employer's contributions totalled £8,475,000 (2024: £7,411,000) and employees' contributions totalled £2,315,000 (2024: £2,032,000). The employer's contribution rates during the year for the Academy Trust's LGPS schemes ranged from 19.1% to 25.5%.

Notes to the accounts 31 August 2025

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of an Academy Trust 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 of Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

<b>Principal Actuarial Assumptions</b>	<b>At 31 August 2025</b>	<b>At 31 August 2024</b>
Rate of increase in salaries	3.9%	4.0%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment / inflation	2.8%	2.8%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	6.1%	5.0%

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

	<b>At 31 August 2025</b>	<b>At 31 August 2024</b>
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	21.1	20.7
Females	23.6	23.4
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	22.3	21.8
Females	25.2	24.9

<b>Sensitivity analysis</b>	<b>At 31 August 2025 £'000</b>	<b>At 31 August 2024 £'000</b>
Discount rate +0.1%	(1,921)	(2,202)
Discount rate -0.1%	1,962	2,261
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	2,809	3,383
Mortality assumption – 1 year decrease	(2,761)	(3,290)
CPI rate +0.1%	1,693	2,218
CPI rate -0.1%	(1,904)	(2,162)

## Notes to the accounts 31 August 2025

The Academy Trust's share of the assets and liabilities in the scheme were:

	Fair value at 31 August 2025 £'000	Fair value at 31 August 2024 £'000
Equities	83,540	67,343
Bonds	32,543	27,314
Property	11,324	11,232
Cash	4,073	2,781
Other	13,980	13,583
<b>Total market value of assets</b>	<b>145,460</b>	<b>122,253</b>
<b>Present value of scheme liabilities</b>		
. Funded	(112,011)	(118,302)
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>33,449</b>	<b>3,951</b>
Adjustment to cap surplus scheme assets at nil	(33,449)	(5,293)
<b>Scheme recognised in the financial statements</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>(1,342)</b>
	2025	2024
<b>Amounts recognised in statement of financial activities</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Current service credit	(1,801)	(1,629)
Net interest cost	(409)	(294)
<b>Total amount recognised in the SOFA</b>	<b>(2,210)</b>	<b>(1,923)</b>
<b>Analysis of pension finance income</b>		
Expected return on pension scheme assets	6,737	5,813
Interest on pension liabilities	(6,328)	(5,519)
<b>Pension finance credit</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>294</b>
<b>Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations were as follows:</b>	2025	2024
	£'000	£'000
At 1 September 2024	118,302	103,890
Inherited on conversion	5,914	1,234
Current service cost	6,970	5,757
Interest cost	6,328	5,519
Employee contributions	2,315	2,032
Actuarial (gain) loss	(26,900)	3,163
Change in demographic assumptions	2,286	(250)
Benefits paid	(3,110)	(3,060)
Plan introductions, benefit changes, curtailments and settlements	(94)	17
<b>At 31 August 2025</b>	<b>112,011</b>	<b>118,302</b>

## Notes to the accounts 31 August 2025

Changes in the fair value of the Trust's share of scheme assets:	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
At 1 September 2024	122,253	105,799
Inherited on conversion	6,223	1,330
Interest income	6,737	5,813
Actuarial gain	2,674	3,032
Employer contributions	8,475	7,411
Employee contributions	2,315	2,032
Benefits paid	(3,110)	(3,060)
Administration expenses	(107)	(104)
<b>At 31 August 2025</b>	<b>145,460</b>	<b>122,253</b>

### 10 Directors' remuneration and expenses

Staff Directors only receive remuneration in respect of the services they provide in undertaking their role as an employee and not in respect of their services as a Director. Other Directors did not receive any payments, other than expenses, from the Trust in respect of their role as directors. The value of Staff Directors' remuneration was as follows:

	Year to 31 August 2025 £'000	Year to 31 August 2024 £'000
S P Beamish (CEO and Director)		
. Remuneration	380-390	350-360
. Employer's Pension contributions	70-75	70-75

Directors of the Trust received no payment for reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses incurred in the course of their duties in the year ended 31 August 2025 (2024: £nil). No Director has any beneficial interest in any contract with the company.

### 11 Directors', Governors' and officers' insurance

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

## 12 Central services

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

- ◆ Curriculum Advisors
- ◆ Safeguarding
- ◆ Attendance
- ◆ Administration
- ◆ Leadership & Governance
- ◆ Educational support services
- ◆ Legal Services

The Trust has charged for these services on a basis of an average charge of 2% (2024: 1.9%) of total income. The contributions made by academies charged during the year for these services are set out below.

Budgets for support services including: operational staff based in academies, and IT and estates service contracts previously included in academy budgets, were managed centrally. This is cost-neutral for the academies and so does not represent a 'central charge' that needs to be separately disclosed. Costs are included within the expenditure disclosed in Notes 6, 7, and 9. The following support services were managed centrally:

- ◆ Financial services, including staff based in academies
- ◆ People services
- ◆ IT services, including staff based in academies
- ◆ Estates services, including staff based in academies

Notes to the accounts 31 August 2025

	Central services	
	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Leigh Academy Bearsted	45	35
Leigh Academy Bexley	234	225
Leigh Academy Blackheath	168	161
Leigh Academy Cherry Orchard	58	53
Leigh Academy Dartford	75	69
Leigh Academy Ebbsfleet	163	146
Leigh Academy Halley	186	181
Leigh Academy Hartley	46	43
Leigh Academy High Halstow	24	22
Leigh Academy Horsmonden	25	20
Leigh Academy Hugh Christie	165	76
Leigh Academy Hundred of Hoo	277	252
Leigh Academy Langley Park	59	58
Leigh Academy Longfield	158	155
Leigh Academy Marden	38	36
Leigh Academy Mascalls	185	182
Leigh Academy Milestone	205	180
Leigh Academy Minster	198	—
Leigh Academy Molehill	41	39
Leigh Academy Oaks	34	32
Leigh Academy Paddock Wood	71	66
Leigh Academy Peninsula East	30	30
Leigh Academy Rainham	113	83
Leigh Academy Snowfields	140	111
Leigh Academy Strood	186	182
Leigh Academy Tonbridge	112	92
Leigh Academy Tree Tops	44	41
Leigh Academy Wilmington	190	187
Leigh Stationers' Academy	260	255
Leigh Stationers' Primary Academy	30	28
Leigh UTC Dartford	123	123
Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy	193	187
Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School	193	180
The Hundred of Hoo Nursery and Kids Club	17	13
	<b>4,086</b>	<b>3,543</b>

**13 Intangible fixed assets**

Group and Trust	Computer software £'000	Total funds £'000
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025	146	146
<b>Amortisation</b>		
At 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025	146	146
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 August 2025	—	—
At 31 August 2024	—	—

**14 Tangible fixed assets**

Group	Asset under Construction £'000	Freehold land and buildings £'000	Leasehold buildings £'000	Leasehold improvements £'000	Furniture and equipment £'000	Computer equipment and software £'000	Motor vehicles £'000	Total £'000
<b>Cost</b>								
At 1 September 2024	7,104	160,978	331,948	—	17,205	22,624	199	540,058
Reclassification	—	(24,846)	1,632	23,214	—	—	—	—
Additions	7,257	2,418	—	5,072	515	1,865	59	17,186
Transfers	(5,692)	1,292	—	2,988	—	1,412	—	—
Derecognition	(7)	—	—	—	—	—	—	(7)
Disposals	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
At 31 August 2025	8,662	139,842	333,580	31,274	17,720	25,901	258	557,237
<b>Depreciation</b>								
At 1 September 2024	—	21,534	43,572	—	13,777	20,469	199	99,551
Reclassification	—	(924)	(855)	1,779	—	—	—	—
Charge for year	—	2,069	5,182	607	1,386	2,493	5	11,742
Disposals	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
At 31 August 2025	—	22,679	47,899	2,386	15,163	22,962	204	111,293
<b>Net book values</b>								
At 31 August 2025	8,662	117,163	285,681	28,888	2,557	2,939	54	445,944
At 31 August 2024	7,104	139,444	288,376	—	3,428	2,155	—	440,507

## Notes to the accounts 31 August 2025

Trust	Asset under Construction £'000	Freehold land and buildings £'000	Leasehold buildings £'000	Leasehold improvements £'000	Furniture and equipment £'000	Computer equipment and software £'000	Motor vehicles £'000	Total £'000
<b>Cost</b>								
At 1 September 2024	7,104	160,978	331,948	—	17,180	22,624	199	540,033
Reclassification	—	(24,846)	1,632	23,214	—	—	—	—
Additions	7,257	2,418	—	5,072	515	1,865	59	17,186
Transfers	(5,692)	1,292	—	2,988	—	1,412	—	—
Derecognition	(7)	—	—	—	—	—	—	(7)
Disposals	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
At 31 August 2025	8,662	139,842	333,580	31,274	17,695	25,901	258	557,212
<b>Depreciation</b>								
At 1 September 2024	—	21,534	43,572	—	13,752	20,469	199	99,526
Reclassification	—	(924)	(855)	1,779	—	—	—	—
Charge for year	—	2,069	5,182	607	1,386	2,493	5	11,742
Disposals	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
At 31 August 2025	—	22,679	47,899	2,386	15,138	22,962	204	111,268
<b>Net book values</b>								
At 31 August 2025	8,662	117,163	285,681	28,888	2,557	2,939	54	445,944
At 31 August 2024	7,104	139,444	288,376	—	3,428	2,155	—	440,507

The land on which leasehold buildings are sited is leased at peppercorn rents. No value has been placed on the land in the financial statements due to restrictive covenants in the leases.

The School buildings of the Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey were transferred to the Trust on 13 June 2024, following its closure and in advance of the opening of the new Leigh Academy Minster on 1 September 2024. Details of the value of the building transferred to Leigh Academies Trust in the year to 31 August 2024 are included in note 2.

Stationers' Crown Woods Academy joined the Trust on 1 September 2014, Ebbsfleet Academy (formally part of the Brook Learning Trust) on 1 September 2021 and Leigh Academy Hugh Christie on 1 April 2024. All three academies are subject to contracts under the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) which commenced in 2012, 2001 and 2007 respectively. Under these contracts the Academy premises are maintained and managed for a period of 25 years by the PFI-Contractor subject to contractual annual fees paid by the Academy. Upon expiry of the PFI contract, the residual benefit of the premises passes to the Academy as a result of a 125-year lease granted to the Academy. The DfE issued guidance within the Academies Accounts Direction which concurs with the treatment adopted by Leigh Academies Trust.

## 15 Wholly owned trading subsidiaries

In October 2019, Connected Hub Apprenticeships C.I.C. (formerly LAT Apprenticeships C.I.C.) was incorporated in England and is a 100% owned subsidiary of the Trust. The principal activity of the subsidiary is to provide a programme of apprenticeships. Connected Hub Apprenticeships' cumulative deficit will be covered by Leigh Academies Trust, via the profits generated from LAT Enterprises C.I.C. No public funds have been used to cover this deficit.

A summary of the results for the year and position at the year-end of Connected Hub Apprenticeships C.I.C., which have been included in the consolidated financial statements is shown below:

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Turnover	539	421
Cost of sales	<u>(259)</u>	<u>(342)</u>
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Administrative expenses</b>	<b><u>(101)</u></b>	<b><u>(78)</u></b>
<b>Profit on ordinary activities</b>	<b><u>179</u></b>	<b><u>1</u></b>
Tax	—	—
<b>Profit on ordinary activities after taxation</b>	<b><u>179</u></b>	<b><u>1</u></b>

The assets and liabilities of the subsidiary were:

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Current assets	359	60
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	<u>(511)</u>	<u>(392)</u>
<b>Total net liabilities</b>	<b><u>(152)</u></b>	<b><u>(332)</u></b>

The Trust owns 100% of the issued ordinary shares of LAT Enterprises C.I.C., a community interest company incorporated in England. The principal activities of the subsidiary are the provision of commercial and community IT training as an extension of the facilities made available to students and the letting of leisure and sports facilities to the community.

## Notes to the accounts 31 August 2025

A summary of the results for the year and position at the year-end of LAT Enterprises C.I.C., which have been included in the consolidated financial statements is shown below:

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Turnover	875	735
Cost of sales	(46)	(41)
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>694</b>
Administrative expenses	(9)	(8)
<b>Operating profit</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>686</b>
Interest receivable	13	17
<b>Profit on ordinary activities before Gift Aid and taxation</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>703</b>
Gift Aid donation to Leigh Academies Trust	(833)	(703)
Tax	—	—
Retained earnings at 1 September 2024	27	27
<b>Retained earnings at 31 August 2025</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>

The assets and liabilities of the subsidiary were:

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Current assets	881	732
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(854)	(705)
<b>Total net (liabilities) assets</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>

## 16 Other connected organisations

### (a) Subsidiary charity

On 1 January 2019, the Trust acquired The Hundred of Hoo Nursery and Kids' Club Limited, a charitable company limited by guarantee. A summary of the results for the year and position at the year-end of The Hundred of Hoo Nursery and Kids' Club which have been included in the consolidated financial statements is shown below:

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Income	876	728
Expenditure on charitable activities	(811)	(644)
<b>Net income</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>84</b>
Funds brought forward at 1 September 2024	204	120
<b>Funds carried forward at 31 August 2025</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>204</b>

The assets and liabilities of the charity were:

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Fixed assets	5	7
Current assets	426	285
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(162)	(87)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>205</b>

**17 Debtors**

	Group 2025 £'000	Leigh Academies Trust 2025 £'000	Group 2024 £'000	Leigh Academies Trust 2024 £'000
Trade debtors	5,687	5,628	2,565	2,511
VAT recoverable	1,898	1,895	2,203	2,206
Amount due from LAT Enterprises C.I.C.	—	831	—	677
Amount due from Connected Hub Apprenticeships C.I.C.	—	294	—	354
Other debtors	300	293	95	88
Prepayments and accrued income	10,635	10,529	7,252	7,182
	<b>18,520</b>	<b>19,470</b>	<b>12,115</b>	<b>13,018</b>

**18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	Group 2025 £'000	Leigh Academies Trust 2025 £'000	Group 2024 £'000	Leigh Academies Trust 2024 £'000
Trade creditors	12,193	12,171	10,110	10,086
Taxation and social security	3,501	3,499	2,657	2,651
Loan (note 19)	163	163	200	200
Other creditors	4,968	4,961	4,786	4,775
Accruals and deferred income	8,527	8,513	8,318	8,297
	<b>29,352</b>	<b>29,307</b>	<b>26,071</b>	<b>26,009</b>
<b>Deferred income (included above)</b>				
Deferred income at 1 September 2024	4,422	4,421	8,111	8,111
Amounts released from previous years	(3,804)	(3,803)	(4,218)	(4,217)
Resources deferred in the year	3,747	3,747	529	527
Deferred income at 31 August 2025	<b>4,365</b>	<b>4,365</b>	<b>4,422</b>	<b>4,421</b>

At the balance sheet date, the Trust was holding funds received in respect of capital grants, development grants and other sources, which have been deferred to the financial year ending 31 August 2026.

**19 Creditors: amounts falling due more than one year**

Group and Academy	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Loans from DfE	41	70
<b>Analysis of loans</b>		
Wholly repayable within five years	204	270
Less: included in current liabilities	(163)	(200)
Amounts included above	41	70
<b>Loan maturity</b>		
Debt due in one year or less	163	200
In more than one year but not more than two years	30	67
In more than two years but not more than five years	11	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>270</b>

Details of the loans outstanding are as below:

	Repayment due within one year £'000	Repayment due in more than one year £'000	2025 Total £'000	2024 Total £'000
Leigh Stationers' Academy	—	—	—	26
Leigh UTC Dartford	100	—	100	100
Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy	17	16	33	49
Leigh Academy Marden	2	5	7	10
Leigh Academy Halley	33	—	33	43
Leigh Academy Bexley	11	20	31	42
	<u>163</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>204</u>	<u>270</u>

	<i>Repayment due within one year £'000</i>	<i>Repayment due in more than one year £'000</i>	2024 Total £'000
<i>Leigh Stationers' Academy</i>	26	—	26
<i>Leigh UTC Dartford</i>	100	—	100
<i>Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy</i>	17	32	49
<i>Leigh Academy Marden</i>	2	8	10
<i>Leigh Academy Halley</i>	43	—	43
<i>Leigh Academy Bexley</i>	12	30	42
	<u>200</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>270</u>

## 20 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Transfers, gains & losses £'000	Balance at 31 August 2025 £'000
<b>Restricted DfE funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	—	146,798	(146,798)	—	—
Pupil Premium	—	7,128	(7,128)	—	—
UJFSM	—	810	(810)	—	—
Student Support Services	—	14	(14)	—	—
16-19 Core Education Funding	—	15,653	(15,653)	—	—
Pupil Number Adjustment	—	(335)	335	—	—
Insurance	—	401	(401)	—	—
PE and Sports Grant	—	318	(318)	—	—
Teachers Pay Additional Grant	—	2,416	(2,416)	—	—
Teachers' Pension Employers Contribution Grant	—	3,863	(3,863)	—	—
PFI	—	3,588	(3,588)	—	—
Teaching School Hub	—	1,578	(1,578)	—	—
CSBG	—	5,619	(5,619)	—	—
National Insurance Contributions Grant	—	1,015	(1,015)	—	—
Other grants	—	1,817	(1,817)	—	—
Pension reserve	(1,342)	—	2,210	(868)	—
	(1,342)	190,683	(188,473)	(868)	—
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
Local authority grants	289	23,881	(24,170)	—	—
Teaching School Hub	—	459	(459)	—	—
Connected Hub Apprenticeships C.I.C.	(254)	351	(350)	—	(253)
Other restricted funds	5,893	4,248	(1,986)	(1,602)	6,553
	5,928	28,939	(26,965)	(1,602)	6,300
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
DfE capital grants and other capital income	438,757	15,577	(11,742)	1,602	444,194
	438,757	15,577	(11,742)	1,602	444,194
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	443,343	235,199	(227,180)	(868)	450,494
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	4,228	1,307	(637)	918	5,816
Teaching School Hub	265	1,359	(1,094)	(178)	352
Connected Hub Apprenticeships C.I.C.	—	9	(2)	94	101
LAT Enterprises C.I.C.	28	889	(56)	(834)	27
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	4,521	3,564	(1,789)	—	6,296
<b>Total funds</b>	447,864	238,763	(228,969)	(868)	456,790

**General Annual Grant (GAG)**

General Annual Grant (GAG) must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy including salaries and related costs, overheads, repairs and maintenance and insurance. Under the funding agreements with the Secretary of State, none of the academies within the Trust were subject to limits on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2025.

Notes to the accounts 31 August 2025

***Analysis of pooled Academy fund balanced (including unrestricted funds)***

All fund balances at 31 August 2025 were held centrally by the Trust.

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Trust operational reserves	12,569	10,421
<b>Total before fixed assets and pension reserve</b>	<b>12,569</b>	<b>10,421</b>
Restricted fixed asset fund	444,194	438,757
Pension liability	—	(1,342)
Total for Trust	<b>456,763</b>	447,836
Subsidiary	27	28
<b>Total for the Group</b>	<b>456,790</b>	<b>447,864</b>

**Analysis of academies by cost**

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

	Teaching and Educational Support Staff costs £'000	Other Support Staff costs £'000	Educational Supplies £'000	Other Costs (Excluding Depreciation) £'000	Total 2025 £'000
Leigh Academy Bearsted	1,611	266	73	158	2,108
Leigh Academy Bexley	6,277	591	316	674	7,858
Leigh Academy Blackheath	6,380	406	381	652	7,819
Leigh Academy Cherry Orchard	2,040	186	141	294	2,661
Leigh Academy Dartford	2,665	327	146	307	3,445
Leigh Academy Ebbsfleet	4,480	271	375	2,646	7,772
Leigh Academy Halley	7,090	587	404	793	8,874
Leigh Academy Hartley	1,711	234	123	177	2,245
Leigh Academy High Halstow	907	63	76	112	1,158
Leigh Academy Horsmonden	900	54	44	104	1,102
Leigh Academy Hugh Christie	4,876	274	465	2,200	7,815
Leigh Academy Hundred of Hoo	10,523	798	626	1,036	12,983
Leigh Academy Langley Park	2,151	207	93	248	2,699
Leigh Academy Longfield	5,573	419	426	614	7,032
Leigh Academy Marden	1,415	87	51	157	1,710
Leigh Academy Mascalls	6,637	354	549	703	8,243
Leigh Academy Milestone	8,307	801	209	588	9,905
Leigh Academy Minster	6,731	427	546	762	8,466
Leigh Academy Molehill	1,567	79	60	144	1,850
Leigh Academy Oaks	1,164	132	71	112	1,479
Leigh Academy Paddock Wood	2,613	125	93	348	3,179
Leigh Academy Peninsula East	980	124	51	144	1,299
Leigh Academy Rainham	4,071	349	231	438	5,089
Leigh Academy Snowfields	4,982	520	340	543	6,385
Leigh Academy Strood	6,877	359	362	783	8,381
Leigh Academy Tonbridge	3,750	398	286	459	4,893
Leigh Academy Tree Tops	1,569	99	81	192	1,941
Leigh Academy Wilmington	7,229	420	426	729	8,804
Leigh Stationers' Academy	10,156	525	720	2,954	14,355
Leigh Stationers' Primary Academy	1,051	135	57	170	1,413
Leigh UTC Dartford	4,275	270	380	565	5,490
Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy	7,097	478	406	831	8,812
Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical	6,893	338	862	783	8,876
The Hundred of Hoo Nursery	—	567	38	140	745
The Leigh Institute (Teaching Schools Hub)	1,217	410	103	1,391	3,121
Connected Hub Apprenticeships C.I.C.	80	63	178	31	352
LAT Enterprises C.I.C.	—	—	46	9	55
Central services	1,909	13,944	172	10,788	26,813
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>147,754</b>	<b>25,687</b>	<b>10,007</b>	<b>33,779</b>	<b>217,227</b>

Notes to the accounts 31 August 2025

	Teaching and Educational Support Staff costs £'000	Other Support Staff costs £'000	Educational Supplies £'000	Other Costs (Excluding Depreciation) £'000	Total 2024 £'000
<i>Leigh Academy Bearsted</i>	1,324	150	48	160	1,682
<i>Leigh Academy Bexley</i>	5,979	568	545	1,008	8,100
<i>Leigh Academy Blackheath</i>	5,407	426	404	670	6,907
<i>Leigh Academy Cherry Orchard</i>	1,905	91	164	235	2,395
<i>Leigh Academy Dartford</i>	2,458	244	157	364	3,223
<i>Leigh Academy Ebbsfleet</i>	3,953	282	366	2,497	7,098
<i>Leigh Academy Halley</i>	6,014	535	480	668	7,697
<i>Leigh Academy Hartley</i>	1,540	144	142	180	2,006
<i>Leigh Academy High Halstow</i>	804	60	75	104	1,043
<i>Leigh Academy Horsmonden</i>	783	57	57	83	980
<i>Leigh Academy Hugh Christie</i>	2,005	220	159	932	3,316
<i>Leigh Academy Hundred of Hoo</i>	8,888	764	718	1,163	11,533
<i>Leigh Academy Langley Park</i>	1,928	198	156	242	2,524
<i>Leigh Academy Longfield</i>	5,169	1,093	481	627	7,370
<i>Leigh Academy Marden</i>	1,306	81	75	137	1,599
<i>Leigh Academy Mascalls</i>	6,325	402	767	745	8,239
<i>Leigh Academy Milestone</i>	7,254	515	266	644	8,679
<i>Leigh Academy Minster</i>	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Leigh Academy Molehill</i>	1,444	61	78	173	1,756
<i>Leigh Academy Oaks</i>	1,195	76	80	113	1,464
<i>Leigh Academy Paddock Wood</i>	2,322	136	162	302	2,922
<i>Leigh Academy Peninsula East</i>	1,003	85	56	123	1,267
<i>Leigh Academy Rainham</i>	2,662	361	285	358	3,666
<i>Leigh Academy Snowfields</i>	3,623	310	350	435	4,718
<i>Leigh Academy Strood</i>	6,170	360	423	861	7,814
<i>Leigh Academy Tonbridge</i>	3,035	237	312	454	4,038
<i>Leigh Academy Tree Tops</i>	1,388	106	94	199	1,787
<i>Leigh Academy Wilmington</i>	6,694	454	994	694	8,836
<i>Leigh Stationers' Academy</i>	9,161	575	741	1,981	12,458
<i>Leigh Stationers' Primary Academy</i>	935	110	88	148	1,281
<i>Leigh UTC Dartford</i>	4,132	281	333	474	5,220
<i>Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy</i>	6,340	555	610	841	8,346
<i>Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical</i>	6,130	372	970	857	8,329
<i>The Hundred of Hoo Nursery</i>	486	—	23	114	623
<i>The Leigh Institute (Teaching Schools Hub)</i>	1,164	410	7	1,971	3,552
<i>Connected Hub Apprenticeships C.I.C.</i>	215	96	92	16	419
<i>LAT Enterprises C.I.C.</i>	—	—	—	49	49
<i>Central services</i>	3,088	10,474	206	8,802	22,570
<i>Total expenditure</i>	<u>124,229</u>	<u>20,889</u>	<u>10,964</u>	<u>29,424</u>	<u>185,506</u>

Notes to the accounts 31 August 2025

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

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Transfers, gains & losses £'000	Balance at 31 August 2024 £'000
<i>Restricted DfE funds</i>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	—	127,892	(127,892)	—	—
Pupil Premium	—	6,220	(6,220)	—	—
UIFSM	—	812	(812)	—	—
16-19 Core Education Funding	—	13,825	(13,825)	—	—
Pupil Number Adjustment	—	(287)	287	—	—
Insurance	—	140	(140)	—	—
PE and Sports Grant	—	336	(336)	—	—
Teachers Pay Additional Grant	—	2,197	(2,197)	—	—
Teachers' Pension Employers Contribution Grant	—	1,770	(1,770)	—	—
Recovery premium	—	1,595	(1,595)	—	—
Teaching School Hub	—	1,222	(1,222)	—	—
Other grants	—	8,466	(8,466)	—	—
Pension reserve	(1,501)	—	1,923	(1,764)	(1,342)
	<u>(1,501)</u>	<u>164,188</u>	<u>(162,265)</u>	<u>(1,764)</u>	<u>(1,342)</u>
<i>Restricted general funds</i>					
Local authority grants	—	18,089	(18,089)	289	289
Transfer from local authority on conversion	—	289	—	(289)	—
Teaching School Hub	—	637	(637)	—	—
Connected Hub Apprenticeships C.I.C.	(255)	415	(414)	—	(254)
Other restricted funds	3,488	4,436	(2,031)	—	5,893
	<u>3,233</u>	<u>23,866</u>	<u>(21,171)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>5,928</u>
<i>Restricted fixed asset funds</i>					
Transfer on academies joining the Trust	—	52,748	—	—	52,748
DfE capital grants	378,058	16,649	(11,457)	2,759	386,009
	<u>378,058</u>	<u>69,397</u>	<u>(11,457)</u>	<u>2,759</u>	<u>438,757</u>
<i>Total restricted funds</i>	<u>379,790</u>	<u>257,451</u>	<u>(194,893)</u>	<u>995</u>	<u>443,343</u>
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>					
General funds	5,037	1,661	(414)	(2,056)	4,228
Teaching School Hub	67	1,799	(1,601)	—	265
Connected Hub Apprenticeships C.I.C.	—	6	(6)	—	—
LAT Enterprises C.I.C.	28	752	(49)	(703)	28
<i>Total unrestricted funds</i>	<u>5,132</u>	<u>4,218</u>	<u>(2,070)</u>	<u>(2,759)</u>	<u>4,521</u>
<i>Total funds</i>	<u>384,922</u>	<u>261,669</u>	<u>(196,963)</u>	<u>(1,764)</u>	<u>447,864</u>

Notes to the accounts 31 August 2025

**Analysis of net assets between funds**

Group	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed asset fund £'000	2025 £'000
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2025 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	—	—	445,944	<b>445,944</b>
Current assets	6,296	35,693	(1,750)	<b>40,239</b>
Current liabilities	—	(29,352)	—	<b>(29,352)</b>
Non-current liabilities	—	(41)	—	<b>(41)</b>
Pension scheme liability	—	—	—	<b>—</b>
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>6,296</b>	<b>6,300</b>	<b>444,194</b>	<b>456,790</b>

Group	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed asset fund £'000	2024 £'000
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	—	—	440,507	440,507
Current assets	4,521	32,069	(1,750)	34,840
Current liabilities	—	(26,071)	—	(26,071)
Non-current liabilities	—	(70)	—	(70)
Pension scheme liability	—	(1,342)	—	(1,342)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>4,521</b>	<b>4,586</b>	<b>438,757</b>	<b>447,864</b>

Trust	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed asset fund £'000	2025 £'000
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2025 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	—	—	445,944	<b>445,944</b>
Current assets	6,168	35,901	(1,750)	<b>40,319</b>
Current liabilities	—	(29,307)	—	<b>(29,307)</b>
Non-current liabilities	—	(41)	—	<b>(41)</b>
Pension scheme liability	—	—	—	<b>—</b>
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>6,168</b>	<b>6,553</b>	<b>444,194</b>	<b>456,915</b>

Trust	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed asset fund £'000	2024 £'000
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	—	—	440,507	440,507
Current assets	4,493	32,339	(1,750)	35,082
Current liabilities	—	(26,009)	—	(26,009)
Non-current liabilities	—	(70)	—	(70)
Pension scheme liability	—	(1,342)	—	(1,342)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>4,493</b>	<b>4,918</b>	<b>438,757</b>	<b>448,168</b>

## 21 Capital commitments

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements	3,736	1,127

## 22 Commitments under operating leases

At 31 August 2025 LAT had future minimum commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

<b>Equipment</b>	2025	2024
Payments falling due:	£'000	£'000
Amounts due within one year	2,357	1,683
Amounts due between one and five years	2,718	1,811
	<b>5,075</b>	<b>3,494</b>
<b>Buildings</b>	2025	2024
Payments falling due:	£'000	£'000
Amounts due within one year	5,882	4,597
Amounts due between two and five years	17,473	15,218
Amounts due after five years	16,723	17,658
	<b>40,078</b>	<b>37,473</b>

## 23 Transfers of academies joining the Trust

### *Leigh Academy Minster (prior year)*

The school buildings of the Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey were transferred to the Trust on 13 June 2024, following its closure and in advance of the opening of the new Leigh Academy Minster on 1 September 2024.

The transfer has been accounted for using the acquisition method. The school's land and buildings transferred were valued at their fair value, being £52,748,000 and recognised in the balance sheet under leasehold land and buildings with a corresponding amount recognised as incoming resources in the Statement of Financial Activities.

## 23 Contingent liabilities

In the event of the sale or disposal of any asset for which a capital grant was received, the Trust must, if it does not reinvest the proceeds, repay to the Secretary of State for Education the same proportion of the proceeds of the sale or disposal as equates to the proportion of the original cost met by the Secretary of State.

Upon termination of the Funding Agreements, the Trust must repay to the Secretary of State sums determined by reference to:

- (a) The value at the time of the academies' sites and premises and other assets held for the purpose of the Trust; and

- (b) The extent to which expenditure incurred in providing those assets was met by payments by the Secretary of State under the Funding Agreement.

#### **24 Related party transactions**

Owing to the nature of the Trust's operations and the composition of the Board of Directors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the Trust has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Academy's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures. There were no related party transactions during the year.

#### **25 Agency arrangements**

The Trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for the DfE. In the accounting period ended 31 August 2025 the Trust received £2,278,876 (2024: £2,281,011) and distributed £2,198,925 (2024: £2,493,029) from the fund. An amount of £247,509 (2024: £167,558) is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to the DfE if not used within 12 months.