

**Company Registration Number: 07552665 (England & Wales)**

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Annual Report and Financial Statements**

**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**Contents**

---

	Page
Reference and Administrative Details	1
Directors' Report	2 - 22
Governance Statement	23 - 27
Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance	28
Statement of Directors' Responsibilities	29
Independent Auditors' Report on the Financial Statements	30 - 32
Independent Reporting Accountant's Report on Regularity	33 - 34
Statement of Financial Activities Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account	35
Balance Sheet	36
Statement of Cash Flows	37
Notes to the Financial Statements	38 - 63

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

---

**Reference and Administrative Details of the Trust, its Directors and  
Advisers For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

---

<b>Members</b>	Mr. R. Curtis P. J. Luxmoore Mr. N.A. Smith Ms T. Higgin
<b>Directors</b>	Mr. D. Roberts, Chair of the Board <sup>1</sup> Mr. G. Berry, Vice Chair of the Board & Chair of Finance Committee <sup>1</sup> Mr. A. Brookes Mrs. V. Crawley Mr. R. Curtis <sup>1</sup> Mr. M. Emery <sup>1</sup> Ms. K. Greig, Executive Headteacher and Accounting Officer <sup>1</sup> Ms. M. Hooper Ms. V. A. Pottinger Ms. K. Sharp Ms. S. Snaydon Mr. J. Smith (appointed 23.09.24, resigned 27.01.25)
	<sup>1</sup> member of the Finance Committee
<b>Company registered number</b>	07552665
<b>Principal and registered office</b>	King Ethelbert School Canterbury Road Birchington Kent CT7 9BL
<b>Company secretary</b>	Mrs. J. Brace
<b>Senior management team (at the date of approval)</b>	Ms. K. Greig, CEO of Coastal Academies Trust Mrs. J. Brace, Chief Financial Officer Mr. M. Jones, Headteacher - Dane Court Grammar Mr S. Pullen, Headteacher – The Royal Harbour Academy Mrs. H. J. Russell, Chief Operations Manager Mr. T. Sellen, Headteacher - King Ethelbert School Ms. H. Tudor, Headteacher – Newington Community Primary School Mr I. Wallace – Headteacher – Hartsdown Academy Ms. C. Whichcord, Headteacher - Cliftonville Primary School
<b>Independent auditors</b>	UHY Hacker Young Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors Thames House Roman Square Sittingbourne Kent. ME10 4BJ
<b>Bankers</b>	Lloyds Bank plc 25 Gresham Street London EC2V 7HN

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

---

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

---

The Directors present their annual report, together with the audited financial statements of Coastal Academies Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 August 2025.

The Directors confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the Trust comply with the current statutory requirements.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

Coastal Academies Trust (CAT) is a company limited by guarantee and is an exempt charity. The Trust's articles of association are the primary governing document. Funding for educational activities is governed by a master funding agreement between the Trust and the Secretary of State for Education.

**Principal activities**

The principal objective of the Trust is the delivery of education for the public benefit through the operation of a group of academies. To provide outstanding education for students aged between 3 and 18.

The Trust's accounts for 2024/25 include the operation of 6 academies, Cliftonville Primary School, Dane Court Grammar School, Hartsdown Academy, King Ethelbert School, The Royal Harbour Academy and Newington Community Primary School which converted to academy status and joined CAT on 1 July 2024.

CAT's academies have a combined pupil capacity of 6,190 and had a roll of 5,420 in July 2025.

**Members**

The initial Members of the Trust were the signatories to the Memorandum of Association. Membership terminates automatically pursuant to Article 15d when any Member, also being a Director, ceases to be a Director.

**Members' liability**

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

**Directors**

Directors hold their office as the Chair of the Local Governing Boards (Article 46d), appointed by Members (Article 46a) or co-opted by Directors (Article 58).

**Directors' indemnities**

Coastal Academies Trust maintains liability insurance for Directors which gives appropriate cover for any legal action brought against them. The Trust has also granted indemnities to each of its Directors and other officers to the extent permitted by law. Qualifying third party indemnity provisions (as defined by section 234 of the Companies Act 2006) were in force during the year and remain in force, in relation to certain losses and liabilities which the Members, Directors and other officers may incur to third parties in the course of the acting on the Trust's behalf.

Details of Directors' and officers' insurance is provided in note 14.

**Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Directors**

The Articles of Association require the appointment of at least three Directors of the Trust. Members may appoint up to eight Directors (Article 46a). The Chair of each Local Governing Body is automatically registered as a Director (Article 46d). The Directors may also appoint up to three Co-opted Directors (Article 58).

**Procedures adopted for the induction and training of Directors**

Training and induction is tailored to new Directors as appropriate to their requirements and previous experience. The Trust Directors have access to policies, procedures, minutes, budgets, accounts and other relevant plans and documents that they need to fulfil their role.

**Directors' term of office**

The term of office for any Director shall be four years save that:

- a) the term of office may be shorter than four years for any Director appointed by the Members under Article 46(a) if the Members determine this at the time of appointment of such a Director; or
- b) in the case of a Director appointed ex officio as a Chair of Governors, his or her term of office should be for as long as they are a Chair of Governors. In March 2025 the board agreed that future Chairs of Governors would not automatically

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

be appointed ex office Directors. Current Chairs would remain as Directors due to their skill set alone and fall under the terms of office set out for any other Director.

Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Director, any Director may be re-appointed or re-elected.

All Directors are also act as trustees for the purpose of charity law.

**Organisational Structure**

The Directors have delegated the day-to-day governance of each academy to a School Board (SB), established as a sub-committee of the Trust Board. In the case of Dane Court Grammar School and King Ethelbert School, this has been a single group since the two schools federated in 2009. The Headteacher from each academy attends Trust Board meetings.

Newington Community Primary School converted to join Coastal Academies Trust on the 1 July 2024.

The Directors have established a Finance Committee as a sub-committee of the Trust Board to co-ordinate and monitor the finances of the Trust in addition to Risk Management & Audit, H&S and Estates Management. The Directors have also established an Academic Standards Committee to monitor teaching & learning standards & outcomes across the Trust.

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

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the Directors and senior management team as disclosed on page 1.

The remuneration policy, setting the terms and conditions for the key management personnel, was developed and approved by the board. Naturally, the senior management team are not involved in the setting of their own remuneration package.

Only staff Directors, including the CEO, are remunerated and these individuals only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their role as trustees. Specific disclosures concerning staff Directors' remuneration is included in note 13.

The day to day running of the remuneration policy is delegated to the Headteacher in each school. All details of setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel are set out in the pay policy and appraisal policy which are reviewed regularly by the CAT Finance Committee & Trust Board.

Remuneration of key management personnel is set at an individual level, and where possible the Directors have taken external professional advice which includes benchmarking, market trends and advice on structuring of incentives. Senior management salaries are, wherever possible, linked to pay spines, helping trustees conclude that each individual is remunerated at an appropriate level. As such salaries are linked to factors such as length of service and experience. Total remuneration packages include employer pension contribution rates at specific approved rates.

The Board always bears in mind the charitable status of the academy trust and in recognition of this fact the trust receives funding under a funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education, and therefore ensure the remuneration paid to senior management personnel never exceeds a reasonable amount that provides value for money to the trust. The performance of senior management personnel is reviewed on a regular basis to ensure continuing value for money. Total remuneration paid to senior management personnel is set out in note 11(f).

**Trade union facility time**

Relevant Union Officials:

<b>Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the year</b>	<b>Full time equivalent employee number</b>
1	0.6
<b>Percentage of time spent on facility time:</b>	<b>Number of employees</b>
100%	1
<b>Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time:</b>	
Total Cost of facility time (reclaimed back)	£33,376 (claimed back)
Total Pay Bill	£34,509,249
Percentage of total pay bill spent on facility time	0.1%
Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	100%

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

---

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

---

**Connected organisations, including related parties**

The only connected organisation is the Dane Court School Parents Association (charity number 1023394).

**Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)**

The trust delegates the responsibility to the CEO and Headteachers of each school to provide employees with information on matters of concern to them through staff briefings and other appropriate communication forums. Staff representatives sit on local school boards. The trust continues to recognise trade unions. Trust policies, which affect employee's interests, are consulted upon with both employees and their trade unions in order that the trust can consider employees' views in making decisions.

The trust aims to encourage the involvement of employees in the Trust's performance and achieve a common awareness on the part of all employees of the factors affecting performance by delegating to the Headteachers and local school boards to disseminate information to their employees. This includes, but not limited to, student data, financial data as appropriate and School Plans for each academic year.

The trust is positive about disabled people and its policy is to interview those applicants with a disability where they meet the minimum requirements for the post. The trust would not treat disabled employees any less favourably in respect of training, career development or promotion.

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

The trust delegates the responsibility to the Executive Headteacher and Headteachers of each school to foster the school's business relationships with key stakeholders including suppliers, customers and the wider community.

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The principal objective of the Trust is the delivery of education for the public benefit through the operation of a group of academies. To provide outstanding education for students aged between 3 and 18. A more detailed summary is provided in each school's prospectus or on each school's website.

In accordance with the articles of association the academy trust has adopted a "Scheme of Government" (Master Funding Agreement) approved by the Secretary of State for Education. The Scheme of Government specifies, amongst other things, the basis for admitting students to the schools and that the curriculum should comply with the substance of the national curriculum.

The major outcomes for the year included Newington Community Primary who formally joined the Trust in July 2024 integrating into the trust and adding capacity by having another local primary. Maintaining delivery of the best education possible to all students, raising the achievement of all students and improving the quality of teaching. Continuing to deliver our successful Leadership pathways program. Our third whole trust staff CPD day focussed on teaching and learning and was hugely successful in building our CAT community with teachers and leaders finding new areas in which to collaborate. The trust attendance group continued to develop strategies to support increased attendance and this group is now attended by external visitors in order to look beyond the trust. Whole trust reviews undertaken by our Trustees included, Safeguarding, Risk, Sixth form and Academic Achievement. The trust SCITT had a successful year and take up exceeded our expectations. King Ethelbert School moved forward with the SRP and building plans with work starting in the next academic year.

**Public benefit**

The Trust is state funded and strives to promote and support the advancement of education within Thanet. Each school has its own admissions criteria as set out in the Master Funding Agreement; Dane Court Grammar School selects students aged 11 to 18 who have passed the Kent Test; Hartsdown Academy is a non-selective 11-18 school, King Ethelbert School is a non-selective 11 to 18 school, The Royal Harbour is a non-selective 11-18 school and Cliftonville Primary School & Newington Community Primary school admits children aged 3 to 11. For all schools the catchment area can vary but is determined by each school's admission criteria. The Trust plays an active role in the local community including sporting activities, fundraising for charities and much more. The trust buildings and land are often available for community use outside of school hours.

The Directors acknowledge their duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the general and specific guidance on public benefit issued by the Charities Commission. We have referred to this guidance when reviewing our aims, strategy and plans for the future. All activities undertaken by the Trust are for the public benefit.

**STRATEGIC REPORT**

**Achievements and performance**

Academic performance of the Trust's academies during the year was as follows:

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**Attainment 8 Score**

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Dane Court GS	65.15	68.47	69.21	67.28	64.50
Hartsdown Academy	31.98	32.41	33.58	28.37	31.51
King Ethelbert School	36.51	35.07	42.4	40.37	41.83
Royal Harbour Academy	29.3	30.12	30.77	32.2	35.03

**% of students achieving a grade 4 or above in English and maths**

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Dane Court GS	96%	96%	99%	99%	98%
Hartsdown Academy	38%	36%	41%	40%	38%
King Ethelbert School	39%	47%	61%	57%	56%
Royal Harbour Academy	35%	36%	33%	29%	40%

**Percentage of students achieving a grade 4 or above in English**

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Dane Court GS	98%	98%	99%	100%	98%
Hartsdown Academy	58%	46%	57%	48.45%	55%
King Ethelbert School	70.5%	71.9%	80%	75%	69%
Royal Harbour Academy	53%	50.6%	48%	44%	58%

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**Percentage of students achieving a grade 4 or above in maths**

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Dane Court GS	98%	99%	99%	99%	99%
Hartsdown Academy	47%	42%	50%	41.24%	44%
King Ethelbert School	41.7%	48.9%	64%	63%	61%
Royal Harbour Academy	39%	42%	39%	38%	43%

**IBDP results**

	% of students with 24 pts or above				Average IBDP APS (APS per subject in brackets)			
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2025	2024	2023	2022
Dane Court GS	100%	100%	100%	100%	35 (5.5)	33 (5.3)	36 (5.5)	35 (5.8)

**IBCP results**

	% certificate awarded				% pass rate vocational				Average IB pts			
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2025	2024	2023	2022	2025	2024	2023	2022
DCGS	98	98	100	100	100	100	100	100	4.8	5.3	5.3	5.0
HA	86	68	85	100	100	100	95.4	89	4.25	4.17	4.09	4.6
KES	92	94	88	94	100	100	100	100	4.0	4.18	4.08	3.9
RHA	82	75	94	85	98	100	100	100	3.66	3.71	3.9	3.9

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

<b>CPS</b>		<b>Final Predictions 2024 (%)</b>	<b>2024 Outcomes (%)</b>	<b>National Outcomes (%)</b>	<b>2024-2025 Targets (%)</b>	<b>24-25 Y6 Final Predictions (%)</b>	<b>2025 Outcomes (%)</b>
Reading Writing, Maths combined	<b>Expected</b>	52	50	61	64	52	44
Reading		60	65	74	68	63	63
Writing		60	59	72	68	65	60
Maths		65	62	73	70	63	59
Reading Writing, Maths combined	<b>Greater Depth</b>	5	3	5	18	9	10
Reading		24	15	19	31	22	26
Writing		10	7	15	19	9	11
Maths		20	14	17	27	11	21

<b>NPS</b>		<b>Final Predictions 2024 (%)</b>	<b>2024 Outcomes (%)</b>	<b>National Outcomes (%)</b>	<b>2024-2025 Targets (%)</b>	<b>24-25 Y6 Final Predictions (%)</b>	<b>2025 Outcomes (%)</b>
Reading Writing, Maths combined	<b>Expected</b>	41	41	61	66	45%	47
Reading		75	60	74	80	66%	64
Writing		58	65	72	65	58%	60
Maths		54	59	73	78	54%	65
Reading Writing, Maths combined	<b>Greater Depth</b>	0	4	5	1	2%	3
Reading		16	18	19	13	17%	17
Writing		0	5	15	6	7%	7
Maths		10	18	17	10	6%	8

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**Year Two Priorities End of Year Report**  
**2024-25**

**Aim One: Employer of Choice**

AIM	ACTIONS	OUTCOMES/SUCCESS CRITERIA
1. Staff Development and Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Continue to refine and develop the CAT leadership programmes:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- new to SLT</li> <li>- Aspiring middle leaders</li> <li>- Aspiring senior leaders</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Track participants/evaluations and career progression in order to promote success both internally and externally</li> <li>● Respond to need for bespoke leadership development courses by liaising with HTs on specific areas of need for both senior and middle leaders</li> <li>● Celebrate and promote success on CAT website</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Clear and defined career pathways for staff progression</li> <li>● All leadership courses show appropriate development and progression</li> <li>● CAT website reflects the successes of all leadership courses</li> <li>● Strengthened effective senior and middle leaders in all schools</li> </ul>
2. Refine the process for CAT reviews and specific school reviews so that areas for development are shared and acted upon across all schools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Carry out at least one whole CAT review with a week of monitoring/data collection/observations etc. (SEN)</li> <li>● Share findings with each other and use to develop CAT action plan which will be fed back to the CAT Board</li> <li>● LPA to attend Academic Standards data meetings so that specific department reviews and actions can be linked to outcomes. These areas, of course, to be shared with all schools to ensure joint ownership and accountability for improvement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Detailed evaluation of SEN provision across CAT with strengthened areas of development and actions created.</li> <li>● Academic standards action plan links coherently with department reviews and actions.</li> </ul>
3. Cross-CAT CPD Development Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Plan and deliver an appropriate and valuable development day - June 2025</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Successful day noted through evaluations</li> </ul>

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

AIM	ACTIONS	OUTCOMES/SUCCESS CRITERIA
4. Recruitment and Retention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to share recruitment strategies across CAT</li> <li>Use CAT website to promote opportunities, development, training and successes of staff in order to recruit professionals wanting to develop their career</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each school fully staffed with high quality staff and high quality applications.</li> <li>Website reflects positive work of CAT</li> </ul>
5. SCITT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote, expand and develop CAT as a SCITT with student teachers choosing CAT for training and employment.</li> <li>Internal posts for supporting trainees developed across Trust for career development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 SCITT participants 2025</li> <li>Cohort 2024/25 successfully complete PGCE year with positive evaluations</li> </ul>

**Aim Two: School of Choice**

AIM	ACTIONS	OUTCOMES/SUCCESS CRITERIA
1. School Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each school carries out a minimum of 5 reviews each academic year with area of focus agreed by KG/LPA.</li> <li>Action plans shared with Trust Executives and follow up reviews to address areas of concern where necessary.</li> <li>Link above with data group.</li> <li>External support/review arranged with school/LPA to ensure external scrutiny is part of our process for development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All schools have reviews with clear points of action followed through.</li> <li>Outcomes at KS2, KS4 and KS5 continue to improve in all our schools.</li> <li>RHA continues to improve and there is confidence that a Good will be achieved in all 4 categories for Ofsted.</li> <li>Middle leaders strengthened and have more ownership of their areas.</li> <li>CAT monitoring gives evidence of impact/intervention.</li> <li>All schools are confident for Ofsted.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summary report delivered to CAT Board annually.</li> <li>Outcomes improved at KS2, KS4 and KS5 with specific actions recorded and monitored at Trust level.</li> <li>RHA RI to Good to remain high priority.</li> <li>i. Steering group once a month (DR)</li> <li>ii. Explicit intervention by KG/LPA in areas/subjects needing support</li> <li>iii. Staffing level of need discussed at Trust level with intervention where appropriate by KG/HR</li> <li>iv. Strengthen middle leaders at RHA</li> <li>v. CAT schools used for reviews to monitor progress.</li> </ul>	

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

AIM	ACTIONS	OUTCOMES/SUCCESS CRITERIA
2. School promotion via social media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CAT website to be used more effectively to promote Trust and individual schools.</li> <li>● Encourage and promote social media across our schools and share good practice.</li> <li>● Develop action plan to ensure promotion in each school of events/successes across the Trust which support school growth i.e.. publicise destinations collectively and share with primary schools ('this is what you can achieve at a CAT school'), track primary CAT students across year groups; encourage celebration of each other at governing body meetings/external events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CAT website developed.</li> <li>● Schools are confident with social media promotion.</li> <li>● Action plan created for Trust successes/promotion across Thanet and more widely.</li> </ul>
3. Sixth Form Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sixth form review focussing on recruitment and retention with actions noted, acted upon and evaluated.</li> <li>● Continue with marketing and media plans with specific emphasis on increasing community understanding and knowledge of the IB.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Numbers in sixth form improve.</li> <li>● Students retention numbers from Year 12/13 are high.</li> </ul>
4. Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Continue to focus on attendance as an area of concern for all schools.</li> <li>● CAT attendance group to include external colleagues to strengthen resources/contribute strategies for improvement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Attendance in all schools continues to improve.</li> </ul>
5. Coaching Development across CAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Create a steering group of leaders across our schools in order to explore effective coaching.</li> <li>● Create an action plan which will create excellent protocols/practice for coaching.</li> <li>● Trial group of volunteers from across CAT schools to measure impact and report back to each other and the CAT Board.</li> <li>● Each school will become a centre of excellence for coaching over the next 2 / 3 years.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Clear coaching plan developed across Trust with initial actions taken.</li> <li>● Practice shared across all schools.</li> </ul>
6. Curriculum Transition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Start to explore curriculum transition across CAT schools.</li> <li>● Does the primary view of 'secondary ready' match the secondary view?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Audit of skills needed in Year 7</li> <li>ii. school to school visits</li> <li>iii. Middle years and the primary curriculum</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Develop a plan of curriculum transition that has timelines and specific tasks/impact.</li> </ul>

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**Aim Three: Trust of Choice**

AIM	ACTIONS	OUTCOMES/SUCCESS CRITERIA
1. Trust Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a simple Trust Growth protocol for future growth which will include our commitment to Thanet youngsters as well as a clear understanding of why a school would want to join us.</li> <li>Continue to work with other schools and Trusts to build relationships, strengthen our Trust and ensure we are outward looking.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan written and approved by Trustees</li> <li>CAT becomes a partner of choice (informally as well as potentially formally)</li> </ul>
2. Sixth Forms across the Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following the SRMA reports, carry out a full review on sixth form provision offered at each secondary school. This is separate to, but in line with, our marketing and media strategy (see School of Choice).</li> <li>Should all schools have a sixth form?</li> <li>How do our curriculum options help us share and develop appropriate post-16 choices for CAT students?</li> <li>What impact do our sixth forms have in our schools - financially/recruitment of staff/aspiration/community appeal.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review completed and reported to Trust Board</li> </ul>
3. Estate Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop protocols for estate funding priorities:</li> <li>Health and safety/safeguarding/curriculum development etc.</li> <li>Ensure clear accountability for the Trust regarding capital spending priorities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear protocols understood and agreed by all schools/Trust Board.</li> </ul>
4. Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support schools with financial management whilst being more proactive regarding opportunities for shared CAT grants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply for at least one grant to support all CAT schools.</li> </ul>
5. IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to develop IT strategy plan linking with safeguarding/workload/curriculum development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear IT strategic plan with aims/action/impact.</li> </ul>
6. AI Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a CAT working party to work with external support to develop an AI action plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AI CAT action plan created with report to Board on AI delivery.</li> </ul>
7. SEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All CAT schools continue to contribute to changes in SEN provision across Kent. CAT to be seen as proactive and engaged in SEN area plan.</li> <li>SEN CAT review. Track and audit provision and best practice particularly around teaching and learning opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All schools feel supported and knowledgeable about SEN changes in Kent.</li> </ul>

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

AIM	ACTIONS	OUTCOMES/SUCCESS CRITERIA
8. Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to explore and develop governance/Trust links.</li> <li>Encourage governing bodies to visit other CAT schools and share CAT values/vision/language across LSBs.</li> <li>Define a specific area for our ongoing governance review.</li> <li>Map/collate and use effectively governing body minutes to link with Trust work and monitor the challenge of minutes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good practice shared across governing bodies which continue to grow/strengthen practice.</li> </ul>
9. CAT sustainability and climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audit of where CAT schools are with sustainability.</li> <li>Create action plan for CAT.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audit complete.</li> <li>Action plan with impact measures created by end of the academic year.</li> </ul>

**Ofsted Outcomes**

Cliftonville – Good – June 2024

Dane Court - Good - June 2022

King Ethelbert - Good – June 2024

Hartsdown - Good - Dec 2021

The Royal Harbour Academy – Joined Trust 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 currently ungraded

Newington Community Primary School – Joined the Trust 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024 : Ofsted monitoring visit July 2025 stated that school was retaining the standards achieved at the last inspection (graded outstanding in 2018)

**Key performance indicators**

Every Board meeting Directors received updates on student performance from the Academic Standards Committee; trust priorities and financial and risk monitoring reports from the Finance and Audit Committee. The CEO provided the Directors with an end of year report on the year 3 priorities of the strategic business plan to set out successes and areas for further development. The trust has 3 aims – To be The Employer of Choice, The School of Choice and The Trust of Choice. Strong take up on the leadership pathways courses resulting in promotion for staff in the trust. Increase in first choices for Hartsdown and RHA. Full PAN at each school. Improved outcomes at KS4 and 5. The DfE stating the trust is a strong trust.

Every Board meeting Directors receive a report from the CFO which monitors each school’s financial performance closely. Financial KPI’s are agreed at the beginning of the academic year and published with the monthly management reports in areas such as staff costs as a percentage of total expenditure, total income & expenditure per pupil both budget and forecast.

The Board consider the following to be key financial performance indicators:

- Accounts to be filed with Companies House and on the Trust website by 31 January of the following year.
- All statutory returns are to be submitted on time.
- All schools are expected to bring in a ‘balanced budget’ and explain reasons for variances unless otherwise instructed when the budgets are set. At least annually the Directors are presented with various benchmarking reports to ensure economy, efficiency and effectiveness over the use of Trust funds (value for money).

All financial KPI's were met during the year.

Each school aims to continue to recruit and retain students at their full published admission numbers. Dane Court Grammar School & King Ethelbert School continue year on year to be oversubscribed and Royal Harbour had their highest intake of year 7 to date.

The Trust has sought to maintain a cash balance that will enable each school to meet all expectations and plan for unforeseen circumstances. During the year there was a focus on investing cash reserves which resulted in the highest amount of investment income in recent years.

## Coastal Academies Trust

### (A company limited by guarantee)

## Directors' Report

### For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

#### Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate resources to continue operating for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it has adopted the going concern basis to prepare these Financial Statements.

#### Promoting the success of the Trust

The Board in its decision making have consistently acted in a way to have regard to:

- ***The likely consequences of any decision in the long term***  
All key decisions that will have an impact on the long-term future of the charity are discussed at the relevant sub-committee and Board. For major and long running projects, the board receives regular updates to ensure that there is appropriate oversight and that appropriate action is taken where necessary.
- ***The interest of the Trust's employees.***  
The impact of major decisions on staff are discussed by the Board who also receive regular updates on staff pay, health & safety and safeguarding. The Board receives a summary of the annual engagement survey which highlights both strengths and areas for potential improvement on employment matters and how these will be mitigated through specific actions.
- ***The need to foster the Trust's business relationships with suppliers, customers and others***  
The Board receives information on high level issues arising from relationships with suppliers or other stakeholders. The Board as appropriate discusses the nature of the relationships it wants with key stakeholders and the wider school community and there are clear processes for engagement through social media platforms and open events.
- ***The impact of the Trust's operations on the community and the environment***  
CAT's key objective is to provide education for students within the Trust. The Board receives regular updates in terms of the monitoring of the funds received from the DfE and that they are used efficiently and effectively.
- ***The desirability of the Trust maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct***  
The nature of CAT's work as a charity makes the maintenance of its reputation for keeping high standards of particular importance. Appropriate systems and processes are in place to ensure the highest standards of education are maintained. The executive team will also update the board with any matters that may have given rise to a reputational risk including any mitigating actions being taken.
- ***The need to act fairly as between members of the Trust***  
The academy trust is an independent entity. As a limited by guarantee company the Trust has members, and at 31 August 2025 had 4 members. Members all have equal voting rights. As responsibility to conduct the trust's business sits with the trustees, the members adopt an 'eyes on and hands off' to avoid compromising the board's discretion.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

Most of the Trust's recurrent income is obtained from the DfE in the form of grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE during the year ended 31 August 2025 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities ("SoFA"). Core grant income has been supplemented by capital funding, and various other income streams.

Total income for the year was £45.09m compared to £55.18m in the previous year. The reduction in total income arises because the prior year includes a £14.7m donation to reflect the net value of assets and liabilities transferred into the Trust when Newington Primary School joined that Trust on 1 July 2024.

Total income for each year also included significantly different levels of capital funding with £876k in the current year compared to £3.39m in 2024. The Trust began receiving guaranteed School Condition Allocation (SCA) last year, but the financial statements also reflected income from on-going Condition Improvement Funding (CIF) capital projects.

Revenue income for the day-to-day running of the Trust's academies has increased to £44.2m (2024: £37.1m). Most of this revenue income relates to the funding for educational operations, as detailed in note 6. Much of the increase arises due to the full year for Newington Primary School (£4.6m) compared to just two months' income in the prior year (£656k).

Total expenditure for the year was £46.0m resulting in net expenditure for the year of £941k (2024: net income of £16.5m), as shown on the SoFA.

The overall net movement in funds, after other recognised gains/losses arising on the Local Government defined benefit pension scheme ("LGPS"), was a decrease of £1.36m (2024: increase of £16.0m). This overall movement does not reflect the meaningful operational result and includes movements that do not relate to day-to-day running of the Trust's academies. The table which follows has been included to reconcile to the more meaningful movement in revenue income funds, an increase of £208k (2024: increase of £371k), and then to the operational result, a surplus of £368k (2024: £315k).

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

	2025 (£000s)	2024 (£000s)
<b>Overall net movement in funds for the year per SoFA</b>	<b>(1,362)</b>	<b>16,021</b>
Decrease / (Increase) attributable to fixed asset fund	1,570	(15,650)
LGPS actuarial loss/(gain)	(4,923)	(99)
LGPS service and interest costs	(421)	(346)
Adjustment for restriction on pension assets (see note 2)	5,344	576
LGPS balance inherited on conversion of NPS (2023: RHA)	-	(131)
<b>Movement in revenue income funds in the year</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>371</b>
Less revenue funds inherited on NPS conversion	-	(550)
<b>Movement in revenue funds in the year excluding funds inherited</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>(179)</b>
Add: Transfers from revenue to capital to fund fixed asset additions	160	494
<b>Operational result on revenue income funds before transfers to capital</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>315</b>

Since these financial statements provide information at trust level they disclose little detail about individual academies. Note 19 sets out the revenue carry forward balances at an individual level, and this reveals that Hartsdown Academy carried a deficit of £934k on revenue income funds at 31 August 2025 (2024: £1.19m). Note 19 explains how this position arose in previous years, and the continued action being taken by Directors to return Hartsdown to an overall surplus position, which will take some time. The collective strength of the overall trust and its other academies continues to support Hartsdown.

At the end of August 2025, the net book value of assets amounted to £86.3m (2024: £87.2m), and a large proportion of the value sits in the land and buildings occupied by the Trust's academies. These buildings are used almost exclusively for educational operations and the associated support services to students in the academies.

RHA joined the Trust with an existing Private Finance Initiative (PFI) arrangement in place. RHA operates from two sites, with the 'lower' site connected to the PFI agreement. The on-going contractual commitments under this PFI agreement are disclosed on note 28.

The total funds of the Trust at 31 August 2025 amounted to £90.3m (2024: £91.6m). Of this total, £3.4m (2024: £3.2m) related to revenue funds, split between unrestricted funds and restricted revenue funds. In addition, the Trust was holding unspent capital funding, in cash terms, of £626k (2024: £1.3m) at the year end, which is included in the fixed asset fund balance which otherwise represents the net book value of capitalised assets held on the Trust's Balance Sheet.

The pension reserve, relating to the present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) defined benefit liability, shows a £nil balance at 31 August 2025 (2024: £nil). In accordance with accounting requirements, the Trust's share of LGPS is carried on the Balance Sheet, with movements each year quantified by the Local Authority's actuary and reflected through the SOFA. However this year the valuation report received from the Local Authority appointed actuary again indicated that a pension accounting surplus existed at 31 August 2025. The accounting standards state that if an employer has an accounting surplus, it should only be recognised to the extent that it is able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future, or through refunds. There are differing opinions as to the extent to which a pension surplus represents an "unconditional right" of employers and therefore the extent to which the surplus can be recognised as being of economic value, and to date the DfE have been unable to give any guidance to academy trusts. The Directors have therefore taken the view that, since the Trust is a long-term employer open to new members, there is not a reasonable expectation of ever reaching a point of cessation and therefore being able to access a return of surplus. Accordingly, the surplus has not been included, and a break-even £nil position has been reflected on the Balance Sheet. The pension surplus is disclosed in note 2 and the actuarial assumptions and other movements in the year are disclosed in note 27.

Any pension surplus or deficit is merely an accounting figure calculated under FRS 102 for the purposes of the financial statements and has no direct effect on the employer contribution rate paid by the Trust, which is determined using longer-term funding assumptions. These contribution rates are reviewed every three years in consultation with the scheme's administrators, and current employer contributions due by the Trust are fixed until 1 April 2026.

#### **Reserves policy**

The Directors review the reserves policy of the Trust annually and their level is reviewed monthly. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments, the nature of reserves, the expected final outcome for the coming year, any exceptional needs that might need to be met by one or more of our academies, the central management needs for cross Trust initiatives and the Trusts capital investment programme for the coming year.

It is the Directors' continuing intention that the level of reserves should be maintained at a level which provides sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants, to provide a cushion to deal with unplanned needs and ensure the continued support of an individual school in the event that the financial position changes.

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

---

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

---

Directors consider it appropriate to hold reserves equivalent to at least 5% of total annual recurring revenue income, which is expected to in the region of £2.3m for 2025/26. Total revenue funds held at 31 August 2025 amounted to £3.39m. The 'free' reserves i.e. those income funds held which are freely available for general purposes are the unrestricted element of revenue funds - £2.42m (2024: £2.61m). The Directors are satisfied with the current level of reserves held due to the level of risks and uncertainty within the education sector at this time.

**Financial and risk management objectives and policies**

The Trust uses various simple financial instruments including cash and various items such as trade debtors and trade creditors that arise directly from its operations. The main purpose of these financial instruments is to maintain finance for the Trust's operations.

The existence of these financial instruments exposes the Trust to liquidity risk and cash flow interest risk:

- *Liquidity risk* – the Trust manages its cash resources, including sufficient working capital, so that its bank ledger balance is available to the finance team for monitoring at all times and is always taken into account when making payments.
- *Interest rate risk* – the Trust has used risk free managed investments to maximise interest on income wherever possible and shall continue to do so.

**Principal risks and uncertainties**

The Trust monitors the principal risks and has drawn up risk registers for each academy which are regularly reviewed. A CAT level risk register capturing the major risks faced by the Trust is monitored at Board level. In particular, the financial risk is that public funding will not rise in line with the cost base giving rise to potential unsustainable deficits within the Trust. This risk is mitigated by careful budget planning – overseen by the Finance Committee – and where possible securing additional resources to supplement Government funding. This remains relevant at this time due to the current economic climate and utility costs.

The principal operational risk to the Trust is that academic performance and attainment data does not meet the expectations of the regulator over time. This risk is mitigated by cross Trust expert support to improve teaching and learning, as well as by active results and data monitoring.

Due to the age of some of the school buildings more focus has been placed on estates management. This year has seen investment required in the area of H&S, contracting an external consultant to over-see this critical area of risk for all schools.

During 2023 Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) was identified at King Ethelbert School with several teaching areas having to be vacated by staff and students for health and safety reasons. The areas affected by RAAC remain out of bounds and the school continues to use two phases of temporary classrooms to deliver all areas of the curriculum with minimal disruption. The school is now formally under the School Rebuilding Programme (SRP). The SRP design includes the demolition of all RAAC areas and the reflection unit, a new two-storey building with 8 university-standard labs, a degree of refurbishment and remodelling in the main building and red building and substantial landscaping across the main playground and central park area (plot of green building). Following feasibility, the project went out to tender earlier this year and Morgan Sindell were awarded the contract. The school has worked closely with Morgan Sindell, completing 8 client engagement meetings, where the full design of the buildings, landscape, furniture and IT was discussed in great detail and amendments made where required.. This has now been submitted to Thanet District Council Planning Department for approval, which is anticipated to be returned before Christmas 2025 and works to start early-mid 2026.

To address the teacher recruitment and retention national concerns the Trust has developed bespoke training programs for senior leaders & middle leaders which aids succession planning.

**Investment policy**

All schools in the Trust only invest money in accounts which minimise the risk of loss. Speculative investments are not made.

**FUNDRAISING**

The Trust's fund raising is carried out and monitored at school level. The schools do not work with commercial or professional partners, and do not carry out direct marketing. All fund raising activities are small scale, and carried out directly by the schools not by third parties. The schools and Trust have established complaints procedures for all types of complaints.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

It is the Trust's policy to recognise that equal opportunities should be an integral part of good working practice within the workplace. The Trust aims to establish equal opportunity in all areas of its activities including creating a working environment in which the contribution and needs of all people are fully valued.

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**DISABLED PERSONS**

The policy of the Trust is to support recruitment and retention of students and employees with disabilities. The academy trust does this by making reasonable adjustment to the physical environment wherever possible, by making support services available and through training and career development.

**STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING**

**Breakdown of Energy Consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh):**

Mandatory Requirements:	2024/2025	2023/2024
Natural Gas	2,485,481	2,827,091
Purchased electricity from the national grid	2,252,800	2,075,092
Transport fuel	45,884	42,113
Total Energy (mandatory)	4,784,164	5,748,138

**Breakdown of Emissions with the reported energy use (tCO2e):**

Mandatory Requirements:	2024/2025	2023/2024
Scope 1 Natural Gas	454.7	517.1
Scope 1 Transport – Company owned vehicles	6.5	6.3
Scope 2 Purchased Electricity	398.8	429.6
Scope 3 Business travel in employee-owned vehicles	4.2	4.0
Total Gross Emissions	864.2	1,099.9
Intensity Ratio for mandatory emissions Tonnes CO2e per pupil	0.159	0.203

**Intensity Ratio**

The primary intensity ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e (mandatory emissions) per pupil, which is the recommended ratio for the sector for consistency and comparability. Pupil numbers are based on the Autumn 2024 Census.

**Sustainability and Energy Reduction Strategies:**

Cliftonville Primary School:

2024/25 – The school continued to replace its existing inefficient heating systems with updated heating and cooling units. All year 5 classrooms were upgraded over the summer.

The school continues to benefit from the solar panels installed last year, reducing energy costs enough to cover the leasing cost for 24/25. The school is in process of setting up the exporter account to enable us to receive the funds for energy sold back to the grid.

2025/26 – The school is currently putting together a project to replace all its fluorescent lighting in the Early years building with energy efficient LED lighting. One contractor has already been engaged and a quote obtained.

The school plans to carry out a water audit with southern water to decrease water usage through the installation of flushing and water monitoring devices. This is usually a free service.

The school plans to continue with its energy efficiency heating and cooling programme by replacing heating units in year 4 with updated units enabling the removal of an old inefficient gas boiler from year 2.

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

---

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

---

Dane Court:

Lights: We have also replaced all light bulbs with LED bulbs.

Improvements: We have completed works re new double-glazed windows and new boilers. Heating and ventilation systems to be carefully managed.

Roofs/ Insulation: One of our old roofs has been replaced recently with new insulation, we are scheduling two other roofs to be replaced and new insulation.

Solar PV: Ongoing discussions regarding funding and fitting.

Water: Working with Southern Water/ DfE and Groundworks UK four new interlinked rain gardens were built resulting in 6.5million litres of water being captured by the rain gardens in the past year which is slowly filtrated down and released back into the system after capture. We have also had large, planted troughs installed at the bottom of drainage pipes which carry rainwater from the school roofs further slowing/preventing run off into the drainage systems. Water management system in place for urinals.

Biodiversity: Thanet Earth grant of £500 received for creation of a bio-diverse garden after being selected as 'Community Champion' for this project.

Sustainability embedded in the curriculum and our school community.

Hartsdown Academy:

- Focus on paper / cardboard recycling
- New taps in student toilets to control water management
- 2 new EV chargers installed in the car park
- Behind the sports hall area project. The once unsafe, overgrown area has been cleared of all rubbish and flattened to ensure it is safe for students and staff. The area now has a designated plot for an allotment with beds for plant and food growing.
- Sustainability audit booked for end of November to identify areas of focus.

Newington Primary School:

2024/25 Actions:

- Waste recycling
- Water restrictors in urinals
- Solar film on windows to help insulation in the winter
- Reduction of time heating boilers are on.

Considerations for 2025/26:

- food waste
- creation of greener areas
- improved insulation from new roofs
- analysis and reduction of electricity use.
- analysis of resources packaging - ensure recyclable

King Ethelbert:

- Installation of 4 electric car chargers
- Completion of new boiler project and heating distribution in main building to improve energy efficiency
- Continue to upgrade lighting to LED
- Completion of replacement roof of main building to improve the overall energy efficiency.
- Replace paper towel holders in toilets with electric hand dryers - ongoing
- Completion of 2 x refurbished toilet blocks where urinals were removed - water saving as they were set up to flush automatically irrespective of whether someone had used the urinal or not
- Replacing taps with non-concussive taps so they automatically turn off and can't be left running
- Replaced a few external doors so they cannot be left open - to reduce heat loss

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

Royal Harbour Academy:

Lights: In the Upper site, main hall and streetlights have been changed to LED. In 2025/26 we plan to further upgrade lights to LED in ACE main hall and street lighting, main kitchen, athletic track and art room.

Computing: All programmes are cloud based. A programme will be launched to shut down all computers each evening.

Water: Men urinals flush all day, and we are looking to change this to sensor, this will be a phased in over the next couple of years.

Food: Introduction of food waste management processes in the kitchen.

EV: Charger now installed at upper school. One will be installed in 25/26 on the lower school site.

All schools have Sustainability Leads in place and are working with Let's Go Zero to implement robust and detailed carbon action plans for the year 25-26.

Our schools have completed a foundational year of engagement with the 'Let's Go Zero' program. This partnership has been instrumental in developing our sustainability strategy, involving several key stages: detailed assessment of each school's carbon footprint, strategic consultation sessions, on-site visits, and focused meetings with staff. This comprehensive effort has resulted in the creation of an initial sustainability assessment and a final, tailored Climate Action Plan. The plan for Dane Court is fully completed, while the others are moving through their final stages. Crucially, this work has established a strong and widely shared commitment to sustainability among both staff and students, who are eagerly anticipating the implementation phase. The support and expertise provided by 'Let's Go Zero' have been invaluable to this success.

**PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS**

The Trust has a three-year Business Plan. The aims of this plan maintain the core ethos of the schools and the Trust, and build on the successes to date. We continue to aim to be the employer of choice, school of choice and trust of choice. Year 3 priorities have been detailed below. The aims include:

<b>Aim One: Employer of Choice</b>		
AIM	ACTIONS	OUTCOMES/SUCCESS CRITERIA
1. School Improvement	a) <u>Outcomes</u> improved at KS2, 4 and 5 with specific actions recorded and monitored at Trust level.  <b>2025-26 particular focus:</b>  <u>KS2</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Maths at Cliftonville</li> <li>● Combined at Cliftonville</li> <li>● GDS at Newington</li> </ul> <u>KS4</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Maths at RHA and KES</li> <li>● English and maths matches at KES, HA and RHA</li> <li>● Humanities at RHA and HA</li> <li>● Art, PE, Geography at DC</li> <li>● Bucket 3 at RHA</li> </ul> <u>KS5</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● IB subjects at KES/HA/RHA specifically matching subjects across schools where there has been some success or some worry</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Outcomes improve in 2026.</li> <li>● Maths action plan for each school (except DC) and CAT Strategy document to track improvement in maths across all schools (except DC) and maths outcomes improve.</li> <li>● New humanities leads at RHA are embedded, supported and better outcomes seen in summer 2026.</li> <li>● Stronger leadership in humanities at HA.</li> </ul>

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

AIM	ACTIONS	OUTCOMES/SUCCESS CRITERIA
	<p>b) <u>Ofsted</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Preparation by all schools for new Ofsted framework</li> <li>● Specific Trust intervention at HA/RHA/DC for Ofsted readiness</li> </ul> <p>c) <u>RHA Focus Group</u>                      Continue with RHA focus group to meet termly with a specific target on middle leaders around curriculum development and outcomes.</p> <p>d) <u>Trust Level Reviews</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Each school carries out a minimum of 5 CAT reviews over the academic year organised by CAT improvement lead.</li> <li>● Any areas of concern to be followed up within 6 weeks.</li> <li>● LPA to share review timetable with Trust and LSB to allow trustee or governor participation where possible/applicable.</li> </ul> <p>e) <u>School Improvement Plans</u>                      Shared with CAT to enable Trust monitoring and link school with governors and Trust. Opportunities for shared challenge/support and review from any shared themes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All schools feel confident and fully prepared for Ofsted.</li> <li>● All schools have reviews with clear points of action followed through.</li> <li>● Some LSB governors join in with some Trust reviews and report back on positive experience.</li> <li>● School Improvement Plans shared with KG.</li> </ul>
<p>2. Inclusion</p>	<p>a) <u>2025-26 CAT review</u> to focus on inclusion in the classroom and the use of adaptive strategies to ensure progress for all.</p> <p>Actions collated by CAT team with follow up reviews throughout the academic year.</p> <p>b) <u>Attendance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Strengthen the Challenge at Trust level on monitoring of attendance.</li> <li>● Share/support each school with DfE data so that groups of students can be followed/tracked/targeted and success shared.</li> <li>● Ensure LSB also track attendance data.</li> </ul> <p>c) <u>SEN Framework and Funding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Be fully involved/take a lead in SEN forums with members of CAT team chairing local groups in East Kent.</li> <li>● Create CAT response to SEN changes and offer to trial potential solutions where possible.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CAT review is a detailed evaluation of inclusion in the classroom.</li> <li>● Strengths shared and action plan created.</li> <li>● Areas of development followed up in 6 weeks.</li> <li>● Attendance challenged/tracked more robustly at Trust level</li> <li>● Attendance in all schools continues to improve.</li> <li>● DfE data used consistently by all schools.</li> <li>● Minutes of LSB meetings show attendance is tracked.</li> <li>● CAT takes a lead role in SEN provision across Thanet and East Kent and is aware of all changes/funding implications.</li> </ul>

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

AIM	ACTIONS	OUTCOMES/SUCCESS CRITERIA
	d) <u>Curriculum Transition</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pilot curriculum progression meetings which are cross-phase. These will be subject specific and increase challenge and progression leading to greater inclusion for all.</li> <li>Find ways to audit 'secondary ready' criteria to ensure both phases align with that definition ready to fill gaps where necessary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start to track progression from primary through secondary.</li> <li>Develop a plan of curriculum transition that has timelines and specific tasks/impact.</li> </ul>
3. Student Numbers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to develop positive profile of all schools to increase student numbers.</li> <li>Track and monitor sixth form numbers and retention.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student numbers remain high or continue to improve.</li> <li>Sixth form numbers at each secondary school improve.</li> </ul>

**Aim Two: School of Choice**

AIM	ACTIONS	OUTCOMES/SUCCESS CRITERIA
1. Staff Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to deliver leadership courses preparing potential middle and senior leaders and headteachers.</li> <li>Explore CAT training opportunities for student facing support staff.</li> <li>Coaching – complete audit for developing good practice and measure impact of coaching across CAT school.</li> <li>CAT CPD day in June 2026.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear and defined career pathways for staff progression.</li> <li>The impact of all leadership courses show development and progression.</li> <li>CAT website shows successes of leadership courses.</li> <li>Middle and senior leaders are strengthened by support programmes.</li> <li>Coaching continues to develop in all schools.</li> <li>Opportunities created to develop student facing support staff.</li> </ul>
2. CAT Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of what schools do to raise their profile in the community with the best practice shared.</li> <li>Track parental involvement at secondary and primary to look for potential opportunities to improve good practice.</li> <li>CAT events such as the CAT concert.</li> <li>Plan how we can manage, support and promote more CAT student events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schools are celebrated in the local community with positive comments on social media.</li> <li>Parental opportunities are tracked and good practice shared.</li> <li>Participation in CAT events and positive media coverage of this.</li> <li>Create an action plan for student events.</li> </ul>

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

AIM	ACTIONS	OUTCOMES/SUCCESS CRITERIA
<b>3. Recruitment and Retention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review SCITT.</li> <li>Strengthen the CAT website and use of social media.</li> <li>Create an Instagram account and ensure we collectively celebrate each other and CAT success (schools specifically share good news with LP).</li> <li>Monitor recruitment and retention of Sixth Form.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numbers of SCITT students is appropriate for cost effective delivery of SCITT programme.</li> <li>CAT website continues to improve.</li> <li>Recruitment and retention in all sixth forms is strong.</li> </ul>
<b>4. Staff Wellbeing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use Teacher Tap surveys with some cross-CAT questions.</li> <li>Review staff benefits package to ensure fairness/equity for all CAT staff.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schools use surveys with impact of findings clearly referenced across all schools.</li> <li>Clear, fair and consistent staff benefit package in each CAT school.</li> </ul>

**Aim Three: Trust of Choice**

AIM	ACTIONS	OUTCOMES/SUCCESS CRITERIA
<b>1. IT Strategy</b>	<p>a) <u>IT Networks</u> Support all schools to join SOTA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use SOTA to create an audit for hardware upgrades.</li> <li>Work with SOTA to create a strategic plan to include the streamlining of administration procedures and curriculum development.</li> </ul> <p>b) <u>AI</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a steering group for the development of AI across all our schools.</li> <li>Write an AI policy including principles and ethics of AI use.</li> <li>Create an action plan with specific targets and impact of AI across all schools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All schools join SOTA.</li> <li>Audit for hardware upgrade complete with financial planning for this in place.</li> <li>Strategic plan created to streamline administration.</li> <li>CAT AI strategy created with ownership by all CAT schools.</li> </ul>

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Directors' Report**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

AIM	ACTIONS	OUTCOMES/SUCCESS CRITERIA
<b>2. Estate Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the current situation with site managers, qualifications and opportunities.</li> <li>Use an external company to audit health and safety procedures and create an action plan for all schools.</li> <li>Explore how estate management and contract management can be put into place across the CAT.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New estate management plan created and new compliance officer in post.</li> <li>Health and safety audit shows clear successes and areas for development in each school.</li> <li>Strengths of site teams across CAT schools are clearly understood by CAT Executive Team.</li> </ul>
<b>3. Governance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review scheme of delegation with Chairs of LSB and Chair of Trust which sharpens systems particularly around monitoring.</li> <li>Create an opportunity for LSB to share good practice.</li> <li>Reduce numbers of LSB meetings to 4 per year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good practice shared across LSB which continues to strengthen practice.</li> <li>Each school has 4 LSB meetings.</li> <li>Link with LSB/Trust meetings clearly defined and referenced.</li> </ul>
<b>4. Finance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support schools with financial management whilst being proactive regarding opportunities for cost cutting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CAT schools are all financially secure whilst CAT reserves remain above 5%.</li> <li>Opportunities for savings are tracked in finance meetings.</li> </ul>
<b>5. Sustainability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audit and action plan created.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action plan in place.</li> </ul>

**FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF OTHERS**

The Trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to the students as an agent for the DfE. Details, including any amounts not dispersed by the financial year end, are disclosed in note 30 to the financial statements.

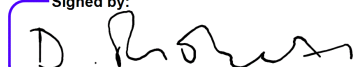
**AUDITORS**

Insofar as the Directors are aware:

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

The auditors, UHY Hacker Young, have indicated their willingness to remain in office, and the members will consider auditors for next year at the annual general meeting.

This report, incorporating the Strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Directors, as the company directors and signed on the board’s behalf by:

Signed by:  
  
 4F4B4E4361294BC...  
**Mr. D Roberts (CBE), Chair of Trustees**

DocuSigned by:  
  
 C96DD0B99A44476...  
**Ms. K. Greig, Accounting Officer**

Date: 01 December 2025

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Governance Statement**

**Scope of Responsibility**

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

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

**Conflict of Interest**

Along with all Key Personnel, Trustees make an annual declaration about their interests in businesses or other charities, and this is carefully reviewed by the finance team. Any business interests that involve key personnel are highlighted to all those involved in procurement work, so that notification is made to the DfE, and where necessary, permission sought before any transaction is made. There is an item on every agenda to highlight any potential conflicts of interest relating to the agenda, and also for Trustees to declare any new interests. This approach is replicated within Local Governing Bodies. The format and content of information provided to the Board is continually under review to ensure that it is both relevant and easy to understand. There has been a particular focus on the way data is being presented to the Committees with developments being made to ensure information is appropriate, concise and easy to understand. The Trustees remain satisfied that they are getting the information they need in a timely and appropriate manner.

**Governance**

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Directors' report and in the Statement of Directors' responsibilities.

To strengthen financial control and accountability the Directors have established a Finance Committee consisting of three Directors, the accounting officer and a co-opted member as chair. This Finance Committee (amongst other things):

- Advises the Board on issues of strategic financial planning and best financial practice.
- Approves the annual budgets of each academy in the trust.
- Advises the Board and accounting officer on the adequacy and effectiveness of Coastal Academies Trust's governance, risk management, internal control and value for money systems.
- Ensures that Coastal Academies Trust operates within all Financial Regulations.
- Receives reports (annual reports, management letters etc.) from the external auditor and considers any issues raised, the associated management response and action plans. Where appropriate, reports are referred to the Board or other committees for information and action.

The Board of Directors has formally met 6 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Directors was as follows:

<b><u>Director</u></b>	<b><u>Full Board Meetings attended</u></b>	<b><u>Out of a possible</u></b>
Mr. D Roberts, Chair of Board	6	6
Mr G Berry, Chair of CAT finance	5	6
Mr A Brookes	5	6
Mr M. Emery	5	6
Ms. K. Greig	6	6
Ms. M. Hooper	4	6
Ms. V Pottinger	4	6
Mr R Curtis	3	6
Ms S Snaydon	5	6
Ms. V Crawley	4	6
Ms K Sharp	1	6

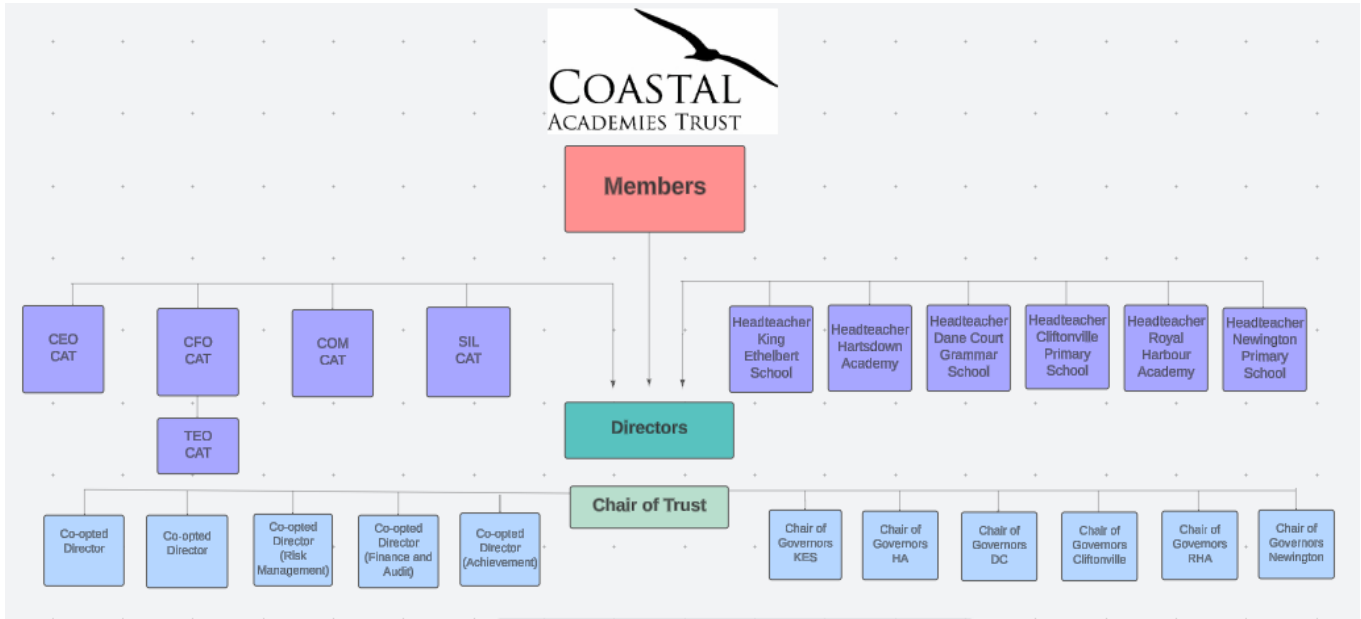
**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Governance Statement**

Attendance at meetings of the trust level Finance Committee (which also fulfils the remit of an audit & risk committee) in the year was as follows:

<u>Director</u>	<u>Finance Committee Meetings attended</u>	<u>Out of a possible</u>
Mr G Berry , Chair of Finance committee	2	3
Ms. K. Greig	3	3
Mr M Emery	3	3
Mr. D. Roberts	3	3
Mr. R Curtis	3	3

Structure of the trust:



The Trust board reviews its effectiveness each year in three ways:

1. An annual review of the outcomes of its business plan in which the Board evaluates whether it has been effective in implementing its targets.
2. Regular discussions with our DfE contact in which the effectiveness of the Trust is externally discussed.
3. Skills Audit when new Directors are appointed in order to identify gaps in knowledge.

In 2024/25 the Board concluded from these reviews that academic results still needed to improve significantly at Royal Harbour Academy. The Board received reports from the Academic standards committee throughout the year. Financial monitoring continued to be rigorously checked across the trust. This was reported to the board through the CAT Finance Committee.

A Skills Analysis has shown that the Board is strong in the following key areas of expertise:

- Financial Management
- Human Resources
- Corporate Governance
- Educational Leadership
- Educational Theory
- Private Sector Financial Strategy
- Chartered Accountancy
- Links with the Local Community
- Business Leadership

---

## Coastal Academies Trust

### (A company limited by guarantee)

---

#### Governance Statement

---

- Change Management
- Marketing

Areas where the Trust may wish to increase its expertise at Board level include:

- Premises (although we now have a Trust Estates Officer who will report as required to the board)
- Links with local Employers
- Legal Expertise

The skills audit shows a gap in legal and premises knowledge - the trust has access to legal advice through our insurance company. The trust is aware of the premises and estate management gap and is seeking ways to address this.

#### Review of Value for money

As Accounting Officer, the Executive Headteacher has responsibility for ensuring that the Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received and encompasses estate safety and management.

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

- Following the SMRA report during 23/24, the Trust carried out a sixth form review to look at value for money and recommendations for sixth form provision across our Trust. The review concluded that sixth form provision is a vital part of the education we give to our youngsters in CAT and is particularly important as we offer a unique provision (IB) which has increased the life chances and aspiration for a large number of our students. Staff recruitment and retention was also highlighted as having improved since our schools had sixth forms. We do recognise the high cost of the IB but know that the curriculum is the best for our young people. We will undertake a review regularly to ensure the best value for money and as a result of the review we have set targets for recruitment and retention of students, tightened up the curriculum offer so courses are not repeated unnecessarily across the Trust, joined a network of Kent schools to access more cost efficient staff CPD and the CEO has joined a group lobbying the DfE around access to fair funding for the IB
- The Trust has, through financial prudence and good governance, improved the reserves level of the organisation in a very challenging financial environment.
- Continued targeted intervention by utilising Pupil Premium funding to close the gap between such students and the rest of the cohort.
- Collaborative working across the trust to improve educational outcomes for all students.
- Improved purchasing decisions with CAT-wide contracts to improve value for money. All schools use of Government Frameworks has increased. Joint contracts include insurance, utilities and IT support. The intention is to increase the number of CAT-wide contracts where practicable and where there is a clear benefit.
- Regular review in order to be satisfied that the Trust's estate is safe, well-maintained and complies with relevant regulations.
- Payroll and HR systems have been implemented with the allocation of resource being more consistent across all schools. Procedures have been streamlined and knowledge shared.
- All schools, as part of the Trust's Estates Management Strategy, have developed estate maintenance plans which are funded from the new SCA money. All expenditure is scrutinised by the CFO using the competitive tendering policy to ensure best value. Projects over the past year have focussed on H&S priorities and energy saving projects.
- All schools have sustainability leads and are working with 'Let's go Zero' in order to produce comprehensive plans which will align with the estates management strategy. Water usage is a current area of focus.

---

## Coastal Academies Trust

### (A company limited by guarantee)

---

## Governance Statement

---

### The Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

The system of internal control has been in place in Coastal Academies Trust for the year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

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

### The Risk and Control Framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Directors;
- regular reviews by the Finance Committee consolidating the figures from each constituent academy to get an overview of the Trust's financial performance;
- regular reviews by the Headteacher & Business manager of each school of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties; and
- identification and management of risks.

The Board of Directors considered the need for a specific internal audit function and for 2024/25 and re-appointed McCabe Ford Williams, a firm of auditors, to perform a programme of internal scrutiny checks to provide ongoing assurance throughout the year.

Early in 2024/25 a programme of work was agreed with two rounds of visits, each round including 'testing' in each school covering Income, expenditure, bank reconciliation, VAT, payroll and various HR checks. A more in-depth audit was completed in the following schools:

1. Newington Primary – being a new school in the Trust
2. Hartsdown Academy – having a new Business Manager in post

Following the visits, a written report of findings was prepared for the Directors. No significant issues have arisen from the year and other observations noted by McCabe Ford Williams have been dealt with or the trust is in process of taking appropriate action.

Each report was accompanied by a Trust action plan. The Directors therefore feel that during the year ended 31 August 2025, they have received sufficient assurance over the risks to internal control in line with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook.

### Review of Effectiveness

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

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

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

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

---

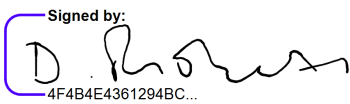
**Governance Statement**

---

**Conclusion**

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

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

Signed by:  
  
4F4B4E4361294BC...

**Mr. D Roberts (CBE), Chair of Trustees**

DocuSigned by:  
  
C96DD0B99A44476...  
**Ms. K. Greig, Accounting Officer**

Date: 01 December 2025

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

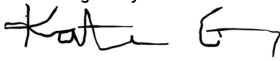
**Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance**

---

As Accounting Officer of Coastal Academies Trust, I confirm that I have had due regard to the framework of authorities governing regularity, propriety and compliance, including the trust's funding agreement with the DfE, and the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including responsibilities for estates safety and management. I have also considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust Board of 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 academy trust Board of Directors are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the framework of authorities.

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

DocuSigned by:  
  
C96DD0B99A44476...

**Ms. K. Greig**  
Accounting Officer

Date: 1 December 2025

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**Statement of Directors' responsibilities**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

---

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

Company law requires the 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 charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

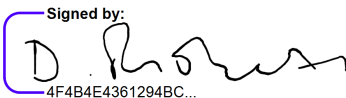
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting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

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

The Directors are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from 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 charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

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

Signed by:  
  
4F4B4E4361294BC...

**D. Roberts**  
Chairman of the Board of Directors

Date: 1 December 2025

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**Independent Auditors' Report on the financial statements to the Members of Coastal Academies Trust**

---

**Opinion**

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

**Basis for opinion**

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

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the 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 academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

**Other information**

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

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

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**Independent Auditors' Report on the financial statements to the Members of Coastal Academies Trust (continued)**

---

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

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the 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 trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities, the Directors (who are also the directors of the academy trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the 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 academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the academy trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

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

*How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud*

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:

- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the academy trust through discussions with management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the academy and wider education sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts or the operations of the academy trust, including the Academy Trust Handbook, Academies Accounts Direction, Charity SORP and the Companies Act 2006;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the academy trust's accounts to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management 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.

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**Independent Auditors' Report on the financial statements to the Members of Coastal Academies Trust (continued)**

---

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;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in the accounting policies were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

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;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- enquiring of management and representatives of Trustees as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

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

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

**Use of our report**

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

DocuSigned by:  
  
02F6C72F3CEA48E...

**Allan Hickie BSc FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)**

for and on behalf of

**UHY Hacker Young**

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditors

Thames House

Roman Square

Sittingbourne

Kent

ME10 4BJ

Date: 08 December 2025

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

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

---

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 11 June 2025 and further to the requirements of the Department for Education (DfE) as included in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts 2024 to 2025, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether anything has come to our attention that would suggest, in all material respects, the expenditure disbursed and income received by Coastal Academies Trust during the year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 have not been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Coastal 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 Coastal 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 Coastal 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 Coastal Academies Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Coastal Academies Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 23 March 2011 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2024, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

**Approach**

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw our conclusion included:

- An evaluation of the general control environment, and whether delegated financial authorities are complied with and appropriate segregation of duties is in place.
- An assessment of the risk of material irregularity and impropriety across all of the Academy Trust's activities, which includes a review of the internal scrutiny reports for the year.
- Further testing and review of the areas identified through the risk assessment including enquiry and examination of supporting evidence across all areas identified, as well as additional verification work where considered necessary.
- A review of whether grants have been used in accordance with funding conditions.
- A review of trustee board and relevant sub-committee minutes for declaration interests.
- A review of expenditure for any supplies from related or connected parties.
- Consideration of whether the Academy Trust's governance arrangements and composition are in line with the Academy Trust Handbook.
- An assessment of whether the Academy Trust has complied with the 'must' requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, which includes a review of the self-assessment declaration that we asked the Accounting Officer to complete.
- Consideration of evidence obtained through the work detailed above and the work completed as part of our external audit of the financial statements in order to support the regularity conclusion.

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

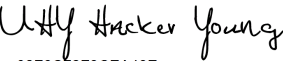
**Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Coastal Academies Trust and the Secretary of State for Education (continued)**

---

In line with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts issued March 2025, we have not performed any additional procedures regarding the academy trust's compliance with safeguarding, health and safety and estates management.

**Conclusion**

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

DocuSigned by:  
  
02F6C72F3CEA48E...

**UHY Hacker Young**  
Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditors  
Thames House  
Roman Square  
Sittingbourne  
Kent  
ME10 4BJ

Date: 08 December 2025

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2025 £000	Restricted funds 2025 £000	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £000	Total funds 2025 £000	Total funds 2024 £000
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and capital grants	3	41	-	882	923	18,101
Other trading activities	4	241	-	-	241	217
Investments	5	91	-	-	91	32
Funding for educational operations	6	450	43,388	-	43,838	36,827
<b>Total income</b>		<b>823</b>	<b>43,388</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>45,093</b>	<b>55,177</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds		9	9	-	18	14
Charitable activities	8	104	43,300	2,612	46,016	38,665
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>113</b>	<b>43,309</b>	<b>2,612</b>	<b>46,034</b>	<b>38,679</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>710</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>(1,730)</b>	<b>(941)</b>	<b>16,498</b>
Transfers between funds	19	(897)	737	160	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)</b>		<b>(187)</b>	<b>816</b>	<b>(1,570)</b>	<b>(941)</b>	<b>16,498</b>
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	27	-	4,923	-	4,923	99
Adjustment for restriction on pension assets	27	-	(5,344)	-	(5,344)	(576)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(187)</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>(1,570)</b>	<b>(1,362)</b>	<b>16,021</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
Total funds brought forward	19	2,606	575	88,458	91,639	75,618
Net movement in funds		(187)	395	(1,570)	(1,362)	16,021
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>2,419</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>86,888</b>	<b>90,277</b>	<b>91,639</b>

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

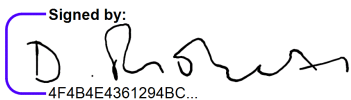
The notes on pages 38 to 63 form part of these financial statements.

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Registered number: 07552665**


**Balance Sheet**  
**As at 31 August 2025**

	Note	2025 £000	2024 £000
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	15	86,279	87,186
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	16	1,427	3,017
Cash at bank and in hand		5,029	4,211
		6,456	7,228
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(2,445)	(2,758)
<b>Net current assets</b>			
		4,011	4,470
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			
		90,290	91,656
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	18	(13)	(17)
Defined benefit pension scheme asset	27	-	-
<b>Total net assets</b>			
		90,277	91,639
<b>Funds of the academy trust</b>			
<b>Restricted funds:</b>			
Fixed asset funds	19	86,888	88,458
Restricted income funds	19	970	575
<b>Total restricted funds</b>			
	19	87,858	89,033
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	19	2,419	2,606
<b>Total funds</b>			
		90,277	91,639

The financial statements on pages 35 to 63 were approved and authorised for issue by the Directors and are signed on their behalf, by:

Signed by:  
  
 4F4B4E4361294BC...

**D. Roberts**  
 Chairman of the Board of Directors

DocuSigned by:  
  
 C96DD0B99A44476...

**K. Greig**  
 Accounting Officer

Date: 1 December 2025

The notes on pages 38 to 63 form part of these financial statements.

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

---

	Note	2025 £000	2024 £000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	21	1,615	(469)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>	23	(792)	(342)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>	22	(5)	(5)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		818	(816)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		4,211	5,027
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	24, 25	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The notes on pages 38 to 63 form part of these financial statements

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

---

**1. Accounting policies**

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

**1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

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

**1.2 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 academy trust 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 academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**1.3 Income**

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

• **Grants**

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

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

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

• **Donations**

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

• **Other income**

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

• **Transfer on conversion**

Where assets and liabilities are received by the academy trust when a school converts to academy status on 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 academy trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as a transfer on conversion within 'Income from Donations and Capital Grants' to the net assets received.

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.4 Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity.

• **Expenditure on raising funds**

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

• **Charitable activities**

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

Where relevant, expenditure is shown inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

**1.5 Interest receivable**

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

**1.6 Tangible fixed assets**

The trust's capitalisation limits are: £2,000 for individual assets; £10,000 for group purchases of similar assets; £25,000 for building improvements and significant alterations. Assets costing more than this are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

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

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- 2% straight line
Long-term leasehold property	- 2% straight line
Furniture and equipment	- 25% straight line
Computer equipment	- 33% straight line
Motor vehicles	- 20% reducing balance

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use and reclassified to freehold or leasehold land and buildings.

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

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

---

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.7 Debtors**

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

**1.8 Cash at bank and in hand**

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

**1.9 Liabilities**

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

**1.10 Taxation**

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

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

**1.11 Financial instruments**

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 16. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in notes 17 and 18. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

**1.12 Operating leases**

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

**1.13 Agency arrangements**

The academy trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from the DfE. Payments received from the DfE and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the academy trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The funds received and paid, and any balances held are disclosed in note 30.

**1.14 Fund accounting**

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

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

---

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.14 Fund accounting (continued)**

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

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

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

**1.15 Pensions**

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

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

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each Balance Sheet date. The amounts charged to 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.

**2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment**

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 27, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2025. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment (continued)**

The ultimate responsibility for setting the assumptions is that of the academy trust, as the employer, however each year the LGPS actuary proposes a standard set of assumptions as part of the valuation exercise, using their expert opinion, and which comply with the accounting requirements. The academy trust has, in practice with most employers, adopted the recommended actuarial assumptions following further consultation with its auditors to ensure these assumptions are reasonable and in line with those adopted by other academy trusts.

Critical areas of judgment:

FRS 102 section 28.22 allows an entity to recognise a pension asset "only to the extent it is able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan."

Whilst the LGPS actuarial valuation reports for the year ended 31 August 2025 indicates a defined benefit asset of £6.605m (2024 - £1.261m) exists at the year end date, the Trustees have considered that there is insufficient evidence that a surplus being recognised would ever result in a repayment or reduction in contributions, given that such a surplus is probably only temporary. Also, as a longer term employer that is open to new members, there isn't a reasonable expectation that the academy trust will ever reach a point of cessation that would enable access to a return of surplus.

The actuarial movement has therefore been restricted to instead leave a break-even position on the Balance Sheet with neither an asset or liability recognised.

**3. Income from donations and capital grants**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2025 £000</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2025 £000</b>	<b>Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2025 £000</b>	<i>Total funds 2024 £000</i>
Assets inherited from Local Authority on conversion	-	-	-	-	14,666
Donations	41	-	-	41	44
Capital grants	-	-	882	882	3,391
	<u>41</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>882</u>	<u>923</u>	<u>18,101</u>
<i>Analysis of 2024 total by fund</i>	<u>494</u>	<u>231</u>	<u>17,376</u>	<u>18,101</u>	

The assets inherited from Local Authority on conversion in the prior year relate to Newington Community Primary School which converted to academy status on 1 July 2024. All the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to Coastal Academies Trust from Kent County Council for £nil consideration with the transfer accounted for as a combination that is in substance a gift. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value..

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**4. Income from other trading activities**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2025 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2025 £000</b>	<i>Total funds 2024 £000</i>
Sales to students	26	26	31
Hire of facilities	83	83	99
Extended day income	95	95	52
Insurance claims	32	32	31
Other	5	5	4
	<u>241</u>	<u>241</u>	<u>217</u>
<i>Analysis of 2024 total by fund</i>	<u>217</u>	<u>217</u>	

**5. Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2025 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2025 £000</b>	<i>Total funds 2024 £000</i>
Bank interest	91	91	32
	<u>91</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>32</u>
<i>Analysis of 2024 total by fund</i>	<u>32</u>	<u>32</u>	

The academy trust has invested surplus funds into interest bearing fixed term deposit accounts, and the interest will be recognised at the end of the terms when all conditions have been adhered to.

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**6. Funding for educational operations**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2025 £000</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2025 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2025 £000</b>	<i>Total funds 2024 £000</i>
<b>Educational operations</b>				
<b>DfE grants</b>				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	32,246	32,246	27,369
Other DfE grants				
16 to 19 funding	-	2,857	2,857	2,472
Pupil Premium	-	2,656	2,656	2,187
Core schools budget grant	-	1,288	1,288	-
Teachers' pay grant	-	565	565	444
Teachers' pension grant	-	863	863	381
Mainstream schools additional grant	-	-	-	954
Covid grant funding	-	-	-	452
Others	-	562	562	383
	-	41,037	41,037	34,642
<b>Other Government grants</b>				
Local Authority - SEN funding	-	793	793	480
Local Authority - Early years funding	-	352	352	170
Other government revenue grants	-	772	772	893
	-	1,917	1,917	1,543
<b>Other income from educational operations</b>	450	434	884	642
	450	43,388	43,838	36,827
<i>Analysis of 2024 total by fund</i>	358	36,469	36,827	

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**7. Expenditure**

	<b>Staff Costs</b>	<b>Premises</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<i>Total</i>
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
Expenditure on fundraising trading activities:					
Direct costs	-	-	18	18	<i>14</i>
Educational operations:					
Direct costs	30,907	2,220	3,414	36,541	<i>30,254</i>
Allocated support costs	3,331	2,624	3,520	9,475	<i>8,411</i>
	<u>34,238</u>	<u>4,844</u>	<u>6,952</u>	<u>46,034</u>	<u><i>38,679</i></u>
<i>Analysis of 2024 total</i>	<u>28,257</u>	<u>4,426</u>	<u>5,996</u>	<u>38,679</u>	

**8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities**

**Summary by fund type**

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>Total</b>	<i>Total</i>
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
Educational operations	104	45,912	46,016	<i>38,665</i>
	<u>104</u>	<u>45,912</u>	<u>46,016</u>	
<i>Analysis of 2024 total by fund</i>	<u>88</u>	<u>38,577</u>	<u>38,665</u>	

**9. Analysis of expenditure by activities**

	<b>Direct costs</b>	<b>Support costs</b>	<b>Total funds</b>	<i>Total funds</i>
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
Educational operations	36,541	9,475	46,016	<i>38,665</i>
	<u>36,541</u>	<u>9,475</u>	<u>46,016</u>	
<i>Analysis of 2024 total by fund</i>	<u>30,254</u>	<u>8,411</u>	<u>38,665</u>	

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)**

**Analysis of support costs**

	<b>Total funds 2025 £000</b>	<i>Total funds 2024 £000</i>
Staff costs	3,331	2,752
Premises costs	2,578	2,584
Technology costs	456	387
PFI service costs	1,286	1,238
Legal costs	11	27
Governance costs	77	47
Bad debts	18	-
Other support costs	1,718	1,376
	<u>9,475</u>	<u>8,411</u>

**10. Net income/(expenditure)**

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	<b>2025 £000</b>	<i>2024 £000</i>
Operating lease rentals	101	31
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	2,568	2,220
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	24	23
- other services	10	8
	<u>2,703</u>	<u>2,282</u>

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**11. Staff**

**a. Staff costs and employee benefits**

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
Wages and salaries	25,188	<i>21,152</i>
Social security costs	2,919	<i>2,182</i>
Pension costs	5,888	<i>4,565</i>
	<u>33,995</u>	<u><i>27,899</i></u>
Agency staff costs	243	<i>358</i>
	<u>34,238</u>	<u><i>28,257</i></u>

Staff restructuring costs during the year were £23k (*2024 - £76k*).

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
Redundancy payments	-	<i>32</i>
Severance payments	23	<i>44</i>
	<u>23</u>	<u><i>76</i></u>

**b. Severance payments**

The academy trust paid 1 severance payments in the year (*2024 - 5*), disclosed in the following bands:

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>No.</b>	<i>No.</i>
£0 - £25,000	<u>1</u>	<u><i>5</i></u>

**c. Special staff severance payments**

Included in staff restructuring costs is a special non-contractual severance payment of £12k (*2024 - 3 payments totalling £17k*).

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**11. Staff (continued)**

**d. Staff numbers**

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

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>No.</b>	<i>No.</i>
Teachers	360	355
Administration and support	413	386
Management	9	9
	<u>782</u>	<u>750</u>

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>No.</b>	<i>No.</i>
Teachers	334	328
Administration and support	275	264
Management	9	9
	<u>618</u>	<u>601</u>

**e. Higher paid staff**

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

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>No.</b>	<i>No.</i>
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	35	23
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	12	5
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	4	1
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	3	-
In the band £100,001 - £110,000	-	2
In the band £110,001 - £120,000	3	1
In the band £130,001 - £140,000	1	2
In the band £140,001 - £150,000	-	1
In the band £150,001 - £160,000	1	-

**f. Key management personnel**

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the Directors and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £1,429k (2024 - £1,210k).

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**12. Central services**

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

- Educational leadership
- Finance support
- HR expertise
- ICT support

The academy trust charges for these services on the following basis:

2.75% of GAG funding.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
Dane Court Grammar School	142	<i>125</i>
King Ethelbert School	139	<i>120</i>
Hartsdown Academy	174	<i>141</i>
Cliftonville Primary School	116	<i>101</i>
Royal Harbour Academy	189	<i>157</i>
Newington Community Primary School	91	<i>15</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>851</b>	<i>659</i>

King Ethelbert School also made a contribution of £28k to central in the year. This related to additional Sixth Form funding received.

**13. Directors' remuneration and expenses**

The Executive Headteacher has been paid remuneration and received related pension benefits as a consequence of her employment with the academy trust. She only receives remuneration in respect of services provided under her contract of employment and not as a trustee.. The value of Directors' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
		<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
Ms. K. Greig, Executive Headteacher	Remuneration	155 - 160	<i>145 - 150</i>
	Pension contributions paid	40 - 45	<i>35 - 40</i>

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

**14. Directors' and Officers' insurance**

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the academy trust has purchased insurance to protect Directors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim. The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**15. Tangible fixed assets**

	Freehold property £000	Long-term leasehold property £000	Assets under construction £000	Furniture and equipment £000	Computer equipment £000	Total £000
<b>Cost or valuation</b>						
At 1 September 2024	67,301	27,825	952	1,562	1,557	99,197
Additions	569	142	673	172	118	1,674
Disposals	(13)	-	-	(7)	(23)	(43)
Transfers between classes	554	12	(566)	-	-	-
At 31 August 2025	<u>68,411</u>	<u>27,979</u>	<u>1,059</u>	<u>1,727</u>	<u>1,652</u>	<u>100,828</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>						
At 1 September 2024	7,211	2,449	-	1,194	1,157	12,011
Charge for the year	1,615	605	-	146	202	2,568
On disposals	-	-	-	(7)	(23)	(30)
At 31 August 2025	<u>8,826</u>	<u>3,054</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,333</u>	<u>1,336</u>	<u>14,549</u>
<b>Net book value</b>						
At 31 August 2025	<u><u>59,585</u></u>	<u><u>24,925</u></u>	<u><u>1,059</u></u>	<u><u>394</u></u>	<u><u>316</u></u>	<u><u>86,279</u></u>
At 31 August 2024	<u><u>60,090</u></u>	<u><u>25,376</u></u>	<u><u>952</u></u>	<u><u>368</u></u>	<u><u>400</u></u>	<u><u>87,186</u></u>

Included in land and buildings is freehold land at value of £8.866m (2024 - £8.866m) and leasehold land at value of £1.593m (2024 - £1.593m) which are not depreciated.

During 2022-23, it was identified that part of the King Ethelbert School building, included under freehold property, contains reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC). No specific impairment has been included for this until the final outcome is known and the value of any impairment can be quantified.

**16. Debtors**

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Trade debtors	47	529
Other debtors	200	856
Prepayments and accrued income	1,180	1,632
	<u>1,427</u>	<u>3,017</u>

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**17. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
Other loans	4	5
Trade creditors	452	681
Other taxation and social security	470	586
Other creditors	874	714
Accruals and deferred income	645	772
	<u>2,445</u>	<u>2,758</u>
	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
Deferred income at 1 September 2024	239	255
Resources deferred during the year	239	239
Amounts released from previous periods	(239)	(255)
	<u>239</u>	<u>239</u>

Deferred income mostly comprises DfE funding (UIFSM), income for school trips and other trading income, received in advance for the 2025/26 academic year.

**18. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year**

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
Other loans	13	17
	<u>13</u>	<u>17</u>

The other loans within notes 17 and 18 are Salix funding. The loans are interest free and fully repayable by September 2030.

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**19. Statement of funds**

	<b>Balance at 1 September 2024 £000</b>	<b>Income £000</b>	<b>Expenditure £000</b>	<b>Transfers in/out £000</b>	<b>Gains/ (Losses) £000</b>	<b>Balance at 31 August 2025 £000</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
General funds	2,606	823	(113)	(897)	-	2,419
<b>Restricted general funds</b>						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	32,246	(34,774)	2,754	-	226
Other DfE grants	72	8,790	(7,204)	(1,421)	-	237
Other government grants	502	1,917	(1,309)	(604)	-	506
Other restricted	1	435	(443)	8	-	1
Pension reserve	-	-	421	-	(421)	-
	575	43,388	(43,309)	737	(421)	970
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>						
Tangible fixed assets	87,186	-	(2,567)	1,660	-	86,279
DfE capital grants	1,294	882	(45)	(1,505)	-	626
Salix loan	(22)	-	-	5	-	(17)
	88,458	882	(2,612)	160	-	86,888
<b>Total Restricted funds</b>	89,033	44,270	(45,921)	897	(421)	87,858
<b>Total funds</b>	91,639	45,093	(46,034)	-	(421)	90,277

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

---

**19. Statement of funds (continued)**

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

General Annual Grant must be used for the normal running costs of each individual academy, and hence are shown as a separate restricted fund.

The other DfE grant fund is used to track non-GAG revenue grant funding received from the DfE and connected bodies, and principally included the material grants detailed separately in note 6.

The Other Government grant fund relates to restricted income received from other government bodies and includes money received from Kent County Council (KCC).

The pension reserve relates to the academy trust's share of the balance on the Local Government Pension Scheme overseen by its Local Authority.

The other restricted fund accounts for all other money received for a specific purpose and includes income received from parents and pupils for educational trips and visits.

The restricted fixed asset funds are carried forward to meet the specific costs of fixed asset projects and to cover the depreciation charges that will be required on these projects going forward and the current fixed assets held. The transfer of £160k represents capital expenditure funded by revenue reserves during the year and the Salix loan repayments funded from GAG.

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

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**19. Statement of funds (continued)**

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

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2023 £000</i>	<i>Income £000</i>	<i>Expenditure £000</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £000</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £000</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2024 £000</i>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
General funds	2,083	651	(97)	(31)	-	2,606
Transfer in on conversion	-	450	-	(450)	-	-
	<u>2,083</u>	<u>1,101</u>	<u>(97)</u>	<u>(481)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,606</u>
<b>Restricted general funds</b>						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	40	27,369	(27,943)	534	-	-
Other DfE grants	178	7,273	(7,181)	(198)	-	72
Other government grants	509	1,543	(1,293)	(257)	-	502
Other restricted	-	284	(291)	8	-	1
Transfer in on conversion	-	231	-	(231)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	346	131	(477)	-
	<u>727</u>	<u>36,700</u>	<u>(36,362)</u>	<u>(13)</u>	<u>(477)</u>	<u>575</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>						
Tangible fixed assets	71,688	-	(2,220)	17,718	-	87,186
DfE capital grants	1,147	3,391	-	(3,244)	-	1,294
Salix loan	(27)	-	-	5	-	(22)
Transfer in on conversion	-	13,985	-	(13,985)	-	-
	<u>72,808</u>	<u>17,376</u>	<u>(2,220)</u>	<u>494</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>88,458</u>
<b>Total Restricted funds</b>	<u>73,535</u>	<u>54,076</u>	<u>(38,582)</u>	<u>481</u>	<u>(477)</u>	<u>89,033</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u><u>75,618</u></u>	<u><u>55,177</u></u>	<u><u>(38,679)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(477)</u></u>	<u><u>91,639</u></u>

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**19. Statement of funds (continued)**

**Total funds analysis by academy**

Fund balances at 31 August 2025 were allocated as follows:

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
Dane Court Grammar School	1,149	<i>1,322</i>
King Ethelbert School	593	<i>561</i>
Cliftonville Primary School	1,166	<i>1,165</i>
Hartsdown Academy	(934)	<i>(1,191)</i>
Royal Harbour Academy	67	<i>194</i>
Newington Community Primary School	358	<i>474</i>
Central	990	<i>656</i>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	3,389	<i>3,181</i>
Restricted fixed asset fund	86,888	<i>88,458</i>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total</b>	<b>90,277</b>	<b><i>91,639</i></b>
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

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

	<b>Deficit</b>
	<b>£000</b>
Hartsdown Academy	<i>(934)</i>
	<hr/> <hr/>

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

- Restructuring staff, ensuring an effective curriculum offer fit for purpose;
- Continuous monitoring of pupil numbers;
- Marketing of the school to increase pupil numbers;
- Investing staff resource from across the trust to improve pupil outcomes to increase Hartsdown's reputation in the community and in turn increase pupil numbers; and
- Robust budgeting process with regular scrutiny of monthly management information and cashflow

2024/25 has been the second consecutive year Hartsdown Academy has reported an in-year revenue surplus since the agreed financial recovery plan. The result shown above is an in-year revenue surplus of £257k and it should be noted that this is after a transfer from revenue to capital of £39k.

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**19. Statement of funds (continued)**

**Total cost analysis by academy**

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

	<b>Teaching and educational support staff costs £000</b>	<b>Other support staff costs £000</b>	<b>Educational supplies £000</b>	<b>Other costs excluding depreciation £000</b>	<b>Total 2025 £000</b>	<i>Total 2024 £000</i>
Dane Court Grammar School	6,173	445	626	857	8,101	<i>7,410</i>
King Ethelbert School	4,835	488	616	964	6,903	<i>6,569</i>
Cliftonville Primary School	4,389	458	182	662	5,691	<i>5,413</i>
Hartsdown Academy	5,248	647	654	833	7,382	<i>7,040</i>
Royal Harbour Academy	6,428	854	648	2,175	10,105	<i>9,074</i>
Newington Community Primary School	3,480	536	229	487	4,732	<i>732</i>
Central LGPS	354	324	111	184	973	<i>567</i>
	-	(421)	-	-	(421)	<i>(346)</i>
<b>Academy trust</b>	<b>30,907</b>	<b>3,331</b>	<b>3,066</b>	<b>6,162</b>	<b>43,466</b>	<b><i>36,459</i></b>

**20. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current year**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2025 £000</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2025 £000</b>	<b>Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2025 £000</b>
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	86,279	86,279
Current assets	2,450	3,380	626	6,456
Creditors due within one year	(31)	(2,410)	(4)	(2,445)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(13)	(13)
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,419</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>86,888</b>	<b>90,277</b>

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**20. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year**

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £000</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2024 £000</i>	<i>Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £000</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £000</i>
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	87,186	87,186
Current assets	2,617	3,087	1,524	7,228
Creditors due within one year	(11)	(2,512)	(235)	(2,758)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(17)	(17)
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,606</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>88,458</b>	<b>91,639</b>

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

	<b>2025 £000</b>	<b>2024 £000</b>
Net (expenditure)/income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(941)	16,498
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation	2,568	2,220
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(882)	(3,391)
Defined benefit pension scheme balance inherited	-	(131)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	(316)	(276)
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	(105)	(70)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	1,590	(1,521)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(312)	187
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	13	-
Fixed assets inherited on conversion	-	(13,985)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	<b>1,615</b>	<b>(469)</b>

**22. Cash flows from financing activities**

	<b>2025 £000</b>	<b>2024 £000</b>
Repayments of borrowing	(5)	(5)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>	<b>(5)</b>	<b>(5)</b>

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**23. Cash flows from investing activities**

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(1,674)	<i>(3,733)</i>
Capital grants from DfE Group	882	<i>2,924</i>
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	-	<i>467</i>
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>	<b>(792)</b>	<b><i>(342)</i></b>

**24. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents**

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
Cash in hand and at bank	5,029	<i>4,211</i>

**25. Analysis of changes in net debt**

	<b>At 1 September 2024</b>	<b>Cash flows</b>	<b>Other non- cash changes</b>	<b>At 31 August 2025</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Cash at bank and in hand	4,211	818	-	5,029
Debt due within 1 year	(5)	5	(4)	(4)
Debt due after 1 year	(17)	-	4	(13)
	<b>4,189</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,012</b>

**26. Capital commitments**

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
<b>Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements</b>		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	136	<i>173</i>

The capital commitments at 31 August 2025 are in respect of various ongoing projects at three of the schools in the trust, all funded primarily by Condition Improvement Fund and School Condition Allocation capital grants from the DfE.

---

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

---

**27. Pension commitments**

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

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

Contributions amounting to £710,000 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2025 (2024 - £553,000) and are included within creditors.

**Teachers' Pension Scheme**

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

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

**Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme**

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

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

- employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million

The revised employer contribution rate, arising from the 2020 valuation, has been implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2027.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £4,672,000 (2024 - £3,708,000).

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

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

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**27. Pension commitments (continued)**

**Local Government Pension Scheme**

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2025 was £2,044,000 (2024 - £1,564,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £1,614,000 (2024 - £1,237,000) and employees' contributions totalled £430,000 (2024 - £327,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 22.5 per cent for employers and 5.5 to 12.5 per cent for employees.

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

**Principal actuarial assumptions**

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.55	3.8
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.95	2.8
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	6.05	5.1
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.55	2.8

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

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	Years	Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	21.4	20.7
Females	23.7	23.3
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	23	22.0
Females	25.4	24.7

**Sensitivity analysis**

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	£000	£000
Discount rate +0.1%	(337)	(412)
Discount rate -0.1%	346	424
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	454	616
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(443)	(599)
CPI rate +0.1%	331	400
CPI rate -0.1%	(322)	(388)

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**27. Pension commitments (continued)**

**Share of scheme assets**

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

	<b>At 31 August 2025 £000</b>	<i>At 31 August 2024 £000</i>
Equities	15,507	12,926
Gilts	1,371	1,581
Corporate bonds	3,742	3,289
Property	2,056	2,093
Cash and other liquid assets	734	550
Investment funds	1,295	1,147
Infrastructure	1,209	1,055
<b>Total market value of assets</b>	<b>25,914</b>	<b>22,641</b>

The actual return on scheme assets was £1,655,000 (2024 - £1,422,000).

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

	<b>2025 £000</b>	<i>2024 £000</i>
Current service cost	(1,277)	(944)
Interest income	1,196	1,010
Interest cost	(1,091)	(940)
Administrative expenses	(21)	(17)
Transfer in on conversion	-	131
<b>Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities</b>	<b>(1,193)</b>	<b>(760)</b>

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

	<b>2025 £000</b>	<i>2024 £000</i>
<b>At 1 September</b>	<b>21,380</b>	<b>17,522</b>
Transferred in on conversion	-	1,816
Current service cost	1,277	944
Interest cost	1,091	940
Employee contributions	430	327
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(4,464)	313
Benefits paid	(405)	(482)
<b>At 31 August</b>	<b>19,309</b>	<b>21,380</b>

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**27. Pension commitments (continued)**

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

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
<b>At 1 September</b>	22,641	18,207
Transferred in on conversion	-	1,947
Interest income	1,196	1,010
Actuarial gains	459	412
Employer contributions	1,614	1,237
Employee contributions	430	327
Benefits paid	(405)	(482)
Administrative expenses	(21)	(17)
<b>At 31 August</b>	<u>25,914</u>	<u>22,641</u>

As set out in note 2, the plan surplus as at 31 August 2025 was £6.605m (2024 - £1.261m). The trustees have considered it unlikely that a surplus being recognised would ever result in a repayment or reduction in contributions, given that such a surplus is probably only temporary. Therefore, the actuarial gain has been restricted by this amount to leave a break even position and neither an asset or liability has been recognised.

**28. Long-term commitments, including operating leases**

**a. Operating leases**

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

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
Amounts due within one year	93	42
Amounts due between one and five years	127	32
	<u>220</u>	<u>74</u>

**Coastal Academies Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

**28. Long-term commitments, including operating leases (continued)**

**b. Other contractual commitments**

At 31 August 2025 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under other contractual commitments was:

	<b>2025</b>	<i>2024</i>
	<b>£000</b>	<i>£000</i>
Amounts due within one year	264	<i>245</i>
Amounts due between one and five years	1,058	<i>979</i>
Amounts due after five years	1,851	<i>1,958</i>
	<u>3,173</u>	<u><i>3,182</i></u>

The other contractual commitments represent the committed amounts under Private Finance Initiative (PFI) for the academy trust's PFI school, Royal Harbour Academy.

PFI service costs incurred by the academy trust are disclosed within support costs in note 9.

**29. Members' liability**

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

**30. Agency arrangements**

The academy trust distributes 16–19 bursary funds to students as an agent for the DfE. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2025 the trust received £91k (*2024 – £61k*) and disbursed £83k (*2024 – £57k*) from the fund. As at 31 August 2025, the cumulative unspent 16–19 bursary fund is £30k (*2024 – £18k*), of which £Nil (*2024 – £Nil*) relates to undistributed funds that is repayable to the DfE.

**31. Controlling party**

The academy trust is run by the senior management team on a day to day basis. Strategic decisions are made by the trustees. There is no ultimate controlling party although since the academy trust only had three members at the year end, as listed on page 1, each with 33.33% of the voting rights, these individuals are deemed to be persons of significant control.

**32. Related party transactions**

Owing to the nature of the academy trust 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 directors have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including notifying the DfE of all transactions made and obtaining their approval where required, and with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

No related party transactions took place during the year.