

Company Registration No. 06548296 (England and Wales)

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
(a company limited by guarantee)

Annual report and financial statements
For the year ended 31 August 2025

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2024
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Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Directors' report
For the year ended 31 August 2025

| | |
|---|---|
| Members | Arabella Gonzalez Richard Glover (resigned 2nd April 2025) James Penney (appointed 2nd April 2025) Sam Taylor Michael Wheldon The Worshipful Company of Haberdashers (WCH) |
| Directors | Simon Dorman John Gallagher David Jones Sarah Mitchell Michael Nielsen (appointed 1st September 2024) Mark Searles (Chair) Colin Watt Simon Wood (appointed 3rd April 2025) |
| Members of Haberdashers' Abraham Darby Local Governing Body | Michael Bennett Helen Bostock Anthony Bradbury (appointed 1st January on election by parents) Joanne Edgar (ex officio) John Gallagher (Chair) Steven Hodgkiss (resigned 12th September 2025) Richard Jackson Robin Jacob Sarah Jones (resigned 10th October 2024) Jennifer Molloy (appointed 7th February 2025 on election by staff) Michael Nielsen (resigned 17th November 2024) Emma Norry (term of office ended 31st December 2024) Andrew Tarpey Delia Whitworth (resigned 31st August 2025) Jeremy Withers Jenny Wynn |
| Members of Haberdashers' Adams Local Governing Body | Thomas Ashbridge (term of office ended 31st August 2025) Daniel Biggins (ex officio) Sara Bowater-Bickmore (staff representative) Kimberley Burbidge Laura Cotterell Arun Daniel-Selvaratnam Hermione Drew (appointed 1st September 2024) Gary Hickey (resigned 31st August 2025) Edward Hudson (appointed 1st January 2025) David Jones (Chair) Joanne Lewis (term of office ended 31st August 2025) Mark Searles (resigned 31 August 2025) Shonella Singh |

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Directors' report
For the year ended 31 August 2025

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Accounting officer | Brynley Evans (appointed 1st September 2024) |
| Chief Executive Officer | Brynley Evans (appointed 1st September 2024) |
| Chief Financial Officer | Joy Tomkinson |
| Company secretary | Adrian Burns |
| Company name | Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust |
| Senior Leadership Team: | |
| Haberdashers' Abraham Darby | |
| Principal | Joanne Edgar |
| Vice Principal | Emmanuel Gyan-Bediako (to 31st August 2025) |
| Vice Principal | David Hughes (to 31st August 2025) |
| Vice Principal | Nick Scott |
| Senior Vice Principal | Clemency Price |
| Haberdashers' Adams | |
| Headmaster | Gary Hickey (to 31st August 2025) |
| Headteacher | Daniel Biggins (from 1st September 2025, prev. deputy) |
| Deputy Head - Curriculum | Ruth Crichton |
| Deputy Head - Pastoral | Esther Moss (from 1st September 2025) |
| Deputy Head - Sixth Form & Girls | Charlotte Harman |
| Registered Office | Haberdashers' Adams Grammar School High Street Newport Shropshire TF10 7BD |
| Company Registration Number | 06548296 |
| Bankers | Lloyds TSB Bank plc 113 The Border Telford Shropshire TF3 4AE |
| Solicitors | Stone King LLP 91 Charterhouse Street London EC1M 6HR |
| Independent Auditor | Saffery LLP 10 Wellington Place Leeds LS1 4AP |

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust

Directors' report

For the year ended 31 August 2025

The Directors submit their annual report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025 and confirm that the latter comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, Charities Acts 2006 and 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

During the year under review, the Trust has operated as a multi-academy model, running both the Haberdashers' Abraham Darby Academy ("Haberdashers' Abraham Darby") in Madeley, Telford and Haberdashers' Adams Grammar School ("Haberdashers' Adams") in Newport, Shropshire.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee (registered number 06548296) and an exempt charity. It was incorporated on 28 March 2008.

In the year under review, the principal governing documents of the Trust were its Articles of Association (amended on 17 August 2011) and the Master Funding Agreement and the Supplemental Funding Agreement relating to Haberdashers' Abraham Darby and the Supplemental Funding Agreement relating to Haberdashers' Adams, all dated 1st September 2011, and the Academy Trust Handbook and Academies Accounts Direction prepared by the Department for Education (DfE).

Details of the Directors and Governors who served during the year and up to the date of this report are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on pages 2 and 3.

Members' Liability

Every member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required (not exceeding £10) to the charitable company's assets if it should be wound up while he or she is a member or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, for payment of the charitable company's debts and liabilities before he or she ceases to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

Directors' Indemnities

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Trust has purchased insurance to protect the Directors, Governors and employees from claims arising from allegations of negligence, errors or omissions occurring whilst in the course of carrying out its business. The insurance provides cover of up to £5m on any one claim.

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Directors

The members of the company consist of the Trust sponsor, the WCH, up to four members appointed by the sponsor and, in the event that the Secretary of State approves a person for this, one person appointed by the Secretary of State for Education. The trust currently has four Directors appointed by the members and three Co-opted Directors appointed by the Directors. The trust may have up to twelve Directors appointed by the members, up to a further four Directors who chair Local Governing Bodies if not already Directors, additional and further Directors appointed by the Secretary of State for Education and up to three Co-opted Directors. Each academy has a Local Governing Body, which is a committee of the Board of Directors and includes at least two people appointed after election by parents as Parent Governors.

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Directors and Members of the Local Governing Bodies

On appointment, Directors and members of the Local Governing Bodies receive extensive information relating to the Trust and are briefed on the roles and responsibilities. An induction process for new Directors and members of Local Governing Bodies includes information about the company, its academies, its policies and its activities.

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust

Directors' report

For the year ended 31 August 2025

During the year, Directors and Governors are offered training, particularly in liaison with the WCH and from Telford & Wrekin Council.

Organisational structure

The Directors are responsible for setting the strategy of the Trust and for the general policy, adopting annual plans, budgets and targets for the Trust and its academies and for monitoring the performance of the Trust and the academies, including capital expenditure. They are also responsible for preparing the Directors' report and financial statements, maintaining proper accounting records, safeguarding the assets of the Trust and for financial statements which show a true and fair view.

The Board of Directors meets at least four times a year. In the year under report, the Board had seven principal committees which met at least three times a year except as indicated below:

- A Finance and Buildings Committee whose principal function is to oversee all finance and building issues relating to the Trust's schools and affiliated schools;
- Two Local Governing Bodies, one for each academy, whose principal function is to consider strategic and other matters relating to the relevant academy, including boarding at Haberdashers' Adams, and to monitor its performance;
- A Teaching, Learning and Standards Committee, whose principal function is to monitor teaching and learning in the schools;
- A Pupil and Staff Welfare Committee, whose principal function is to establish and monitor pupil and staff welfare policies in the schools.
- An Audit and Risk Committee which deals with the Auditors and the annual audit and with risk management;
and
- A Careers Committee which meets at least twice a year and whose principal function is to guide and oversee the academies' activities in relation to students' destinations after leaving school.
- The Directors meet as a Remuneration Committee once a year or more often if required.

The day to day management of the Trust and its academies has been delegated to the Accounting Officer, Brynley Evans, the Chief Financial Officer, Joy Tomkinson, the Haberdashers' Abraham Darby Principal Joanne Edgar and the Haberdashers' Adams Headteacher, Gary Hickey (resigned 31st August 2025) and Daniel Biggins (appointed 1st September 2025)

The Trust has a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking, HAFT Trading Limited, which is used to account for the income and expenditure from the running of the school buses, with the intention that profits made are donated to the Trust. With effect from 1st September 2023, Castle House School, an independent preparatory day school for boys and girls located in Newport, became affiliated to the Trust and changed its name to Haberdashers' Castle House School.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of the Principal, Headteacher and other key management personnel are agreed by the Remuneration Committee by reference to the scales in the School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document in the light of the appraisal of their performance. Each employee is appraised annually and, in the case of the Principal, the Headteacher and the CFO, the appraisals are carried out by the CEO and the relevant LGB Chair with input from Directors and staff from the relevant institution.

Trade union facility

The Trust did not employ any relevant union officials during the period from 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025.

Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

The Trust's principal sponsor is the WCH, which has a family of schools in the public and private sectors providing education for more than 12,000 students. The WCH is a member and appoints up to four additional members of the Trust.

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Other than the aforementioned relationship, the Trust is not part of a wider network which may impact on its operating policies. Nor does it have relationships with related parties or other organisations with which it might cooperate in the pursuit of charitable activities.

Engagement with Employees

The Trust ensures that all employees are regularly consulted and informed about its activities by:

- Regular consultative staff meetings;
- Being kept informed on specific matters directly by management;
- Undertaking exit interviews for staff that leave and using this information constructively;
- Carrying out staff surveys;
- Monitoring any trends in complaints, grievances or other issues raised by staff;
- Implementing detailed policies in relation to personnel matters;
- Established fair employment practices in recruitment, selection, retention and training.

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

The Trust continues to build relationships with all stakeholders including suppliers, with regular communication with regard to the Trust plans.

The Trust supports all suppliers by ensuring prompt settlement of invoices, and endeavors to use local suppliers wherever possible.

Objectives and Activities

Objectives and Aims

The Trust's objective is to advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, by establishing, maintaining and continuing to develop a Trust of schools, known as the Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust. There are currently two schools in the Trust: Haberdashers' Abraham Darby at Madeley and Haberdashers' Adams at Newport, Shropshire. The two schools are designated as academies within the meaning of the Academies Act 2010. Both academies provide education for students aged 11 to 18. Haberdashers' Abraham Darby provides a broad education for students of wide abilities and Haberdashers' Adams provides education for students using a selective admissions policy.

Our aim is for the Trust to become a significant, highly regarded grouping of different primary and secondary schools in and around Telford and Wrekin, which is strong enough to ensure beneficial collaboration between, and assistance and advantages to, each school so that the constituent schools all provide wide and excellent education to all students to enable them to achieve their potential and be prepared for the next stage of their lives, and also are assets to the communities in which they are located.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

The objectives for the year were to continue to focus on continued attainment of academic performance, broadening experience through extension activities and continuing to operate effectively and efficiently within budgets.

During the year, the Trust further embedded the unified Trust Strategy. The principal objectives include:

- developing the Trust to a greater financial scale;
- pastoral, welfare and safeguarding excellence to ensure pupils are safe, happy and ready for work;
- educational excellence with a broad education and as wide and appropriate curriculum as possible, and excellent differentiated teaching to foster a love of learning as well as enabling pupils to achieve their potential and be best equipped for the next stage of their education or training or for employment and a fulfilling and enjoyable life in the 21st century, with the schools delivering improving examination results for pupils;

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- increasing collaboration between the schools in the Trust (and those affiliated with it)
- ensuring a secure financial position and appropriate facilities and estates;
- the schools being grounded in their communities and have increasing links with their communities; and
- further raising standards at Haberdashers' Abraham Darby with regards to attendance, behaviour and academic work
- excellent boarding provision at Haberdashers' Adams.

Public Benefit

The Directors confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities. In particular, the Directors consider that the provision of a first-class education for nearly 2,000 students in the two academies provides significant public benefit to the local communities. This local focus has increased from 2016 following the Trust's decision, after consultation, to amend Haberdashers' Adams' admissions policy so as to give preference to children of grammar school ability who qualify for Free School Meals or come from the Newport attendance area, and to give responsibility to staff to build relationships with the local primary schools and community. Each school in the Trust helps the other to be as effective as possible for the benefit of the other's students.

Grant making and social investment policy

The Trust seeks to ensure that all pupils have equal access to the education and other services/activities on offer at the academies regardless of parental income.

Equal opportunities policy

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

Disabled persons

The Trust complies fully with DDA regulations and is equipped to welcome and/or teach any child or adult with a disability and, in the case of Haberdashers' Adams, within the constraints imposed by its listed, historic buildings.

Volunteers

Both schools have active parent associations which contribute time and resources through fund raising.

Strategic Report

Achievements and Performance

Key Performance Indicators

The Principal and the Headmaster, respectively, report on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) at each main Board of Directors', LGB meetings and appropriate committees. The main KPIs reported for the year under review for each school include:

Student Roll: The roll for Haberdashers' Abraham Darby was 1057, including 180 Year 11 students and 142 Sixth Formers; for Haberdashers' Adams the roll was 1084 of whom 364 (including 86 girls) were in the Sixth Form and 72 were boarders.

Attendance: The overall aim is to seek attendance above a 96% level at Haberdashers' Adams, which achieved a level of 96.9%(taken up to Easter due to the impact of study leave) while at Haberdashers' Abraham Darby's attendance aim was 95% and the actual level was 90.3%.

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Admissions: The aim is to ensure that each academy is fully subscribed. At Year 7 Haberdashers' Abraham Darby was over-subscribed on 1st & 2nd and 3rd preferences and Haberdashers' Adams was 5:1 oversubscribed.

At Haberdashers' Abraham Darby the Ofsted inspection in June 23 found that whilst the school was still 'Requires Improvement', it had converted 'Quality of Education' and 'Leadership and Management' to Good. The 2024 monitoring visit was equally positive "The evidence shows that you have taken decisive and well-chosen actions to move the school forward. There is an appropriate sense of urgency to the changes being made"

Examination Results: The targets and achievement of each school are set out in the table below:

Examination results

| | 2025 Target | 2025 Actual |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Haberdashers' Abraham Darby | | |
| A level average grade per entry | C+ | C |
| A-Level Progress | N/A | N/A |
| Level 3 vocational progress | M+ | M+ |
| Progress 8 | N/A | N/A |
| Attainment 8 | 40 | 37.4 |
| 5+ English & Maths | 40% | 31.5% |
| 4+ English & Maths | 55% | 50.8% |

| | 2025 Target | 2025 Actual |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Haberdashers' Adams | | |
| Key Stage 4 | | |
| Progress 8 | N/A | See note below |
| Attainment 8 | 7 | See note below |
| GCSE grades 7-9 | 60% | 59% |
| Key Stage 5 | | |
| A*-B | 70% | 75% |
| Level 3 value added | 0.0 | See note below |

Progress 8 N/A as there is no KS2 data to base it on.

Attainment 8 is based on national datasets and not yet published.

At Haberdashers' Abraham Darby, A level results are likely to be slightly below national averages and vocational results were above national averages. At GCSE the results are skewed by the ADAPT cohort and a small number of disaffected Y11's whose conduct and attendance was cause for concern

At Haberdashers' Adams the results this year are consistent with previous years.

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A LEVEL

Overall, our key headline figure of A*-B is 75% which matches the figure from the previous year. In a national context, the main measure (A*-A) was 27.6% across the country, and Adams secured 47%, with 90% of grades A*-C. In addition to their A Levels, the majority of our A Level pupils also took the Extended Project Qualification with 77% achieving an A/A* grade. At department level there have been some incredible successes, with Business Studies securing results that places them in the top 1% of schools nationally. Art was in the top 2%, and Economics in the top 3%.

In regard to Oxbridge, all of our 7 candidates achieved their places, and all 3 of the Hockenhull Legacy recipients also achieved their required grades. There were plenty of individual successes, with 5 pupils scoring 4 x A* grades, seven scoring 3 x A* grades, and 52 students achieving all A/A* grades.

Staffing: Full staffing in each academy is the target. At Haberdashers' Adams, staff turnover was again low, with 4 members of teaching staff and one long serving member of support staff leaving (all retirees). Haberdashers' Abraham Darby staff had a higher turnover with 13 members of teaching staff and 14 support staff leaving, 6 of which were redundancies.

Capital Projects

Haberdashers' Abraham Darby moved into its new building in the middle of July 2012. Some work remains outstanding in resolving defect issues and consequently the lease of the premises has not yet been executed. A Campus Management Agreement has been negotiated but it is intended to be signed only when the lease is signed. Despite these issues the new building and playing fields are fully operational

There have been no major capital projects across the Trust.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, the going concern basis has been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

Promoting the success of the company

The Trust continues to operate on a stable financial footing with the objective of ensuring that all schools have the necessary resources to enable them to operate effectively. Good financial management ensures that both schools are aware of its financial position and both curriculum and long-term budget planning are crucial to performance.

Financial review

2024/25 has been another challenging year for the Trust. The Directors continued to take the necessary measures to ensure that both staff and pupils within its community remain safe and well.

The Trust is one of very few to have state boarding as part of its provision at Haberdashers' Adams, with 2024/25 numbers remaining low. The boarding outturn is shown in note 28, and we continue to work to ensure that the facilities provide a safe and inviting environment for all boarders.

The majority of the Trust's Income is obtained from the Department for Education (DfE), some of which is restricted to particular purposes. Additional income is received at Haberdashers' Adams in the form of boarding fees, other activities and other private school funds. The grants received from the DfE during the period ended 31st August 2025 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

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Directors' report

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The Trust also receives grants for fixed assets from the DfE. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2015), such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) as restricted income in the Fixed Asset Fund. The Restricted Fixed Asset Fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

Incoming resources, including that from the DfE, totalled £19,289k (2024: £18,640k). This was used to fund expenditure of £20,191 (2024: £19,079k), resulting in an operating deficit of £347 (2024: surplus of £139k) (before depreciation) and an overall deficit (after depreciation of £555k (2024: £578k)) of £902k (2024: deficit of £439k).

A net deficit (2024: deficit) is recorded in the SOFA following the actuarial movements in the value of the Trust's share of LGPS assets and liabilities, resulting in a net £355k decrease (2024: £357k decrease) in the overall funds balance.

At the year end, the net book value of fixed assets was £15,323k, after additions in year totalling £108k. Movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in Note 12 to the financial statements. The assets were used for providing education and associated support services to the students of the Trust, and to the local community through lettings.

The Trust held fund balances at 31st August 2025 of £15,586k (2024: £15,941k), comprising £14,787k (2024: £14,793k) of Restricted Funds and £799k (2024: £1,148k) of Unrestricted General Funds. Movements are shown at Note 15 on page 46.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the Trust to seek to have free reserves (non fixed assets/LGPS) at a level which equates to an average of two months' expenditure (approximately £2,800k); at the year-end these were £958k. The Trustees acknowledge that the reserves are presently at a lower level, this has arisen due to the significant challenges faced over the last few years. The Trust has undergone a restructure to reduce costs, the impact of which, along with the projected 3 year budget surpluses will build the reserves.

These reserves are to provide sufficient funds to cover unexpected costs or events such as the failure of plant or machinery, for example building repairs, or to meet part of the academies' Local Government Pension Scheme Liabilities within the Shropshire County Council Pension Fund in the event of additional short-term costs arising from revaluation. The Trust has recorded a decrease in the value of reserves in the year. At 31 August 2025 they stood at £15,586k (2024: £15,941k).

Investment Policy

Under the Articles of Association, the Trust has the power to invest funds not immediately required for its own purposes in any way the Directors see fit. The Trust has a positive cash balance to cover eventualities and unforeseen expenses. The banking arrangements are reviewed on a regular basis.

The Directors made the decision to put the Sponsorship received for the creation of Haberdashers' Abraham Darby onto deposit with the Haberdashers' Charity Cash Pool. This money needed to be invested in such a way that the balance was readily available.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Directors have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Trust and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate any exposure to major risks.

A formal review of the Trust's risk management is undertaken on an annual basis. The Directors have identified the principal risks affecting the Trust as reduced state funding, failure to control costs while maintaining excellent staff and attractive premises, numbers of boarders and failure to continue to improve standards. These risks are actively monitored by the committees.

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Directors' report
For the year ended 31 August 2025

The key controls used by the Trust include:

- Formal agendas for all committee and board activity;
- Terms of reference for all committees;
- Comprehensive strategic planning, budgeting and management reporting;
- Established organisational structure and clear lines of reporting;

Formal written policies:

- Clear authorisation and approval levels;
- Vetting procedures as required by law for the protection of the vulnerable;
- Three-year forecasts and cash flows monitored regularly.

It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.

The Trust participates in the Shropshire County Council Pension Fund, a Local Government Pension Scheme. The pension fund liability attributable to the Trust was £nil at 31 August 2025 (2024: £565k). Historically, £995k was inherited by the Trust from Shropshire County Council on 1 September 2008 on conversion of Haberdashers' Abraham Darby and £515k was inherited on 1 September 2011 on conversion of Haberdashers' Adams, being the dates the Local Authority's Support Staff transferred to employment with the Trust.

Fundraising

The Trust engages in fundraising for selected charities and projects at individual academy level. There is no obligation for students or parents to contribute to the Trust's ongoing appeals. The Trust has not employed commercial participators or professional fundraisers during the year.

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

Trust

**UK Greenhouse gas emissions and energy use data
for the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025**

**1 September 2023 to
31 August 2024
(figures are for
illustrative purposes)**

| Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh) | 4,413,748 | 4,536,883 |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Scope 1 emissions in metric tonnes CO₂e | | |
| Gas consumption | 508.779 | 512.484 |
| Butane consumption | - | 0.235 |
| Propane consumption | 4.575 | 0.857 |
| LPG consumption | 82.434 | 94.248 |
| Owned transport | 44.475 | 15.956 |
| Total Scope 1 | 640.263 | 623.780 |
| Scope 2 emissions in metric tonnes CO₂e | | |
| Purchased electricity | 185.410 | 252.547 |
| Scope 3 emissions in metric tonnes CO₂e | | |
| Business travel in employee-owned vehicles | 1.769 | 1.807 |
| Purchased electricity (transmission and distribution) | 19.410 | 22.321 |
| Total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO ₂ e | 846.852 | 900.455 |
| Intensity ratio Tonnes CO ₂ e per pupil | 0.392 | 0.419 |

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Quantification and Reporting Methodology

We have followed the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines. We have also used the GHG Reporting Protocol – Corporate Standard and have used the 2025 UK Government's Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.

Intensity measurement

The chosen intensity measurement ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO₂e per pupil, the recommended ratio for the sector.

Measures taken to improve energy efficiency

Strategic timing of lighting and heating.

Plans for future periods

The Trust has appointed a CEO who has started to work with governors and trustees to devise a new strategy from September 2024. The new strategy will seek to build in previous work and achievements. Three key elements have been identified:

- Further support schools to improve all aspects of their work
- Further developing the management and governance systems of the Trust
- Further developing the central team support services provided by the Trust to schools e.g. HR
- Widening partnerships and growing the trust with increased number of pupils and schools

The Trust will continue to give a broad education, striving to improve the levels of performance of its students at all levels and will continue its efforts to ensure that all of its students learn work skills and get jobs, apprenticeships or a place in higher education once they leave.

The award of funding from the Selective Schools Expansion Fund has enabled a transformational development of Haberdashers' Adams. The new building funded by the scheme has delivered the largest expansion in the school's history with 150 additional pupils over the last four years. As significantly, the growth is targeted at attracting pupils from the most disadvantaged areas of Telford and Wrekin. Our aim is to continue to promote and enable social mobility.

The Trust is seeking opportunities for expansion, with the intention of welcoming other secondary or primary schools into the Trust and broader Haberdashers family, with all the benefits that flow from that association. In September 2023, Castle House, an independent preparatory school in Newport, signed an agreement with the Haberdashers' Company to change its name to Haberdashers' Castle House (HCH). HCH is now working more closely with Haberdashers' Adams, with co-operation across a number of areas.

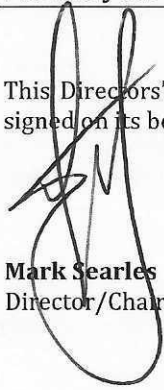
Auditor

In so far as the Directors are aware there is no relevant audit information of which the Trust's auditor is unaware. The Directors have taken all reasonable steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Trust's auditor is Saffery LLP. Having expressed their willingness to continue in office, Saffery LLP will be deemed reappointed for the next financial year in accordance with section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006 unless the charitable company receives notice under section 488(1) of the Companies Act 2006.

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Directors' report
For the year ended 31 August 2025

This Directors' Report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by the Board on ...8/12... 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Mark Searles
Director/Chairman

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Governance statement
For the year ended 31 August 2025

Scope of responsibility

As Directors of the company, who are also Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Haberdashers' West Midlands 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 Directors have delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. He is also responsible for reporting to the Directors any material weaknesses or breakdowns in the internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. Virtual meetings introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic have continued.

The Board of Trustees met formally six times during the year. Attendance at its meetings during the year was as follows:

| Name | Meetings attended | Out of a possible |
|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Simon Dorman | 5 | 6 |
| John Gallagher | 5 | 6 |
| David Jones | 6 | 6 |
| Sarah Mitchell | 4 | 6 |
| Michael Nielsen | 5 | 6 |
| Mark Searles | 6 | 6 |
| Colin Watt | 5 | 6 |
| Simon Wood | 1 | 2 |

Changes in the composition of the Board are set out on page 1.

The Finance and Buildings Committee is a committee of the Board. Its principal function is to oversee all finance and building issues relating to the schools. Attendance at its meetings during the year was as follows:

| Name | Meetings attended | Out of a possible |
|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| John Gallagher | 4 | 4 |
| Ed Hudson | 2 | 2 |
| David Jones | 3 | 4 |
| Mark Searles | 4 | 4 |

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Governance statement
For the year ended 31 August 2025

The Audit and Risk Committee is a committee of the Board which deals with the Auditors and the annual audit and with risk management. Attendance at its meetings during the year was as follows:

| Name | Meetings attended | Out of a possible |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Arun Daniel-Selvaratnam | 3 | 3 |
| Richard Jackson | 3 | 3 |
| Michael Nielsen | 3 | 3 |
| Zoe Scott | 3 | 3 |

Haberdashers' Abraham Darby LGB

| Name | Meetings attended | Out of a possible |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Michael Bennett | 4 | 4 |
| Helen Bostock | 4 | 4 |
| Anthony Bradbury | 3 | 3 |
| Joanne Edgar | 4 | 4 |
| John Gallagher | 3 | 4 |
| Steven Hodgkiss | 0 | 4 |
| Richard Jackson | 4 | 4 |
| Robin Jacob | 4 | 4 |
| Jeni Molloy | 2 | 2 |
| Emma Norry | 1 | 1 |
| Andrew Tarpey | 4 | 4 |
| Delia Whitworth | 3 | 4 |
| Jeremy Withers | 4 | 4 |
| Jenny Wynn | 3 | 4 |

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Governance statement
For the year ended 31 August 2025

Haberdashers' Adams LGB

| Name | Meetings attended | Out of a possible |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Thomas Ashbridge | 3 | 3 |
| Sara Bowater | 3 | 3 |
| Kimberley Burbidge | 1 | 3 |
| Laura Cotterell | 3 | 3 |
| Arun Daniel-Selvaratnam | 1 | 3 |
| Hermione Drew | 3 | 3 |
| Gary Hickey | 3 | 3 |
| Ed Hudson | 2 | 2 |
| David Jones | 3 | 3 |
| Joanne Lewis | 3 | 3 |
| Shonella Singh | 1 | 3 |

The Teaching, Learning and Standards Committee is a committee of the Board whose principal function is to monitor teaching and learning in the schools. Attendance at its meetings during the year was as follows:

Teaching, Learning & Standards Committee

| Name | Meetings attended | Out of a possible |
|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Kimberley Burbidge | 2 | 3 |
| Simon Dorman | 3 | 3 |
| Robin Jacob | 3 | 3 |
| Sarah Mitchell | 1 | 3 |

The Pupil and Staff Welfare Committee is a committee of the Board whose principal function is to establish and monitor pupil and staff welfare policies in the schools and boarding at Haberdashers' Adams. Attendance at its meetings during the year was as follows:

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Governance statement
For the year ended 31 August 2025

Pupil and Staff Welfare Committee

| Name | Meetings attended | Out of a possible |
|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Michael Bennett | 3 | 3 |
| Steven Hodgkiss | 2 | 3 |
| Robin Jacob | 3 | 3 |
| Colin Watt | 3 | 3 |
| Delia Whitworth | 3 | 3 |

The Careers Committee is a committee of the Board whose principal function is to guide and oversee both academies' activities in relation to students' destinations after leaving school. Attendance was as follows:

Careers Committee

| Name | Meetings attended | Out of a possible |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Arun Daniel-Selvaratnam | 2 | 2 |
| John Gallagher | 2 | 2 |
| Andrew Tarpey | 2 | 2 |

The Chair of the Board of the Trust is grateful for the support given by the Directors and Local Governing Bodies and committee members throughout the year who, as volunteers, give freely of their time to the Trust.

Review of Value for Money

As Accounting Officer, the CEO 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. The Accounting Officer considers how the Trust's use of its resources provides 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 available.

The principles of Best Value are applied in order to secure continuous improvement in both schools' achievements and services through: regular review of the functions of the schools, challenging how and why services are provided and setting targets and performance indicators for improvement; monitoring of outcomes and comparing student performance and financial performance with similar schools; consulting appropriate stakeholders before major decisions are made; promoting fair competition through quotations and tenders to ensure that goods and services are secured in the most economic, efficient and effective way. Examples of how the Academy Trust has improved value for money during the year under review include:

- Trust purchasing and contracts
- The governing board regularly reviews and challenges the budget and monthly accounts to ensure expenditure is both efficient and effective to provide best value;
- Further integration of support services provided by the Trust to the schools
- Undertaking property and premises review in order to establish an estates strategy
- Analysis of the curricula to ensure efficient deployment of staffing resource across the Trust.

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust

Governance statement

For the year ended 31 August 2025

Governance review

Reviews of effectiveness of overall governance, including the Board and all Committees, based on broad-ranging questionnaires to all Governors, are conducted annually in the summer term, with comments on the Chairman's performance being sent to the Vice Chairman. The 2022 review was considered by the Governors at their summer term meeting.

The governance review (started in 2020-21) has continued to develop further recommendations for the structure of the Trust with a focus on future expansion. A revised Scheme of Delegation is now in place, giving clearer accountability in the relationship between LGBs and the Trust Board. The CEO has continued to review and refine governance systems including writing new terms of reference for committees and refining how schools report to their local governing board and other governance meetings.

In order to build capability, a new appointment to the Board has been made, with Simon Wood, a property development specialist, joining the Trust Board during the last academic year.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risk to the achievement of Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust throughout the year and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

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

The risk and control framework

The Academy Trust's system of internal financial control is based on the 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 Directors,
- regular reviews by the Finance and Buildings Committees 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;
- identification and management of risks;
- regular monitoring of forecasts and cash flows.

The Directors considered the need for a specific internal audit function and decided not to appoint an internal auditor. They have appointed an Audit and Risk committee, and a Responsible Officer ("RO"): Zoe Scott, a governor on the Audit and Risk Committee.

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Governance statement
For the year ended 31 August 2025

The RO's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial systems and policies. The checks cover significant expenditure on individual items; bank and control accounts; payroll changes; VAT; grant income, including Pupil Premium grant; purchasing and authorisation procedures. The RO reports to the Audit and Risk / Finance and Buildings Committee, which further reports to the Board, periodically on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Directors' financial responsibilities.

Review of effectiveness


As Accounting Officer, the CEO has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control.

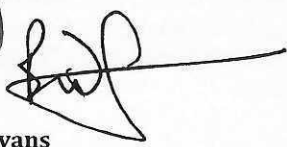
During the year in question the review has been informed by:

- the work of the Responsible Officer;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process; and
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

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

Approved by order of the Directors on 8/12 2025 and signed on their behalf by


Mark Searles
Director/Chairman


Brynley Evans
Accounting Officer

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Statement on regularity, propriety and compliance
For the year ended 31 August 2025


As Accounting Officer of Haberdashers' West Midlands 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 DfE, and the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including responsibilities for estates safety and management. I have also considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and DfE of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the board of directors are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the framework of authorities.

I confirm that the following instances of material irregularity, impropriety or non-compliance have been discovered to date and have been notified to the board of trustees and DfE. If any instances are identified after the date of this statement, these will be notified to the board of Directors and DfE:

- A register of business and financial interests for members, trustees, local governors and accounting officers was not published on the Trust website in 2024-25.

Signed



Brynley Evans
Accounting Officer

Date: 8 / 12 2025

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Statement of Directors' Responsibilities
For the year ended 31 August 2025

The Directors (who act as Directors of Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust and are also 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 Annual 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 the 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 in the Charities SORP and the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards FRS 102 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 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 Directors of Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust on 8/12 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Mark Searles
Director/Chairman

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust for the year ended 31 August 2025 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, Consolidated and Parent Charitable Company's Balance Sheets, Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the group and parent charitable company's state of affairs as at 31 August 2025 and of the group's 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 Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025 issued by the Department for Education (DfE).

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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.

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Annual Report and Strategic Report.

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

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

Responsibilities of Directors

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 20, the Directors (who are also trustees of the charitable company 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 group and the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with regulations made under that Act.

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

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

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust

Identifying and assessing risks related to irregularities:

We assessed the susceptibility of the group and the charitable company's financial statements to material misstatement and how fraud might occur, including through discussions with the Directors, discussions within our audit team planning meeting, updating our record of internal controls and ensuring these controls operated as intended. We evaluated possible incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements. We identified laws and regulations that are of significance in the context of the group and the charitable company by discussions with Directors and updating our understanding of the sector in which the group and the charitable company operates.

Laws and regulations of direct significance in the context of the group and charitable company include The Companies Act 2006, guidance issued by the Charity Commission for England and Wales and guidance issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Audit response to risks identified:

We considered the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items including a review of financial statement disclosures. We reviewed the group and the charitable company's records of breaches of laws and regulations, minutes of meetings and correspondence with relevant authorities, including the Education and Skills Funding Agency and the Department for Education to identify potential material misstatements arising. We discussed the group and the charitable company's policies and procedures for compliance with laws and regulations with members of management responsible for compliance.

During the planning meeting with the audit team, the engagement partner drew attention to the key areas which might involve non-compliance with laws and regulations or fraud. We enquired of management whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations or knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud. We addressed the risk of fraud through management override of controls by testing the appropriateness of journal entries and identifying any significant transactions that were unusual or outside the normal course of business. We assessed whether judgements made in making accounting estimates gave rise to a possible indication of management bias. At the completion stage of the audit, the engagement partner's review included ensuring that the team had approached their work with appropriate professional scepticism and thus the capacity to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

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

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Haberdashers'
West Midlands Academies Trust

Use of our report

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



.....

Jonathan Davis (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of Saffery LLP

Statutory Auditors
10 Wellington Place
Leeds
LS1 4AP

Date: 10. December. 2025

Saffery LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust Independent Reporting Accountant's Report on Regularity For the year ended 31 August 2025

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 18 September 2025 and further to the requirements of the Department for Education (DfE) as included in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether anything has come to our attention that would suggest, in all material aspects, the expenditure disbursed and income received by Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust during the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 have not been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of the accounting office of Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust and the reporting accountant

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

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

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw our conclusion includes:

- an assessment of the risk of material irregularity and impropriety across the Academy Trust's activities;
- evaluation of the processes and controls established and maintained in respect of regularity, propriety and compliance of the use of public funds through observation and testing of the arrangements in place and enquiry of the Accounting Officer;
- consideration and corroboration of the evidence supporting the Accounting Officer's statement on regularity, propriety and compliance; and
- limited testing on a sample basis of income and expenditure for the areas identified as high risk.

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Independent Reporting Accountant's Report on Regularity
For the year ended 31 August 2025

Conclusion

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

Non-financial matters

We note that the register of business and financial interest for members, trustees, local governors and accounting officers was not available on the Trust website in 2024-25.



.....
Jonathan Davis
Reporting accountant
For and on behalf of

Saffery LLP
Statutory Auditors
10 Wellington Place
Leeds
LS1 4AP

Date:10 December.. 2025

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025
Consolidated statement of financial activities (including Income and Expenditure account)


| | Note | Unrestricted Funds £000 | Restricted General Funds £000 | Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000 | Total 2025 £000 | Total 2024 £000 |
|--|--------|-------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Income and endowments from: | | | | | | |
| Donations and capital grants | 2 | 84 | 224 | 61 | 369 | 404 |
| Charitable activities: | | | | | | |
| Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations | 3 | 1,168 | 15,806 | - | 16,974 | 16,374 |
| Provision of boarding activities | 28 | - | 1,094 | - | 1,094 | 1,126 |
| Other trading activities | 4 | 812 | - | - | 812 | 687 |
| Investments | 5 | 35 | - | 5 | 40 | 49 |
| Total | | 2,099 | 17,124 | 66 | 19,289 | 18,640 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | | | |
| Raising funds | 6 | 732 | - | - | 732 | 599 |
| Charitable activities: | | | | | | |
| Academy Trust educational operations | 6 | 1,040 | 16,680 | 518 | 18,238 | 17,174 |
| Provision of boarding activities | 28 | - | 1,184 | 37 | 1,221 | 1,306 |
| Total | | 1,772 | 17,864 | 555 | 20,191 | 19,079 |
| Net income / (expenditure) | | 327 | (740) | (489) | (902) | (439) |
| Transfers between funds | 15 | (676) | 626 | 50 | - | - |
| Other recognised gains/(losses): | | | | | | |
| Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes | 15, 24 | - | 547 | - | 547 | 82 |
| Net movement in funds | | (349) | 433 | (439) | (355) | (357) |
| Reconciliation of funds | | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 1,148 | (118) | 14,911 | 15,941 | 16,298 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 799 | 315 | 14,472 | 15,586 | 15,941 |

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025
Consolidated balance sheet as at 31 August 2024

| | Notes | 2025 £000 | 2025 £000 | 2024 £000 | 2024 £000 |
|--|-------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Fixed assets | | | | | |
| Tangible assets | 12 | | 15,323 | | 15,770 |
| Current assets | | | | | |
| Debtors | 13 | 520 | | 707 | |
| School Funds | | 638 | | 586 | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 1,142 | | 1,802 | |
| | | <u>2,300</u> | | <u>3,095</u> | |
| Liabilities | | | | | |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year | 14 | <u>(1,819)</u> | | <u>(2,069)</u> | |
| Net current assets | | | <u>481</u> | | <u>1,026</u> |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | | <u>15,804</u> | | <u>16,796</u> |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due after one year | 14 | | <u>(218)</u> | | <u>(290)</u> |
| Net assets excluding pension liability | | | <u>15,586</u> | | <u>16,506</u> |
| Defined benefit pension scheme liability | 24 | | - | | <u>(565)</u> |
| Total net assets | | | <u>15,586</u> | | <u>15,941</u> |
| Funds of the Academy Trust: | | | | | |
| Restricted funds | | | | | |
| - Fixed asset fund | 15 | 14,472 | | 14,911 | |
| - Restricted income fund | 15 | 315 | | 447 | |
| - Pension reserve | 15 | - | | <u>(565)</u> | |
| Total restricted funds | | | <u>14,787</u> | | <u>14,793</u> |
| Unrestricted income funds | 15 | | <u>799</u> | | <u>1,148</u> |
| Total funds | | | <u>15,586</u> | | <u>15,941</u> |

The consolidated balance sheet includes position of the Academy Trust, including HAFT Trading Limited, a trading subsidiary of Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust.

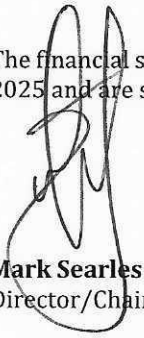
The financial statements on pages 28-57 were approved by the Directors and authorised for issue on 8/12/2025 and are signed on their behalf by


Mark Searles
 Director/Chairman

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025
Academy trust balance sheet

| | Notes | 2025 £000 | 2025 £000 | 2024 £000 | 2024 £000 |
|--|-------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Fixed assets | | | | | |
| Tangible assets | 12 | | 15,323 | | 15,770 |
| Current assets | | | | | |
| Debtors | 13 | 520 | | 707 | |
| School Funds | | 638 | | 586 | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 1,019 | | 1,689 | |
| | | <u>2,177</u> | | <u>2,982</u> | |
| Liabilities | | | | | |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year | 14 | <u>(1,706)</u> | | <u>(1,961)</u> | |
| Net current assets | | | <u>471</u> | | <u>1,021</u> |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | | <u>15,794</u> | | <u>16,791</u> |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due after one year | | | <u>(218)</u> | | <u>(290)</u> |
| Net assets excluding pension liability | | | <u>15,576</u> | | <u>16,501</u> |
| Defined benefit pension scheme liability | 24 | | - | | (565) |
| Total net assets | | | <u>15,576</u> | | <u>15,936</u> |
| Funds of the Academy Trust: | | | | | |
| Restricted funds | | | | | |
| - Fixed asset fund | 15 | 14,472 | | 14,911 | |
| - Restricted income fund | 15 | 315 | | 447 | |
| - Pension reserve | 15 | - | | (565) | |
| Total restricted funds | | | <u>14,787</u> | | <u>14,793</u> |
| Unrestricted income funds | 15 | | <u>789</u> | | <u>1,143</u> |
| Total funds | | | <u>15,576</u> | | <u>15,936</u> |

The financial statements on pages 28-56 were approved by the Directors and authorised for issue on8/12
2025 and are signed on their behalf by


Mark Searles
Director/Chairman

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025
Consolidated statement of cash flows

| | Notes | 2025 £000 | 2024 £000 |
|--|-------|--------------|--------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities | | | |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 19 | (601) | (601) |
| Cash flows provided by investing activities | 20 | (7) | (21) |
| Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period | | (608) | (622) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2024 | | 2,388 | 3,010 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2025 | 21 | 1,780 | 2,388 |

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025

1. Statement of accounting policies

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by DfE, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust (Formerly Haberdashers' Adams' Federation Trust) meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and Balance Sheet consolidate the financial statements of the Trust and its subsidiary HAFT Trading Limited, which was incorporated on 29 January 2018. The results of the subsidiary are consolidated on a line by line basis.

No separate SOFA has been presented for the Trust alone as permitted by section 408 of 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 company to continue as a going concern. The Directors make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the 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 Incoming resources

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

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

Capital grants are recognised in full where there is an unconditional entitlement to the grant. Unspent amounts of capital grant are reflected in the balance 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.

1.5 Sponsorship income

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

1.6 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.

1.7 Other income

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

1.8 Donated goods, facilities and services

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

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

1.9 Expenditure

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

1.10 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.

1.11 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.

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025

1.12 Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the Academy Trust's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and governors' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

1.13 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

1.14 Depreciation

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:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Freehold Buildings | 25-50 years |
| Swimming pool and MUGA | 25 years |
| Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment | 7 years |
| ICT Hardware | 5 years |

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

1.15 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 of services it must provide.

1.16 Provisions

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

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

1.17 Leased assets

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

1.18 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 13. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

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

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 14. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument. Amounts due to the charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

1.19 Agency arrangements

The Academy Trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from DfE. Payments received from DfE and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The trust can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the statement of financial activities. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in note 27.

1.20 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

1.21 Taxation

The Academy Trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 of Schedule 6 to the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Academy Trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Taxes 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.

1.22 Pensions Benefits

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

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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. As stated in note 24, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

Local Government Pension Scheme

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.

1.23 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.

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received with restrictions imposed by the funder/donor and include grants from the Education Funding Agency, Department for Education, and other donors which are to be used as specified. This includes the Appeals Fund and Private Schools Funds, both maintained by Haberdashers' Adams.

1.24 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

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.

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025

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 (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 24, will impact the carrying amount of the pensions 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.

2. Donations and capital grants

| | Unrestricted funds £'000 | Restricted funds £'000 | 2025 Total £'000 | 2024 Total £'000 |
|----------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Capital grants | - | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| Donated fixed assets | - | - | - | - |
| Other donations | 84 | 235 | 319 | 354 |
| | <u>84</u> | <u>285</u> | <u>369</u> | <u>404</u> |

The income from donations and capital grants was £369,000 (2024: £404,000) of which £84,000 (2024: £12,000) was unrestricted, £224,000 (2024: £67,000) restricted and £61,000 (2024: £325,000) restricted fixed asset.

3. Funding for the Academy Trust's Educational Operations

| | Unrestricted funds £'000 | Restricted funds £'000 | 2025 Total £'000 | 2024 Total £'000 |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| DfE grants | | | | |
| General Annual Grant (GAG) | - | 13,758 | 13,758 | 13,483 |
| Other DfE Grants | | | | |
| Pupil premium | - | 494 | 494 | 463 |
| Teachers' pay grant | - | 139 | 139 | 158 |
| Teachers' pension grant | - | 436 | 436 | 643 |
| National insurance | - | 81 | 81 | - |
| Core services budget grant | - | 389 | 389 | - |
| Others | - | 140 | 140 | - |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>15,437</u> | <u>15,437</u> | <u>14,747</u> |
| Other Government grants | - | 240 | 240 | 229 |
| Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations | 1,168 | 129 | 1,297 | 1,398 |
| Total Funding for Educational Operations | <u><u>1,168</u></u> | <u><u>15,806</u></u> | <u><u>16,974</u></u> | <u><u>16,374</u></u> |

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025

The income from funding for the Academy Trust was £16,974,000 (2024: £16,374,000) of which, £15,806,000 (2024: £15,259,000) was restricted and £1,168,000 (2024: £1,115,000) was unrestricted.

4. Other trading activities

| | Unrestricted Funds £000 | Restricted Funds £000 | Total 2025 £000 | Total 2024 £000 |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Lettings | 39 | - | 39 | 27 |
| Home to school transport | 677 | - | 677 | 566 |
| Music lessons | 81 | - | 81 | 81 |
| Exam income | 15 | - | 15 | 13 |
| Other income | - | - | - | - |
| | <u>812</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>812</u> | <u>687</u> |

Income from other trading activities of £812,000 (2024: £687,000) was all unrestricted.

5. Investment income

| | Unrestricted Funds £000 | Restricted Funds £000 | Total 2025 £000 | Total 2024 £000 |
|---------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Short term deposits | 35 | 5 | 40 | 49 |
| | <u>35</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>40</u> | <u>49</u> |

The income from investment income was £40,000 (2024: £49,000) of which £5,000 (2024: £10,000) was restricted and £35,000 (2024: £39,000) was unrestricted.

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025

6. Expenditure

| | Staff Costs £000 | Non Pay Expenditure | | Total 2025 £000 | Total 2024 £000 |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | Premises £000 | Other £000 | | |
| Expenditure on raising funds (trading activities) | 95 | - | 637 | 732 | 599 |
| Academy's educational operations: | | | | | |
| - Direct costs | 12,164 | 518 | 1,868 | 14,550 | 13,451 |
| - Allocated support costs | 1,846 | 1,061 | 781 | 3,688 | 3,723 |
| Boarding activities: | | | | | |
| - Direct costs | - | - | 272 | 272 | 262 |
| - Allocated support costs | 580 | 223 | 146 | 949 | 1,044 |
| | <u>14,685</u> | <u>1,802</u> | <u>3,704</u> | <u>20,191</u> | <u>19,079</u> |

The total expenditure was £20,191,000 (2024: £19,079,000) of which £1,772,000 was unrestricted (2024: £1,840,000), £17,864,000 (2024: £16,661,000) was restricted and £555,000 (2024: £578,000) was restricted fixed asset.

Net income/ (expenditure) for the period includes:

| | 2025 £000 | 2024 £000 |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Operating lease rentals | 74 | 81 |
| Depreciation | 555 | 578 |
| Legal and professional fees | 14 | 33 |
| Fees payable to auditor for: | | |
| - Audit | 24 | 20 |
| - other services | 10 | 9 |

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025

7. Charitable activities

| | Total 2025 £000 | Total 2024 £000 |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Direct costs – educational operations | 14,550 | 13,451 |
| Direct costs – boarding | 272 | 262 |
| Support costs – educational operations | 3,688 | 3,723 |
| Support costs – boarding | 949 | 1,044 |
| Total charitable spending | 19,459 | 18,480 |

| Analysis of support costs | Boarding £000 | Educational operations £000 | Total 2025 £000 | Total 2024 £000 |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Support staff costs | 580 | 1,846 | 2,426 | 2,361 |
| Depreciation | 37 | - | 37 | 43 |
| Technology costs | - | 11 | 11 | 9 |
| Premises costs | 186 | 1,061 | 1,247 | 1,375 |
| Legal costs | - | 14 | 14 | 33 |
| Other support costs | 146 | 692 | 838 | 883 |
| Governance costs | - | 64 | 64 | 63 |
| Total support costs | 949 | 3,688 | 4,637 | 4,767 |

Governance costs are costs attributable to the Academy Trust's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and governors' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025

8. Staff

a. Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the period were:

| | Total 2025 £000 | Total 2024 £000 |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Wages and salaries | 10,739 | 9,768 |
| Social security costs | 1,134 | 1,042 |
| Pension costs | 2,546 | 2,107 |
| Apprenticeship levy | 36 | 32 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 14,455 | 12,949 |
| Supply staff costs | <hr/> 180 | <hr/> 276 |
| Staff restructuring costs | 50 | 17 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 14,685 | 13,242 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|
| Redundancy payments | 50 | - |
| Severance payments | - | - |
| Other restructuring costs | - | 17 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 50 | 17 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

b. Severance payments

The academy trust paid 9 redundancy payments in the year, disclosed in the following bands:

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

c. Special staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs are special severance payments totalling £nil (2024: £12,777). Individually, the payments were: £nil (2024: £12,777).

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025

d. Staff numbers

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

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | No. | No. |
| Teachers | 136 | 131 |
| Administration and support | 156 | 159 |
| Management | 12 | 11 |
| | 304 | 301 |
| | 304 | 301 |

e. Higher paid staff

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

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | No. | No. |
| £60,001 - £70,000 | 4 | 5 |
| £70,001 - £80,000 | 7 | 5 |
| £80,001 - £90,000 | 2 | 2 |
| £90,001 - £100,000 | 1 | 1 |
| £100,001 - £110,000 | 1 | - |
| £110,001 - £120,000 | - | 1 |
| £120,001 - £130,000 | 2 | - |
| | 17 | 14 |
| | 17 | 14 |

f. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Directors and the senior management team as listed on pages 2-3. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £1,672,000 (2024: £1,417,000).

9. Related Party Transactions – Directors' remuneration and expenses

The Headmaster, Principal and staff governors only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of Headmaster, Principal and staff and not in respect of their services as governors. Other governors did not receive any payments, other than expenses, from the Academy Trust in respect of their role as governors.

During the period, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £1,481 were reimbursed to 5 Governors, (2024: £nil reimbursed to nil Governors).

10. Directors' and Officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice the academy 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 and the cost for the period ended 31 August 2025 was £302 (2024: £958). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

11. Central services

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

- Payroll services
- Financial services
- Operations services

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

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | £000 | £000 |
| Haberdashers' Adams | 418 | 314 |
| Haberdashers' Abraham Darby | 278 | 209 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 696 | 523 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025

12. Tangible fixed assets (Group and Academy Trust)

| | Freehold Land & Buildings £000 | Furniture & equipment £000 | Computer Equipment £000 | Total £000 |
|--------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------|
| Cost | | | | |
| At 1 September 2024 | 18,342 | 2,453 | 1,140 | 21,935 |
| Additions | 11 | 88 | 9 | 108 |
| Disposals | - | - | (2) | (2) |
| Transfers | - | - | - | - |
| At 31 August 2025 | 18,353 | 2,541 | 1,147 | 22,041 |
| Depreciation | | | | |
| At 1 September 2024 | 3,348 | 1,846 | 971 | 6,165 |
| Charged | 383 | 114 | 58 | 555 |
| Disposals | - | - | (2) | (2) |
| Impairment | - | - | - | - |
| At 31 August 2025 | 3,731 | 1,960 | 1,027 | 6,718 |
| Net book values | | | | |
| At 31 August 2025 | 14,622 | 581 | 120 | 15,323 |
| At 31 August 2024 | 14,994 | 607 | 169 | 15,770 |

The properties at Haberdashers' Adams used by the Academy Trust are legally owned by The Master and Four Wardens of the Fraternity of the Art or Mystery of Haberdashers in the City of London, as Governor of the Possessions and Revenues of the Free Grammar School of Newport in the County of Salop of the Foundation of William Adams. The School has the use of these buildings, including responsibility for the insurance and maintenance of the assets, under a scheme originally dated 27 November 1878.

The scheme has no fixed cessation date and a minimal occupation payment is due. The Directors have considered the accounting treatment of these buildings and consider that as the balance of benefits and risk resides with the Academy Trust that the asset should be recognised on balance sheet, despite not having legal ownership.

The buildings at Haberdashers' Abraham Darby are presently occupied under a Licence to Occupy granted to the Trust by Telford & Wrekin Council and are not therefore included in the Balance Sheet.

Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust
Financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025

13. Debtors

| | Group | | Academy Trust | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|
| | 2025 | 2024 | 2025 | 2024 |
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| Trade debtors | 18 | 93 | 18 | 93 |
| VAT recoverable | 52 | 133 | 52 | 133 |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 450 | 481 | 450 | 481 |
| | <u>520</u> | <u>707</u> | <u>520</u> | <u>707</u> |

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

| | Group | | Academy Trust | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| | 2025 | 2024 | 2025 | 2024 |
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| Trade creditors | 117 | 164 | 117 | 164 |
| Other taxation and social security | 281 | 229 | 281 | 229 |
| Other creditors | 493 | 478 | 493 | 478 |
| SSEF Loan | 72 | 70 | 72 | 70 |
| Accruals and deferred income | 856 | 1,128 | 743 | 1,020 |
| | <u>1,819</u> | <u>2,069</u> | <u>1,706</u> | <u>1,961</u> |

Creditor: Amounts falling due after one year

| | | | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| SSEF Loan | <u>218</u> | <u>290</u> | <u>218</u> | <u>290</u> |
|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|

Deferred income

| | Group | Academy |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| | £000 | Trust |
| | £000 | £000 |
| Deferred income at 1 September 2024 | 531 | 598 |
| Resources deferred in the year | 553 | 531 |
| Released from previous years | <u>(531)</u> | <u>(598)</u> |
| Deferred Income at 31 August 2025 | <u>553</u> | <u>531</u> |

Included within creditors is a loan totalling £218,000 from the DfE for SSEF funding. The loan carries interest of 1.86% and is repayable over 84 months, with the loan repayments commencing from September 2022.

Deferred income consists of school transport deposits relating to the next financial year and income received in advance for trips which have not yet occurred.

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15. Funds

| | Balance at 1 September 2024 £000 | Income £000 | Expenditure £000 | Gains, losses and transfers £000 | Balance at 31 August 2025 £000 |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------------|---------------------|---|---|
| Restricted general funds | | | | | |
| General Annual Grant (GAG) | 42 | 13,758 | (14,426) | 626 | - |
| Other DfE grants | - | 1,679 | (1,679) | - | - |
| COVID catch up | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other grants | - | 240 | (240) | - | - |
| Other donations | - | 224 | (224) | - | - |
| Other income | - | 129 | (129) | - | - |
| Provision for boarding | 405 | 1,094 | (1,184) | - | 315 |
| Pension reserve | (565) | - | 18 | 547 | - |
| | (118) | 17,124 | (17,864) | 1,173 | 315 |
| Restricted fixed asset funds | | | | | |
| Transfer on conversion | 9,055 | - | - | - | 9,055 |
| DfE capital grants | 3,132 | 54 | (277) | 50 | 2,959 |
| Capital expenditure from GAG | 50 | - | (4) | - | 46 |
| Capital Donations | 224 | - | (7) | - | 217 |
| Private sector capital sponsorship | 2,324 | 12 | (256) | - | 2,080 |
| Capital expenditure from unrestricted | 126 | - | (11) | - | 115 |
| | 14,911 | 66 | (555) | 50 | 14,472 |
| Total restricted funds | 14,793 | 17,190 | (18,419) | 1,223 | 14,787 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 1,148 | 2,099 | (1,772) | (676) | 799 |
| Total funds | 15,941 | 19,289 | (20,191) | 547 | 15,586 |

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

- a. GAG is used for the educational operations of the Academy Trust.
- b. Other DfE and start up grants are used for the purposes intended by the grant funder and includes pupil premium.
- c. The pension reserve is the surplus/deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme.
- d. The provision of boarding accounts shows the surplus/deficit on boarding activities at Haberdashers' Adams.
- e. The fixed asset fund includes fixed assets transferred on conversion, additions, depreciation and capital grants and sponsorship received but not yet spent.
- f. Unrestricted reserves include surpluses from activities for generating funds as detailed in Note 4.

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

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Transfers between funds:

£50k has been transferred from Unrestricted Reserves to Restricted Fixed Asset Reserves to fund capital expenditure within the year.

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2025 were allocated as follows:

| | Total 2025 £000 | Total 2024 £000 |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Haberdashers' Adams | 598 | 606 |
| Haberdashers' Abraham Darby | 460 | 979 |
| HAFT Trading Limited | 11 | 6 |
| Central Services | 45 | 4 |
| Total before fixed assets and pension reserve | 1,114 | 1,595 |
| Restricted fixed asset fund | 14,472 | 14,911 |
| Pension reserve | - | (565) |
| Total | 15,586 | 15,941 |

Total cost analysis by academy

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

| | Teaching and Educational Support Staff Costs £000 | Other Support Staff Costs £000 | Educational Supplies £000 | Other Costs (excluding Depreciation) £000 | Total 2025 £000 | Total 2024 £000 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|--|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Haberdashers' Adams | 5,328 | 1,015 | 359 | 2,254 | 8,956 | 8,963 |
| Haberdashers' Abraham Darby | 6,932 | 827 | 337 | 1,268 | 9,364 | 8,530 |
| Central Services | - | 583 | - | 113 | 696 | 523 |
| Academy Trust | 12,260 | 2,425 | 696 | 3,635 | 19,016 | 18,016 |

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

| | Balance at 1 September 2023 £000 | Income £000 | Expenditure £000 | Gains, losses and transfers £000 | Balance at 31 August 2024 £000 |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------------|---------------------|---|---|
| Restricted general funds | | | | | |
| General Annual Grant (GAG) | 138 | 13,483 | (13,579) | - | 42 |
| Other DfE grants | - | 1,264 | (1,264) | - | - |
| COVID catch up | | 115 | (115) | | |
| Other grants | - | 229 | (229) | - | - |
| Other donations | - | 67 | (67) | - | - |
| Other income | - | 168 | (168) | - | - |
| Provision for boarding | 542 | 1,126 | (1,263) | - | 405 |
| Pension reserve | (671) | - | 24 | 82 | (565) |
| | 9 | 16,452 | (16,661) | 82 | (118) |
| Restricted fixed asset funds | | | | | |
| Transfer on conversion | 9,055 | - | - | - | 9,055 |
| DfE capital grants | 3,313 | 60 | (295) | 54 | 3,132 |
| Capital expenditure from GAG | 55 | - | (5) | - | 50 |
| Capital Donations | 81 | 150 | (7) | - | 224 |
| Private sector capital sponsorship | 2,458 | 125 | (259) | - | 2,324 |
| Capital expenditure from | 138 | - | (12) | - | 126 |
| | 15,100 | 335 | (578) | 54 | 14,911 |
| Total restricted funds | 15,109 | 16,787 | (17,239) | 136 | 14,793 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 1,189 | 1,853 | (1,840) | (54) | 1,148 |
| Total funds | 16,298 | 18,640 | (19,079) | 82 | 15,941 |

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16. Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2025 are represented by:

| | Unrestricted funds £000 | Restricted general funds £000 | Restricted fixed asset funds £000 | Total funds £000 |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Tangible fixed assets | - | - | 15,323 | 15,323 |
| Current assets | 799 | 2,134 | (633) | 2,300 |
| Current liabilities | - | (1,819) | - | (1,819) |
| Non current liabilities | - | - | (218) | (218) |
| Pension scheme liability | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 799 | 315 | 14,472 | 15,586 |

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

| | Unrestricted funds £000 | Restricted general funds £000 | Restricted fixed asset funds £000 | Total funds £000 |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Tangible fixed assets | - | - | 15,770 | 15,770 |
| Current assets | 1,148 | 2,469 | (569) | 3,048 |
| Current liabilities | - | (2,022) | - | (2,022) |
| Non current liabilities | - | - | (290) | (290) |
| Pension scheme liability | - | (565) | - | (565) |
| Total | 1,148 | (118) | 14,911 | 15,941 |

17. Capital commitments

The Trust had capital commitments of £nil as at 31 August 2025 (2024: £nil).

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18. Commitments under operating leases

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

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| | £000 | £000 |
| Amounts due within one year | 90 | 90 |
| Amounts due between two and five years | 159 | 243 |
| Amounts due after five years | - | - |
| | <u>249</u> | <u>333</u> |

19. Reconciliation of Net Income to Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| | £000 | £000 |
| Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities) | (902) | (439) |
| Adjusted for: | | |
| Depreciation (note 12) | 555 | 578 |
| Capital grants from DfE and other capital income | (61) | (325) |
| Interest receivable (note 5) | (40) | (49) |
| Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable (note 24) | (3) | (22) |
| Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost (note 24) | (15) | (2) |
| Decrease/(increase) in debtors | 187 | (240) |
| (Decrease) in creditors | <u>(322)</u> | <u>(102)</u> |
| Net cash generated by operating activities | <u>(601)</u> | <u>(601)</u> |

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20. Cash flows from investing activities

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| | £000 | £000 |
| Dividends, interest and rents from investments | 40 | 49 |
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets | (108) | (395) |
| Capital grants from DfE | 49 | 50 |
| Capital funding received from sponsors and others | 12 | 275 |
| Net cash provided by investing activities | (7) | (21) |

21. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| | £000 | £000 |
| Cash in hand and at bank | 1,142 | 1,802 |
| School fund balances | 638 | 586 |
| Total cash and cash equivalents | 1,780 | 2,388 |

22. Analysis of changes in net debt

| | At 1 September | Cashflows | At 31 August |
|--------------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| | 2024 | | 2025 |
| | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| Cash | 1,802 | (660) | 1,142 |
| Total | 1,802 | (660) | 1,142 |

23. 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.

24. Pension and Similar Obligations

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

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

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

Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS)

Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for 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 specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The 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:

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £2,018,505 (2024: £1,700,671).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS)

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 £725,000 (2024: £665,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £550,000 (2024: £502,000) and employees' contributions totalled £175,000 (2024: £163,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are between 16.4 and 19.1 per cent for employers and between 5.5 and 12.5 per cent for employees, dependent on the level of the individual's salary.

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

Principal actuarial assumptions

| | At 31 August 2025 % | At 31 August 2024 % |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Rate of increase in salaries | 3.9 | 3.9 |
| Rate of increase in pensions in payment/inflation | 2.7 | 2.7 |
| Discount rate for scheme liabilities | 6.2 | 5.0 |
| Inflation assumption (CPI) | 2.6 | 2.6 |

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

| | At 31 August 2025 | At 31 August 2024 |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Retiring today</i> | | |
| Males | 21.5 | 21.7 |
| Females | 24.1 | 24.1 |
| <i>Retiring in 20 years</i> | | |
| Males | 22.8 | 23.0 |
| Females | 25.6 | 25.9 |

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Sensitivity analysis

| | At 31 August 2025 | At 31 August 2024 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Haberdashers' Abraham Darby | £000 | £000 |
| Discount rate +0.1% | (68) | (85) |
| Discount rate -0.1% | 69 | 87 |
| Mortality assumption – 1 year increase | 76 | 104 |
| Mortality assumption – 1 year decrease | (75) | (102) |
| CPI rate +0.1% | 69 | 86 |
| CPI rate -0.1% | (68) | (85) |

| | At 31 August 2025 £000 | At 31 August 2024 £000 |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Haberdashers' Adams | | |
| Discount rate +0.1% | (57) | (72) |
| Discount rate -0.1% | 58 | 73 |
| Mortality assumption – 1 year increase | 61 | 83 |
| Mortality assumption – 1 year decrease | (60) | (81) |
| CPI rate +0.1% | 58 | 73 |
| CPI rate -0.1% | (57) | (72) |

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

| | Fair value at 31 August 2025 £000 | Fair value at 31 August 2024 £000 |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Equity instruments | 6,036 | 5,219 |
| Corporate bonds | 1,383 | 1,284 |
| Property | 437 | 289 |
| Cash and other liquid assets | 72 | 117 |
| Other | 2,236 | 2,135 |
| Total market value of assets | 10,164 | 9,044 |

The actual return on scheme assets was £755,000 (2024: £925,000).

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities

| | 2025 £000 | 2024 £000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Current service cost | 26 | 44 |
| Past service cost | - | - |
| Net interest income | 15 | 2 |
| Administrative expenses | (23) | (22) |
| Benefit changes, gain on curtailment and gain on settlement | - | - |
| Total amount recognised in the SOFA | 18 | 24 |

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

| | 2025 £000 | 2024 £000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| At 1 September | 9,018 | 8,083 |
| Current service cost | 524 | 458 |
| Past service cost | - | - |
| Interest cost | 447 | 430 |
| Employee contributions | 175 | 163 |
| Actuarial loss/(gain) | (1,806) | 257 |
| Benefits paid | (337) | (373) |
| Plan introductions, benefit changes, curtailments and settlements | - | - |
| At 31 August | 8,021 | 9,018 |

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

| | 2025 £000 | 2024 £000 |
|------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| At 1 September | 9,044 | 7,849 |
| Interest income | 462 | 432 |
| Actuarial gain/(loss) | 293 | 493 |
| Employer contributions | 550 | 502 |
| Employee contributions | 175 | 163 |
| Benefits paid | (337) | (373) |
| Admin expenses | (23) | (22) |
| At 31 August | 10,164 | 9,044 |

| | 2025 £000 | 2024 £000 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Present value of defined benefit obligation | (8,021) | (9,018) |
| Fair value of academy's share of scheme assets | 10,164 | 9,044 |
| Provision for restriction on scheme assets | (2,143) | (591) |
| Net liability position | - | (565) |

25. 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 AFH, including notifying the DFE of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2020 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the Academy Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions. The following related party transactions took place in the financial period.

The WCH is a member of the Trust. During the year the following transactions took place:

- a. The trust received other donations of £110,994 (2024: £344,702) from The WCH during the year. £37,000 was outstanding at 31 August 2025 and is included within debtors (2024: £66,755).

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- b. The trust paid expenses to The WCH during the year which included rent of £50,000 (2024: £50,000), and a recharge of insurance of £29,771 (2024: £3,742) during the year. £5,704 was outstanding at 31 August 2025 and is included within creditors (2024: £5,075).

The Trust received a gift aid donation of £35,097 (2024: £56,063) in the year from HAFT Trading Limited, a fully owned subsidiary of the Trust, this has been eliminated in the SOFA for consolidation purposes. There was £nil outstanding at 31 August 2025 (2024: £nil).

In relation to the above transactions, the trustees are comfortable that they are compliant with the AFH and, where relevant, all purchases from Related Parties are provided at no more than cost.

26. Principal subsidiaries

| Subsidiary name | HAFT Trading Limited |
|---|--|
| Company registration number | 11175727 |
| Basis of control | 100% owned by Haberdashers' West Midlands Academies Trust (Formerly Haberdashers' Adams' Federation Trust) |
| Total assets at 31 August 2025 | £122,208 |
| Total liabilities at 31 August 2025 | £112,550 |
| Total equity at 31 August 2025 | £9,658 |
| Turnover for the period ended 31 August 2025 | £641,881 |
| Expenditure for the period ended 31 August 2025 | £602,323 |
| Result for the period ended 31 August 2025 | £39,558 |

27. Agency arrangements

The Academy Trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for DfE. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2025, the trust received £56,751 (2024: £64,901) and disbursed £40,809 (2024: £45,969) from the fund. An amount of £nil (2024: £nil) is included in prepayment and accrued income relating to prepayments. An amount of £64,276 (2024: £65,381) is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds, of which £17,046 (2024: £17,046) are repayable to the DfE.

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28. Academy boarding trading account

| | 2025 | 2025 | 2025 | 2024 | 2024 | 2024 |
|--|-------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| Income | | | | | | |
| Fee income | | 1,072 | | | 1,067 | |
| Other income | | 22 | | | 59 | |
| Grants | | - | | | - | |
| | | <u>-</u> | 1,094 | | <u>-</u> | 1,126 |
| Expenditure | | | | | | |
| Direct costs | | | | | | |
| Goods and services | 23 | | | 25 | | |
| Catering | 238 | | | 226 | | |
| Other direct costs | 11 | | | 12 | | |
| Total direct costs | | <u>272</u> | | <u>263</u> | | |
| Staff costs | 580 | | | 571 | | |
| Utilities | 96 | | | 123 | | |
| Rent and rates | 8 | | | 36 | | |
| Insurance | 14 | | | 12 | | |
| Buildings maintenance | 64 | | | 98 | | |
| Other indirect costs | 150 | | | 160 | | |
| Total indirect costs | | <u>912</u> | | <u>1,000</u> | | |
| Total operating costs | | | <u>(1,184)</u> | | | <u>(1,263)</u> |
| Transfer for capital expenditure | | | - | | | - |
| (Deficit) on Boarding | | | (90) | | | (137) |
| Surplus brought forward at 1 September 2024 | | | <u>405</u> | | | <u>542</u> |
| Surplus carried forward at 31 August 2025 | | | <u>315</u> | | | <u>405</u> |