

Company registration number 07556159 (England and Wales)

**UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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### Members

E Souter  
G Thompson  
J Woodhead  
N Clarke  
R Sawyer (until 23 September 2024)  
S Allen

### Trustees

G Thompson (Chair of Governors) (Resigned 2 October 2025)  
B Solly (Principal and Accounting Officer)  
M Topham  
E Souter (Chair of Resources Committee) (Resigned 31 August 2025)  
K Rodgers  
L Redmond (Resigned 25 March 2025)  
J Warner (Vice Chair of Resources Committee)  
A Robinson (Vice Chair of Governors)  
K Stuart-Jones (Resigned 31 August 2025)  
A Mankowski  
A Cunnell (Resigned 31 December 2024)  
C Pallett (Resigned 1 October 2024)  
R Simpson (Chair of Education Committee) (Resigned 24 November 2024)  
A Steele  
M Knight (Vice Chair of Education Committee)  
F Borrows  
E Morley  
F Stephen-Smith (Resigned 31 August 2025)  
E Clarke (Appointed 9 September 2024)

### Senior management team

- Principal	B Solly
- Headteacher	D Anderson
- Senior Deputy Headteacher	C Duffy
- Assistant Headteacher	P Rhodes
- Assistant Headteacher	D Laywood
- Assistant Headteacher	R Smithson
- Associate Assistant Headteacher	M Wiggin
- Assistant Headteacher (SENCO)	L Oliver (appointed 1 September 2025)
- School Business Director	K Croote

### Company secretary

K Croote

### Company registration number

07556159 (England and Wales)

### Registered office

London Road  
Uppingham  
Oakham  
Rutland  
LE15 9TJ  
United Kingdom

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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### **Independent auditor**

Azets Audit Services  
Thorpe House  
93 Headlands  
Kettering  
Northamptonshire  
NN15 6BL  
United Kingdom

### **Bankers**

Lloyds Bank plc  
263 Uppingham Road  
Leicester  
LE5 4DG  
United Kingdom

### **Solicitors**

Stone King LLP  
16 St. John's Lane  
London  
EC1M 4BS  
United Kingdom

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025*

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

The academy trust operates an academy for pupils aged 11 to 16 serving a catchment area including some of South West Rutland, some of Eastern Leicestershire and North Western Northamptonshire. It has a pupil capacity of 915 and had a roll of 918 in the school census in Summer Term 2025.

### **Structure, governance and management**

#### **Constitution**

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

The charitable company operates as Uppingham Community College.

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

#### **Members' liability**

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

#### **Trustees' indemnities**

The academy trust provides indemnity insurance to cover the liability of Governors by which virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default, breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the academy trust provided that any such insurance shall not extend to any claim arising from any act or omission which the Governors knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty or which was committed by the Governors in reckless disregard of whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not and provided also that any such insurance shall not extend to the costs of any unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the Governors in their capacity as Governors.

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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

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

The Governing Body comprises around 20 Governors including the Principal as an Ex Officio Governor. The Members appoint appointed Governors and the Governing Body may co-opt up to 2 Co-opted Governors.

The number of Governors shall be not less than 3 but (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) shall not be subject to any maximum.

The members may appoint Staff Governors through such process as they determine provided that the total number of Governors (including the Principal) who are employees of the academy trust does not exceed one third of the total number of Governors.

The Parent Governors shall be elected by parents of registered pupils at the college. A Parent Governor must be a parent of a pupil at the college at the time they are elected. Any election of Parent Governors which is contested shall be held by secret ballot. The number of Parent Governors required shall be made up by Parent Governors appointed by the Governing Body if the number of parents standing for election is less than the number of vacancies.

The Articles of Association state that no less than 2 Parent Governors and up to 4 Staff Governors will serve. The Governing Body appoint Parent Governors following an election and have set a maximum of 3 Parent Governors. The Members determine the Staff Governors appointment process by election and set a maximum of 3 Staff Governors.

The Secretary of State may also appoint such further Governors as they think fit if a Special Measures Termination Event (as defined in the funding Agreement) occurs in respect of the academy trust.

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

- this time limit shall not apply to the Principal;
- a Staff Governor shall only hold office for so long as they continue to be employed by the college;
- the term of office may be shorter than four years if so resolved by the Members on appointing a Governor;
- subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Governor, any Governor may be re-appointed or re-elected.

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

Candidates for the position of Governor are interviewed by the Chair of Governors to outline the commitment and accountability of the role. Newly appointed Governors then attend every sub-committee for one year in an observer capacity before deciding on the most relevant sub-committee(s) for them to join on a regular basis. All newly appointed Governors are given a full DBS clearance and every Governor is linked to a specific curriculum area or specialism within the college. Governor visits to those areas are reported back to the appropriate sub-committee using a standard template.

Governors receive safeguarding and child protection training from Senior Leaders within the college, Attingham Education and the College Designated Safeguarding Lead. The Governors hold relevant training sessions each year, using external agencies such as Education Development Trust or our legal advisors Stone King. The Chair of Governors attends any relevant Schools and Colleges Briefing initiated by the Local Authority, with whom we retain a positive working relationship.

Governors also take part in activities such as school trips, success assemblies and musical events, as well as attending more formal events such as Presentation and Open Evenings. Governors have a presence at Parents Evenings and also maintain parent/Governor relationships through 'Parent Forms'.

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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### **Organisational structure**

The business of the academy trust is managed by the Governors who may exercise all the powers of the academy trust. In the exercise of their powers and functions, the Governors may consider any advice given by the Principal and any other executive officer.

The Governing Body may delegate to any Governor, committee, the Principal or any other holder of an executive office, such of their powers or functions as they consider desirable to be exercised by them.

The Governors appoint the Principal. The Governors may delegate such powers and functions as they consider are required by the Principal for the internal organisation, management and control of the academy trust (including the implementation of all policies approved by the Governors and for the direction of the teaching and curriculum at the academy trust). The Principal is the Accounting officer.

The work of the Governing Body is facilitated through full Governing Body meetings, various committees, plus Special Areas and Curriculum Links. Governors are also involved in other day to day activities in support of the Principal and staff as required.

The academy trust holds an Annual General Meeting each year and at least three full Governing Body meetings per year. The committees include a Resources Committee and an Education Committee.

The establishment, terms of reference, constitution and membership of any committee of the Governors is reviewed at least once every twelve months. The membership of any committee of the Governors may include persons who are not Governors, provided that a majority of members of any such committee shall be Governors.

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

The Governors Pay Committee meet to review the appraisal process of all members of staff including the Principal and the details of this process can be found in the college Appraisal and Pay policies. It applies to all members of teaching and non-teaching staff. The appraisal of the Principal includes an external evaluation of the progress made by the college and the successful completion of the targets set by the Governors each year. The college adheres to the spirit of the School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document and has set the remuneration of all staff to reflect national progression rates, including Teaching and Learning Responsibility points.

### **Trade union facility time**

#### *Relevant union officials*

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	1
Full-time equivalent employee number	1.00

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

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

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

Total cost of facility time	-
Total pay bill	4,745,000
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time	-

#### *Paid trade union activities*

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	-
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# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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

Harington School

The academy trust is a co-sponsor, along with Catmose College and Oakham School of this sixth form provision based in Oakham - a free school which opened in August 2015.

### **Objectives and activities**

#### **Objects and aims**

The broad object of UCC is to advance education for the public benefit by establishing, maintaining, managing and developing a school which offers a broad and balanced curriculum. UCC, as an Academy, is also bound to comply with the Companies Act 2006 in the pursuit of this object.

As an Academy, we have greater freedom, scope and flexibility to deliver the very best education and development that we can for our students and are accountable for doing so within a legal framework.

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

Our key values as a school community are: Respect, Honesty and Kindness. Everything we do is based upon these simple core principles.

We are committed to the highest standards of education and have invested in staff, facilities and resources to ensure all of our students acquire the knowledge and skills required to succeed in an ever changing world.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum which meets the needs of each individual and we continually focus on developing teaching and learning by focusing on educational research and investing in staff development.

At Uppingham Community College we put the student at the heart of everything we do. Our vision as a school is simple:

**"To ensure everyone at UCC thrives, making excellent progress in their learning, achievement and development."**

The 2024-2027 UCC Strategic Plan outlines the following priorities:

**Leadership Strategic Aim** - to create highly autonomous and effective leaders at all levels of the school.

This will be achieved by:

- Implementing a distributed leadership model across all leadership levels
- Developing leadership capacity throughout the organisation through coaching and leadership CPD

**Education Strategic Aim** - to deliver a high quality education through an inspirational curriculum and exceptional teaching.

This will be achieved by:

- Ensuring we recruit and retain great teachers
- Developing our SCITT programmes so we can recruit new teachers, who we have trained ourselves, when vacancies arise
- Continue to develop effective, evidence based pedagogy through our CPD programme
- Implement a robust but developmental QA process to ensure the quality of delivery is high across the school

**Culture Strategic Aim** - to foster an inclusive culture at UCC, with a strong sense of belonging, where kindness, honesty and respect form the foundations of all our work.

This will be achieved by:

- Launch the Culture Curriculum effectively, ensuring that all stakeholders have crystal clear clarity about the expectations at UCC
- Review and evaluate the Culture Curriculum through external review by experts
- Develop our "belonging" cues across the school site, through visuals and the UCC House system

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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**Resources Strategic Aim** - to utilise all human, physical and digital resources to deliver the best possible education for our students.

This will be achieved by:

- Investing in the school site, to ensure the working/learning environment for staff and students is of a high standard
- Begin our Digital Transformation journey, with support from Discovery Schools Academies Trust
- Utilise CIF to complete the final phases of our school site plan before UCC joins a MAT

#### **Public benefit**

In setting the objectives and planning activities, the Governors have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education.

We are an equal opportunities organisation and are committed to a working environment free from any form of discrimination on the grounds of colour, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or disability. We will make reasonable adjustments to meet the needs of staff or pupils who are, or become, disabled.

Uppingham Community College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all pupils and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Parents are given regular information about their children's social and academic progress through parents evenings in addition to written reports. We maintain regular contact with parents throughout the year via informal contact and through our newsletters.

The Governors believe that the college is meeting its obligations as a charity to deliver public benefit.

#### **Strategic report**

##### **Achievements and performance**

UCC performed well against the objectives set out in the strategic plans for 2024-25. A key driver for improving the effectiveness of teachers was to introduce a "Culture Curriculum", which explicitly teaches students the desired behaviours expected of them. Alongside this, pedagogy of teachers was developed using research based programmes involving coaching triads.

UCC secured strong outcomes again for students in the 2024-25 cohort, with attainment levels above national averages and the highest the school has achieved since 2019.

UCC was inspected by Ofsted in March 2023 under Section 8 of the Inspection Handbook. The school was judged to be Good by the inspection team. The curriculum, quality of teaching, pastoral care and the inclusive nature of the school were highly praised within the report. The school has 2 areas to focus on; Leaders should ensure that in all subjects, teachers consistently use activities which match the intended learning; Leaders should provide teachers with precise information about how to support pupils with SEND so that they progress well through the curriculum.

Major building projects were completed in 2024-25, further future proofing the UCC site and updating facilities to modern standards:

- Refurbished Maths block, with new interactive TV screens in all classrooms, painting, new carpets and new toilets
- New toilets in the English three-storey block
- New celebratory wall art displays to encourage students to work hard and achieve well
- New Wellbeing Hub configuration, enhancing and expanding the spaces for students to receive pastoral support
- New roofing across key areas of the site, funded through CIF grants
- Safeguarding fence around the perimeter, funded through CIF grants
- New dust extraction system in DT, funded through CIF grants

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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### Key performance indicators

UCC performed very well in 2024-25 with an Attainment 8 score of 5 and English & Maths combined at Grade 4 and Grade 5 significantly above national averages.

Measure	2019	2022	2023	2024	2025
Attainment 8	5.0	5.7	4.9	4.7	5.0
% of students achieving a grade 5 or above in English and Maths	51%	66%	51%	46%	53%
% of students achieving a grade 4 or above in English and Maths	75%	83%	72%	71%	77%
% of students achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grade 7 or above	16%	33%	23%	16%	19%
EBacc Average Points Score (APS)	4.3	5.0	4.3	4.0	4.3
% students entering the EBacc	27.8%	35%	30%	20%	28%
% students in education or employment after KS4	99%	94%	98%	Awaiting data	Awaiting data

### Going concern

Uppingham Community College joined Discovery Schools Academies Trust on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025, transferring all of its assets and liabilities to Discovery; therefore, going forward Uppingham Community College will be wound up, once various administrative matters have been concluded.

Despite the fact that the operations of the company will cease as at the period end, the school itself will continue in operation with no break. Based upon this, the details in the transfer agreement and agreed accounting practice these accounts continue to be prepared on a going concern basis.

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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### Financial review

Most of the Academy's income is obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)/Department of Education (DfE) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA/DfE during the year ended 31 August 2025 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Academy also receives grants for fixed assets from the ESFA/DfE. In accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

During the academic year 2024-25, the extensive re-roofing programme funded by grants from the DfE's Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) continued and was completed. The income of £728,147 was recognised in full in the 2024 accounts; however, costs totalling £342,581 have been recognised as expenditure in 2025 for an element of repairs costs and £220,130 included as improvements to the buildings in tangible fixed assets.

The school also obtained grants from CIF for the Safeguarding fence and a replacement dust extraction unit for DT totalling £244,944 which were completed during the 2024-25 academic year. The College has additionally funded replacement IT equipment and a refurbishment of the toilets in English/Maths out of its own reserves (along with other minor capital improvements) totalling £480,036.

In addition funds are received from various activities carried out to generate funds, such as any running costs of the Academy not met by restricted grants. Any surplus is carried forward as an unrestricted fund in the balance sheet.

During the year ended 31 August 2025 total revenue expenditure was £8,559,000 (2024: £7,175,000) and total income and endowments from the DfE and other sources, excluding capital income, were £8,350,000 (2024: £7,531,000). However the Academy trust measures its financial performance on results excluding the LGPS accounting adjustment. Using this basis total revenue expenditure was £8,455,000 (2024: £7,218,000) against total income of £8,350,000 (2024: £7,531,000).

At 31 August 2025 the net book value of tangible fixed assets was £10,081,000 (2024: £9,714,000) and movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 13 to the financial statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the pupils of the Academy.

### Financial position

The Academy held fund balances at 31 August 2025 of £10,320,000 (2024: £10,939,000) comprising £10,108,000 (2024: £10,580,000) of restricted funds and £212,000 (2024: £359,000) of unrestricted funds.

The restricted pension reserve has a £nil balance at 31 August 2025 (2024: £nil). This is due to the actuarial valuation showing a net surplus of £2,341,000 at 31 August 2025 (2024: £826,000), which has been subject to an asset ceiling adjustment - further detail related to this asset ceiling adjustment has been given in note 20.

### **Reserves policy**

The Trustees review the reserve levels of the Academy annually. Given increasing salary costs (increases in salaries, Teachers' Pensions contributions and National Insurance costs) and utilities, and the downward pressure on grant income, the Trustees currently aim to hold reserves to cover future budget gaps. During this review, Governors also consider future plans, several known uncertainties which may arise during the year (e.g supply staff needs, energy cost increases) and future years funding. The level of reserves for 2024-25 was set at no less than 6.5% of total income, equating to £540,000.

The Academy's current level of free reserves is £118,000 (2024: £664,000).

The level of free reserves is below the amount set within the policy; however, this was part of a planned use of the free reserves to fund certain improvements to the school site prior to joining the Discovery Schools Academies Trust.

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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### Investment policy

The Academy Trust does not hold any investments other than cash at bank.

### Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Academy is exposed, in particular those relating to the specific teaching, provision of facilities and other operational areas of the Academy, and its finances. The Trustees have implemented a number of systems to assess risks that the Academy faces, especially in the operational areas (e.g. in relation to teaching, health and safety, bullying and Academy trips) and in relation to the control of finance. They have introduced systems, including operational procedures (e.g. vetting of new staff and visitors, supervision of school grounds) and internal financial controls in order to minimise risk. Where significant financial risk still remains they have ensured they have adequate insurance cover. The Academy has an effective system of internal financial controls and this is explained in more detail in the Governance Statement.

### Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The Trustees regularly review the risks faced by the Academy Trust. As far as possible the Trustees have put in place management controls to minimise/mitigate risks.

### Fundraising

During 2024-25 UCC did not raise any funds through public fundraising activities, other than those which were directly donated to charities, as part of national fund-raising events or charities that UCC supports through the House system.

Fundraising activities in 2024-25 focused on raising money for local and national charities through a series of events in school. The details of these activities can be found below:

Children in Need	£1,328.47
Cancer Research UK	£921.75
Trussell Trust	£812.46
Air Ambulance	£755.85
Emmaus	£954.46
Wishes 4 Kids	£561.56
Dementia UK	£742.76
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>£6,077.31</b>

In addition, a proportion of the cost in creating a 7th science laboratory was met through a successful fund-raising campaign led by a Trustee. Further donations of £10,000 were received in 2024-25 in addition to the over £37k raised through donations from local companies and individuals in 2023-24, plus, an additional £20k was awarded following a successful application to the Garfield Weston Foundation in 2023-24.

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025*

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### Plans for future periods

In the next 12 months the main strategic direction is to implement the School's 2024-27 Strategic Plan.

From an education perspective, this includes:

- **Embedding Routines and Culture** - through the "BEST" approach, new initiatives to celebrate pupil successes and by further embedding the Culture Curriculum and Pastoral Support Programme.
- **Developing Teaching and Learning** - through the introduction of the "UCC DNA of Teaching and Learning".
- **Enhancing Outcomes and Opportunities** - through the introduction of Enrichment Wednesdays, a high quality extra-curricular programme, and a relentless focus on maximising student outcomes.
- The two key areas for improvement identified in the Ofsted report - Leaders should ensure that in all subjects, teachers consistently use activities which match the intended learning; Leaders should provide teachers with precise information about how to support pupils with SEND so that they progress well through the curriculum.

UCC joined Discovery Schools Academies Trust on 1 September 2025 and will be working closely with MAT leaders to develop both the school site, the infrastructure and education provision.

### Auditor

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 17 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

J Warner

**Vice Chair of Resources Committee**

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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### Scope of responsibility

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

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

The board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the principal, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Uppingham Community College and the Secretary of State for Education. The accounting officer is also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

### Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 4 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

<b>Trustees</b>	<b>Meetings attended</b>	<b>Out of possible</b>
G Thompson (Chair of Governors) (Resigned 2 October 2025)	4	4
B Solly (Principal and Accounting Officer)	4	4
M Topham	2	4
E Souter (Chair of Resources Committee) (Resigned 31 August 2025)	2	4
K Rodgers	1	4
L Redmond (Resigned 25 March 2025)	3	3
J Warner (Vice Chair of Resources Committee)	3	4
A Robinson (Vice Chair of Governors)	4	4
K Stuart-Jones (Resigned 31 August 2025)	3	4
A Mankowski	3	4
A Cunnell (Resigned 31 December 2024)	2	2
C Pallett (Resigned 1 October 2024)	0	1
R Simpson (Chair of Education Committee) (Resigned 24 November 2024)	0	1
A Steele	3	4
M Knight (Vice Chair of Education Committee)	3	4
F Borrows	3	4
E Morley	1	4
F Stephen-Smith (Resigned 31 August 2025)	3	4
E Clarke (Appointed 9 September 2024)	3	3

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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The broad object of the Academy Trust is to advance education for the public benefit by establishing, maintaining, managing and developing a school which offers a broad and balanced curriculum. The Academy Trust is also bound to comply with the Companies Act 2006 in the pursuit of this object.

The statutory requirements and obligations of the Academy Trust are set out in the 'Model Funding Agreement' and the 'Memorandum of Association' as agreed between the College and the Secretary of State for Education.

The role of the Governing Body is to support, challenge and be a 'critical friend' in relation to the work and future development of the College and the wider community. Good governance requires involvement in strategy and policy development; ensures sound personnel and financial management; measures performance and supports the pursuit of challenging medium and short term goals.

The governing board uses data produced by school leaders to monitor student progress and achievement, attendance, behaviour, exclusions and safeguarding. The veracity of the data is challenged in meetings and checked through governor links, which are assigned to departments and strategic school priorities.

Governors use national benchmarking data to draw inferences on the school's education effectiveness and conducts similar exercises to monitor the financial performance, ensuring financial probity of public funds and the impact of expenditure on educational outcomes for young people.

The work of the Governing Body is facilitated through Full Governor Meetings, various Committees, plus Special Area and Curriculum Links. Governors are also involved in other day to day activities in support of the Principal and Staff as required.

#### **Conflicts of interest**

UCC maintains an up-to-date register of interests. Governors' complete forms at the start of each academic year and declarations of pecuniary interest are asked for at the start of each Governor meeting.

#### **Meetings**

As noted above the board met 4 times during the year and in addition to this the resources committee met 3 times. These meetings, together with the Education Committee meetings and regular involvement of the Chair of Governors and Chairs of the Resources/Education Committees in day to day academy business (as required) provided effective oversight of funds.

#### **Governance reviews**

As UCC were in the process of joining Discovery Schools Academies Trust in 2024-25, an external review of governance did not take place as the structure has changed to a "School Advisory Board".

#### **Resources Committee**

The resources committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to assist the decision making of the Governing Body, by enabling a more detailed consideration to be given to the best means of fulfilling the Governing Body's responsibility to ensure sound management of the Academy's finances and resources, including proper planning, monitoring and probity.

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
G Thompson (Chair of Governors) (Resigned 2 October 2025)	3	3
B Solly (Principal and Accounting Officer)	3	3
M Topham	1	3
E Souter (Chair of Resources Committee) (Resigned 31 August 2025)	3	3
K Rodgers	3	3
L Redmond (Resigned 25 March 2025)	2	2
J Warner (Vice Chair of Resources Committee)	2	3
A Robinson (Vice Chair of Governors)	3	3
K Stuart-Jones (Resigned 31 August 2025)	2	3
A Mankowski	2	3
A Cunnell (Resigned 31 December 2024)	1	1
C Pallett (Resigned 1 October 2024)	0	1
R Simpson (Chair of Education Committee) (Resigned 24 November 2024)	0	1
A Steele	3	3
M Knight (Vice Chair of Education Committee)	2	3
F Borrows	2	3
E Morley	1	3
F Stephen-Smith (Resigned 31 August 2025)	2	3
E Clarke (Appointed 9 September 2024)	3	3

#### Review of value for money

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

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

- Continued investment in school buildings and education spaces
- Efficient resource allocation to maximise educational outcomes

UCC was able to achieve excellent value for money regarding the capital projects that were completed during the 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 risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Uppingham Community College for the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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### **Capacity to handle risk**

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

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

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

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

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided:

- to buy in an internal audit service from LGSS

This option was chosen to ensure systems are effective and compliant through a termly review by a service totally independent of the college. This approach would ensure the review was objective, detailed and recommendations actioned. The reporting lines of this independent termly review is directly to the Chair of Governors, Chair of the Resources Committee and the Accounting Officer. Each report is fully discussed at each Resources Committee meeting.

The reviewer's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial systems. In particular the checks carried out in the current period included:

- testing of payroll systems;
- testing of income systems;
- testing of purchasing systems;
- testing of control account/bank reconciliations;
- testing of procurement/tendering procedures;
- ensuring that the academy trust has complied with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook.

On a termly basis, the reviewer reports to the board of trustees through the resources committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the financial responsibilities of the board of trustees. On an annual basis, the reviewer prepares a summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

### **Review of effectiveness**

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

- the work of the reviewer;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the resources committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025*

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### **Conclusion**

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 17 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

B Solly  
**Principal and Accounting Officer**

J Warner  
**Vice Chair of Resources Committee**

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025*

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As accounting officer of Uppingham Community College, 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 trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the framework of authorities.

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

B Solly  
**Accounting Officer**

17 December 2025

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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

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

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 17 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

J Warner

**Vice Chair of Resources Committee**

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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### Opinion

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

### Basis for opinion

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

### Conclusions relating to going concern - Emphasis of matter

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

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

We would draw your attention to the accounting policy in this regard as Uppingham Community College joined Discovery Schools Academies Trust Limited on 1 September 2025, transferring all of its assets and liabilities to Discovery; therefore, going forward Uppingham Community College will be wound up, once various administrative matters have been concluded.

Despite the fact that the operations of the company will cease as at the period end, the school itself will continue in operation with no break. Based upon this, the details in the transfer agreement and agreed accounting practice these accounts continue to be prepared on a going concern basis.

### Other information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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

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

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

### **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.

### **Mr Paul Tyler (Senior Statutory Auditor)**

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

Thorpe House  
93 Headlands  
Kettering  
Northamptonshire  
NN15 6BL  
United Kingdom

18 December 2025

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 30 August 2024 and further to the requirements of the Department for Education (DfE) as included in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether anything has come to our attention that would suggest, in all material respects, the expenditure disbursed and income received by Uppingham Community College 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 Uppingham Community College 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 Uppingham Community College 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 Uppingham Community College and the Secretary of State for Education, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

### **Respective responsibilities of the accounting officer of Uppingham Community College and the reporting accountant**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Uppingham Community College's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 8 March 2011 and the Academy Trust Handbook for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance, and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accounts 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 Accountants of Academy Trusts issued by DfE, which requires a limited assurance engagement as set out in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- . Assessment of the internal audit work undertaken and reliance placed upon this work for the review of internal control procedures
- . Further testing of the internal control procedures has been carried out in the following areas:
  - Sample test of delegated authority procedures
  - . Enquiry and review of transactions with connected persons
  - . Review of governance procedures including inspection of trustee and relevant board minutes
  - . Sample test of procurement procedures
- . Communication with the Accounting Officer

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025*

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### **Conclusion**

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

### **Reporting Accountant**

Azets Audit Services  
Thorpe House  
93 Headlands  
Kettering  
Northamptonshire  
NN15 6BL  
United Kingdom

Dated: 18 December 2025

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total 2025 £'000	Total 2024 £'000
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	-	276	276	800
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	689	7,393	-	8,082	7,456
Other trading activities	5	242	-	-	242	59
Investments	6	26	-	-	26	11
<b>Total</b>		<u>957</u>	<u>7,393</u>	<u>276</u>	<u>8,626</u>	<u>8,326</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	8	821	7,395	925	9,141	7,588
<b>Total</b>	7	<u>821</u>	<u>7,395</u>	<u>925</u>	<u>9,141</u>	<u>7,588</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		136	(2)	(649)	(515)	738
Transfers between funds	18	(283)	(199)	482	-	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	20	-	(104)	-	(104)	(43)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>(147)</u>	<u>(305)</u>	<u>(167)</u>	<u>(619)</u>	<u>695</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
Total funds brought forward		359	305	10,275	10,939	10,244
Total funds carried forward		<u>212</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,108</u>	<u>10,320</u>	<u>10,939</u>

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

		2025		2024	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	13		10,081		9,714
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stock	14	4		4	
Debtors	15	523		1,035	
Cash at bank and in hand		683		1,124	
		<u>1,210</u>		<u>2,163</u>	
<b>Current liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(971)		(938)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			239		1,225
<b>Net assets excluding pension asset</b>			10,320		10,939
Defined benefit pension scheme asset	20		-		-
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u>10,320</u>		<u>10,939</u>
<b>Funds of the academy trust:</b>					
<b>Restricted funds</b>	18				
- Fixed asset funds			10,108		10,275
- Restricted income funds			-		305
<b>Total restricted funds</b>			<u>10,108</u>		<u>10,580</u>
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	18		212		359
<b>Total funds</b>			<u>10,320</u>		<u>10,939</u>

The financial statements on pages 24 to 47 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 17 December 2025 and are signed on their behalf by:

J Warner  
Vice Chair of Resources Committee

Company registration number 07556159 (England and Wales)

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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	Notes	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash provided by operating activities	21	206	231
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		26	11
Capital grants from DfE Group		264	747
Capital funding received from sponsors and others		12	48
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(949)	(405)
<b>Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities</b>		(647)	401
<b>Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>		(441)	632
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		1,124	492
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year</b>		<u>683</u>	<u>1,124</u>

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### 1 Accounting policies

Uppingham Community College is a charitable company, limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the trustees' report.

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

##### 1.1 Basis of preparation

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

Uppingham Community College meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102 and is a private charitable company, limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operation are set out in the trustees' report.

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, being the functional currency of the charitable company. Monetary amounts presented in these financial statements have been rounded to the nearest £'000.

##### 1.2 Going concern

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

Despite the fact that the operations of the company will cease as at the period end, these operations will transfer to a new Multi Academy Trust on 1 September 2025 and the school itself will continue in operation with no break. Based upon this, the details in the transfer agreement and agreed accounting practice these accounts continue to be prepared on a going concern basis.

##### 1.3 Income

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

###### Grants

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

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

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

##### Donations

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

##### Other income

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

##### Donated goods, facilities and services

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

##### Donated fixed assets

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

#### 1.4 Expenditure

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

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

##### Expenditure on raising funds

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

##### Charitable activities

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

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

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### 1 Accounting policies (Continued)

#### 1.5 Intangible fixed assets and amortisation

Computer software is capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably. Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost net of amortisation and any provision for impairment.

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

- Purchased computer software - 3 years

#### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

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

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

Land and buildings	50 years
Computer equipment	3 or 10 years
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	3 or 10 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.

#### 1.7 Liabilities

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

#### 1.8 Leased assets

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

#### 1.9 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.

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### Financial assets

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

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

#### Financial liabilities

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

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

#### 1.10 Stock

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

#### 1.11 Taxation

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

#### 1.12 Pensions benefits

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated 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 projected unit method. The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions are recognised in the period to which they relate.

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

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

### 1 Accounting policies (Continued)

#### 1.13 Fund accounting

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

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

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

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

#### Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 20, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2025. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

### 3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2025 £'000	Total 2024 £'000
Capital grants	-	264	264	747
Other donations	-	12	12	53
	—	—	—	—
	-	276	276	800
	====	====	====	====

The income from donations and capital grants was £276,000 (2024: £800,000) of which £- was unrestricted (2024: £5,000) and £276,000 was restricted fixed assets (2024: £795,000).

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

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

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2025 £'000	Total 2024 £'000
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	5,600	5,600	5,304
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
Pupil premium	-	171	171	170
Teachers' pension grant	-	117	117	49
Teachers' pay grant	-	95	95	94
Mainstream schools additional grant	-	-	-	184
Core schools budget grant	-	202	202	-
Others	-	3	3	43
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	6,188	6,188	5,844
	=====	=====	=====	=====
<b>Other government grants</b>				
Local authority grants	-	1,205	1,205	924
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Other incoming resources	689	-	689	688
	=====	=====	=====	=====
<b>Total funding</b>	689	7,393	8,082	7,456
	=====	=====	=====	=====

The income from funding for educational operations was £8,082,000 (2024: £7,456,000) of which £689,000 was unrestricted (2024: £688,000) and £7,393,000 was restricted (2024: £6,768,000).

Included within Other incoming resources is £nil (2024: £30,000) of insurance proceeds relating to an insurance claim following a fire at the Academy.

### 5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2025 £'000	Total 2024 £'000
Hire of facilities	40	-	40	41
Catering income	16	-	16	11
Other income	186	-	186	7
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	242	-	242	59
	=====	=====	=====	=====

The income from other trading activities was £242,000 (2024: £59,000) of which £242,000 was unrestricted (2024: £59,000).

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

### 6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2025 £'000	Total 2024 £'000
Short term deposits	26	-	26	11

The income from funding for investment income was £26,000 (2024: £11,000) of which £26,000 was unrestricted (2024: £11,000).

### 7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £'000	Non-pay expenditure		Total 2025 £'000	Total 2024 £'000
		Premises £'000	Other £'000		
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	5,283	582	620	6,485	5,361
- Allocated support costs	1,215	832	609	2,656	2,227
	<u>6,498</u>	<u>1,414</u>	<u>1,229</u>	<u>9,141</u>	<u>7,588</u>

#### Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Operating lease rentals	34	16
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	395	413
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	187	-
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	15	14
- Other services	2	4
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	(42)	(1)

### 8 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2025 £'000	Total 2024 £'000
<b>Direct costs</b>				
Educational operations	233	6,252	6,485	5,361
<b>Support costs</b>				
Educational operations	588	2,068	2,656	2,227
	<u>821</u>	<u>8,320</u>	<u>9,141</u>	<u>7,588</u>

The expenditure on charitable activities was £9,141,000 (2024: £7,588,000) of which £821,000 was unrestricted (2024: £721,000), £7,395,000 was restricted (2024: £6,373,000) and £925,000 was restricted fixed assets (2024: £494,000).

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

### 8 Charitable activities (Continued)

#### Analysis of support costs

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Support staff costs	1,215	1,063
Technology costs	55	51
Premises costs	832	547
Legal costs	31	21
Other support costs	492	521
Governance costs	31	24
	<u>2,656</u>	<u>2,227</u>

Included within support costs is £nil (2024: £32,000) of repairs/reinstatements relating to an insurance claim following a fire at the Academy.

Also included within support costs is £343,000 (2024: £81,000) of costs related to roof repairs which have been funded from grants received from the Conditions Improvement Fund (CIF).

### 9 Staff

#### Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were:

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Wages and salaries	4,745	4,126
Social security costs	539	417
Pension costs	1,186	975
	<u>6,470</u>	<u>5,518</u>
Staff costs - employees	6,470	5,518
Agency staff costs	28	70
Staff restructuring costs	-	29
	<u>6,498</u>	<u>5,617</u>

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

Severance payments	-	29
	<u>-</u>	<u>29</u>

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

### 9 Staff

(Continued)

#### Staff numbers

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

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Teachers	68	61
Administration and support	72	66
Management	8	7
	<u>148</u>	<u>134</u>

#### Higher paid staff

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

	2025 Number	2024 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	8	2
£70,001 - £80,000	1	3
£80,001 - £90,000	2	-
£110,001 - £120,000	1	1
	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>

#### Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £841,193 (2024: £710,308).

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

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### 10 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

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

B Solly (principal):

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

L Redmond (staff):

- Remuneration £60,000 - £65,000 (2024: £55,000 - £60,000)
- Employer's pension contributions £15,000 - £20,000 (2024: £10,000 - £15,000)

K Rodgers (staff):

- Remuneration £60,000 - £65,000 (2024: £55,000 - £60,000)
- Employer's pension contributions £15,000 - £20,000 (2024: £10,000 - £15,000)

During the year, travel and subsistence payments totalling £881 (2024: £461) were reimbursed or paid directly to 1 (2024: 1) trustees.

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 26.

### 11 Trustees' and officers' insurance

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

### 12 Intangible fixed assets

	<b>Computer software £'000</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 September 2024 and at 31 August 2025	59
	—
<b>Amortisation</b>	
At 1 September 2024 and at 31 August 2025	59
	—
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 31 August 2025	-
	—
At 31 August 2024	-
	—

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

### 13 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 September 2024	11,393	931	1,004	13,328
Additions	836	94	19	949
Disposals	(263)	-	-	(263)
At 31 August 2025	11,966	1,025	1,023	14,014
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 September 2024	2,029	759	826	3,614
On disposals	(76)	-	-	(76)
Charge for the year	233	85	77	395
At 31 August 2025	2,186	844	903	3,933
<b>Net book value</b>				
At 31 August 2025	9,780	181	120	10,081
At 31 August 2024	9,364	172	178	9,714

### 14 Stock

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Catering stock	4	4

### 15 Debtors

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Trade debtors	1	8
VAT recoverable	148	101
Prepayments and accrued income	374	926
	523	1,035

Prepayments and accrued income includes £179,117 (2024: £728,147) in respect of capital grants due to the academy trust.

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

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

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Trade creditors	368	379
Other taxation and social security	130	87
Other creditors	109	98
Accruals and deferred income	364	374
	<u>971</u>	<u>938</u>

### 17 Deferred income

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	236	143
	<u>236</u>	<u>143</u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2024	143	140
Released from previous years	(143)	(136)
Resources deferred in the year	236	139
	<u>236</u>	<u>143</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2025	<u>236</u>	<u>143</u>

Deferred income held at 31 August 2025 and 31 August 2024 related to trip income, prepaid bus fares, grant income received in advance of the autumn term, etc.

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

### 18 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2025 £'000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	305	5,600	(5,706)	(199)	-
Pupil premium	-	171	(171)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	417	(417)	-	-
Other government grants	-	1,205	(1,205)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	104	(104)	-
	<u>305</u>	<u>7,393</u>	<u>(7,395)</u>	<u>(303)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Inherited on conversion	6,167	-	(463)	484	6,188
DfE group capital grants	2,747	264	(393)	-	2,618
Other government grants	1,314	2	(68)	(2)	1,246
Private donations	47	10	(1)	-	56
	<u>10,275</u>	<u>276</u>	<u>(925)</u>	<u>482</u>	<u>10,108</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>10,580</u>	<u>7,669</u>	<u>(8,320)</u>	<u>179</u>	<u>10,108</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	359	957	(821)	(377)	118
Staff room refurbishment	-	-	-	55	55
Toilet refurbishment	-	-	-	39	39
	<u>359</u>	<u>957</u>	<u>(821)</u>	<u>(283)</u>	<u>212</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>10,939</u>	<u>8,626</u>	<u>(9,141)</u>	<u>(104)</u>	<u>10,320</u>

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

Unrestricted funds represent donations on conversion and lettings during the period. The funds can be utilised towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the academy trust at the discretion of the Governors.

Unrestricted funds totalling £94,000 have been designated for capital projects including refurbishment of the staff room and to complete the ongoing refurbishment of a student toilet.

Restricted general funds arise from funding from the Department for Education and the Local Authority.

Restricted fixed asset funds represent the assets acquired on conversion to an academy, plus subsequent additions and disposals. Depreciation and capital grants are also attributed to this fund.

During the year, a transfer of £283,000 (2024: £30,000) was made from unrestricted reserves and £199,000 (2024: £222,000) from restricted general funds to restricted fixed asset funds for fixed assets purchased from the Trust's other funds.

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

### 18 Funds

(Continued)

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
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	175	5,304	(4,952)	(222)	305
Pupil premium	-	170	(170)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	370	(370)	-	-
Other government grants	-	924	(924)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	43	(43)	-
	<u>175</u>	<u>6,768</u>	<u>(6,373)</u>	<u>(265)</u>	<u>305</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Inherited on conversion	6,214	-	(299)	252	6,167
DfE group capital grants	2,134	747	(134)	-	2,747
Other government grants	1,374	1	(61)	-	1,314
Private donations	-	47	-	-	47
	<u>9,722</u>	<u>795</u>	<u>(494)</u>	<u>252</u>	<u>10,275</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>9,897</u>	<u>7,563</u>	<u>(6,867)</u>	<u>(13)</u>	<u>10,580</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	<u>347</u>	<u>763</u>	<u>(721)</u>	<u>(30)</u>	<u>359</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>10,244</u>	<u>8,326</u>	<u>(7,588)</u>	<u>(43)</u>	<u>10,939</u>

### 19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds:		Total Funds £'000
		General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2025 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	10,081	10,081
Current assets	459	368	383	1,210
Current liabilities	(247)	(368)	(356)	(971)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<u>212</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,108</u>	<u>10,320</u>

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

### 19 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total Funds £'000
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	9,714	9,714
Current assets	515	888	760	2,163
Current liabilities	(156)	(583)	(199)	(938)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>10,275</b>	<b>10,939</b>

### 20 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 Hymans Robertson LLP. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

Contributions amounting to £101,612 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2025 (2024: £88,958) and are included within creditors.

#### Teachers' Pension Scheme

##### Introduction

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

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

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

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

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

### 20 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

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

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £912,369 (2024: £728,122).

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

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

#### Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 24.1% for employers and 5.5% to 12.5% for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy 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.

Total contributions made	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Employer's contributions	341	294
Employees' contributions	86	75
Total contributions	427	369

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

### 20 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	2025 %	2024 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.2	3.2
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.7	2.7
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	6.1	5
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.7	2.7
Commutation of pensions to lump sums - pre-April 2008	55	55
Commutation of pensions to lump sums - post-April 2008	55	55

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

	2025 Years	2024 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	20.1	19.9
- Females	24.4	24.3
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	21.6	21.4
- Females	25.6	25.6

#### Sensitivity analysis

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

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Discount rate + 0.1%	(95)	(112)
Discount rate - 0.1%	95	112
Mortality assumption + 1 year	207	230
Mortality assumption - 1 year	(207)	(230)
CPI rate + 0.1%	96	112
CPI rate - 0.1%	(96)	(112)

#### Defined benefit pension scheme net asset

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Scheme assets	7,525	6,571
Scheme obligations	(5,184)	(5,745)
Net asset	2,341	826
Restriction on scheme assets	(2,341)	(826)
Total liability recognised	-	-

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

### 20 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

The fair value of the pension plan assets at 31 August 2025 is in excess of the present value of the defined benefit obligations at that date, giving rise to a net surplus of £2,341,000 (2024: £826,000).

The surplus is recognised in the financial statements only to the extent that the Academy Trust can recover that surplus, either through a reduction in future contributions or through a refund to the Academy Trust.

The Academy Trust is not able to determine that future contributions will be reduced and it is not possible for the Academy Trust to receive a refund from the scheme, as the specific conditions for this have not been met. Therefore, an asset ceiling is in place such that the surplus of £2,341,000 (2024: £826,000) is not recognised as an asset at 31 August 2025 and the net surplus/deficit recognised in the financial statements is capped at £Nil.

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2025 Fair value £'000	2024 Fair value £'000
Equities	3,913	3,417
Bonds	2,408	2,234
Property	452	394
Other assets	752	526
	<u>7,525</u>	<u>6,571</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £670,000 (2024: £672,000).

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Current service cost	279	252
Interest income	(335)	(281)
Interest cost	293	280
	<u>237</u>	<u>251</u>

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
At 1 September 2024	5,745	5,288
Current service cost	279	252
Interest cost	293	280
Employee contributions	86	75
Actuarial gain	(1,076)	-
Benefits paid	(143)	(150)
	<u>5,184</u>	<u>5,745</u>

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

### 20 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

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

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
At 1 September 2024	6,571	5,680
Interest income	335	301
Actuarial gain	335	371
Employer contributions	341	294
Employee contributions	86	75
Benefits paid	(143)	(150)
	<u>7,525</u>	<u>6,571</u>
At 31 August 2025	<u>7,525</u>	<u>6,571</u>

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

	Notes	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		(515)	738
Adjusted for:			
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		(276)	(795)
Investment income receivable	6	(26)	(11)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	20	(62)	(42)
Defined benefit pension scheme finance income	20	(42)	(1)
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		395	413
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		187	-
Decrease in stocks		-	2
Decrease/(increase) in debtors		512	(241)
Increase in creditors		33	168
		<u>206</u>	<u>231</u>
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>		<u>206</u>	<u>231</u>

### 22 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2024 £'000	Cash flows £'000	31 August 2025 £'000
Cash	1,124	(441)	683
	<u>1,124</u>	<u>(441)</u>	<u>683</u>

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

### 23 Contingent liabilities

During the period of the funding agreement, in the event of the sale or disposal by other means, of any asset for which a government capital grant was received, the academy trust is required either to re-invest the proceeds, or to repay to the Secretary of State for Education the same proportion of the proceeds of the sale or disposal as equates with the proportion of the original cost met by the Secretary of State.

Upon termination of the funding agreement, whether as a result of the Secretary of State or the academy trust serving notice, the academy trust shall repay to the Secretary of State sums determined by reference to:

- (a) the value at that time of the academy site and premises and other assets held for the purposes of the academy trust; and
- (b) the extent to which expenditure incurred in providing those assets was met by the Secretary of State under the funding agreement.

### 24 Long-term commitments

#### Operating leases

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

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Amounts due within one year	22	22
Amounts due in two and five years	30	52
	<u>52</u>	<u>74</u>

### 25 Capital commitments

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the financial statements	168	563
	<u>168</u>	<u>563</u>

### 26 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest. The following related party transactions took place in the financial period.

Details of trustees' remuneration and expenses have been disclosed in note 10.

#### Income related party transactions

During the year, the academy trust received donations totalling £nil (2024: £20,000) from 2 trustees or other parties connected with those trustees. The donations were received as part of a fundraising campaign to refurbish some classrooms for use as a science laboratory.

### 27 Post balance sheet events

On 1 September 2025, Uppingham Community College was transferred into Discovery Schools Academies Trust Limited. Accordingly, all assets and liabilities were transferred to Discovery Schools Academies Trust Limited on that date.

# UPPINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025*

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### **28 Members' liability**

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