

Company Registration Number: 07973980 (England & Wales)

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	J Cushion (Chair of SEN Trust Southend) C Moss F Colwell S O'Ryan J Le Masurier (appointed 9 December 2025)
Trustees	J Oliver J Mullan, (Accounting Officer) B Levitt K Duddridge N Hyde T Robinson, (Chair of Trustees) A Grellier J Argles J Le Masurier (resigned 1 September 2025)
Company registered number	07973980
Company name	SEN Trust Southend
Principal and registered office	The St Christopher School Mountdale Gardens Leigh-On-Sea Essex SS9 4AW
Company secretary	N Garrett (appointed 2 September 2024)
Chief executive officer	J Mullan
Senior management team	J Mullan, Chief Executive Officer SEN Trust Southend D Fuke, Chief Finance Officer SEN Trust Southend D Woodman, Headteacher St. Christopher School L Robinson, Headteacher Kingsdown School (to 31 August 2024) L Stroud, Headteacher Kingsdown School (from 1 September 2024) L Fox, Headteacher St. Nicholas School T Jackson-Owens, Headteacher Lancaster School
Independent auditors	MWS Accountants Limited Chartered Accountants Registered Auditor 4 Chester Court Chester Hall Lane Basildon Essex SS14 3WR
Bankers	LLoyds 77 High Street Southend-On-Sea Essex SS1 1HT

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the 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.

SEN Trust Southend is a specialist MAT consisting of four special schools who meet the specialist placement of children/young people who have a full Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) across Southend and the surrounding local areas of Essex. Between the four schools, we worked with 642 (an increase of 60 pupils) placed with us during 24/25. The pupils in our schools have a range of special needs which means they are unable to access mainstream school provision. These pupils often have challenging behaviours associated with their educational needs.

SEN Trust Southend comprises 4 special academies:

The St. Christopher School – capacity for 262 students from Reception to Post 16; actual pupils on roll during the year = 271

Lancaster School – capacity for 130 students from Key Stage 4 to Post 16; actual pupils on roll during the year = 131

Kingsdown School – capacity for 130 students from nursery to Key Stage 3; actual pupils on roll during the year = 131

St. Nicholas School – capacity for 108 students in secondary for Key Stage 3 and 4; actual pupils on roll during the year = 109

Structure, governance and management

a. 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 trustees of SEN Trust Southend are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as SEN Trust Southend.

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

b. Members' liability

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

c. Trustees' indemnities

In accordance with normal commercial practice, each academy has purchased insurance to protect the trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £10,000,000 on any one claim. The premium for this insurance is included within each academy trust's general insurance premium and is not separately identifiable.

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The trustees are recruited based upon their skills and qualities to ensure that the trust board has the necessary expertise for effective governance.

The number of members and trustees shall not be less than three but (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) shall not be subject to any maximum. The multi academy trust shall have the following (details have been extracted from the articles of association):

- a) Up to 9 trustees, appointed under Article 50
- b) The academy trust may also have any co-opted trustee appointed under Article 58
- c) The first trustees shall be those persons named in the statement delivered pursuant to sections 9 and 12 of the Companies Act 2006
- d) Future trustees shall be appointed or elected, as the case may be, under the articles of association
- e) The members may appoint by ordinary resolution up to 9 trustees and
- f) The total number of trustees (including the Chief Executive Officer if they so choose to act as trustee under Article 57) who are employees of the Academy Trust shall not exceed one third of the total number of trustees

e. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

All trustees are expected to undertake training as appropriate to their work at the trust. New trustees will be provided with an induction programme as required. Trustee training is reviewed on a regular basis at meetings. The Trust has subscribed to a package of courses provided by the National Governors Association. Trustees are regularly informed of the academies' progress and activities and welcomed to attend events or visit.

f. Organisational structure

The trustees are responsible for the general policies of the multi academy trust and the day to day running of each school is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, Headteacher and the remainder of the Senior Management Team. The day to day administration is conducted in accordance with policies and procedures approved by the local governors with only significant matters being referred to trustees for prior approval.

The Chief Executive Officer undertakes the key leadership role overseeing educational, pastoral and administrative functions in consultation with the other Headteachers and members of their Senior Management Team. The Chief Executive Officer is an ex-officio trustee and the Principal Accounting Officer and therefore attends all meetings. The Chief Financial Officer is invited to attend trustee meetings as appropriate.

Up to 31 August 2025 the Multi Academy Trust had the following organisational structure:

Level 1	MAT Members
Level 2	MAT Trustees
Level 3	MAT Audit & Risk Committee
	MAT Curriculum and Standards Committee
Level 4	Local Governing Body
Level 5	Sub-committees of the Local Governing Body
Level 6	Chief Executive Officer / Accounting Officer
Level 7	Chief Financial Officer

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

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

All personnel at each school have a set pay scale with a number of points, reaching a maximum. Local Government employees have a review in April. School teaching staff have a review in September. Each school complies with the Trust Pay Policy which is in line with local and national guidelines.

All staff have performance management objectives which they discuss with their performance team leader. The team leaders then make a recommendation to the personnel / staffing committee of the local governing body which then makes a decision whether to endorse the recommendations or not.

The exceptions are the Chief Executive Officer and Headteacher and other MAT Central team staff. Headteachers have performance targets set between the Chief Executive Officer and local governing body. These are then reviewed throughout the year with a final performance review during the Autumn term. (All recommendations for pay increases are subject to the maximum for the job description and pay range of the post.) The other central team staff have targets set by the CEO/CFO. The Chief Executive Officer has targets set by the trustees or appointed sub set of trustees. These are again reviewed by the trustees and subject to decisions within the pay range set for the level of post.

h. Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

As per the Academy Trust Handbook, the trust tries to avoid related party transactions where possible.

Trustees, governors and employees follow the trust's guidelines and policies where required.

i. Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

There are a number of forums for staff across the schools to engage as well as regular meetings of different groups of staff within schools. The Headteachers' of all schools meet regularly and discuss aspects of practice and issues affecting all the schools.

All four schools work with an external HR provider who is helping to identify areas of common practice across the Multi Academy Trust including updating a number of detailed policies in relation to all aspects of personnel matters.

In accordance with the academy's equal opportunities policy, the academy has long-established fair employment practices in the recruitment, selection, retention and training of disabled staff.

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

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

As a Multi Academy Trust we engage positively with all stakeholders, including suppliers, professionals, and external agencies. Principal decision making is effected by the level of engagement with stakeholders as many views need to be taken into account and considered. This happens at school level on a day to day basis and also by Trustees who are strategically focussed. Values, vision, aims and objectives contribute to the trusts long-term success as well as corporate social responsibility.

We work closely with parents and other charitable organisations who sometimes engage with schools to provide funds for specific projects and each school also works closely with community projects, including pupil led fundraising for specific activities (Children in Need, Guide Dogs for the Blind, HARP and British Legion Poppy Appeal). These projects help pupils, parents and the community understand the purpose of charitable causes and families can then appreciate when donations are made to the schools.

k. Trade union facility time

There are no staff within the Multi Academy Trust in this category.

Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

The Multi Academy Trust's objectives are specifically restricted to the following:

- a. to advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a school specially organised to make special education provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs ("the Special Academy"); and
- b. to promote for the benefit of individuals living in South East Essex and the surrounding area who have need by reason of their age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time activities in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said individuals.

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

Objectives and activities (continued)

b. Objectives, strategies and activities

The principal objective and activity of the Multi Academy Trust is to provide education to pupils with complex Special Educational Needs and who have or are in the process of obtaining an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP)

The aims of SEN Trust Southend as outlined in the MAT Development Plan are:

- a. to create an outstanding community of schools working collaboratively across Southend and South East Essex to enable pupils with Special Educational Needs to achieve their best and to enable them to move on to independence, making the most of their abilities;
- b. to be able to share expertise, resources and training across the schools whilst maintaining the individual ethos, status and character of the individual school;
- c. to provide a source of training, expertise and support for mainstream schools to enable the great majority of pupils with Special Educational Needs to remain in mainstream provision, where appropriate, with the correct support; and
- d. to work within our community to ensure our young people are included, accepted and are part of the life of Southend / South East Essex.

There is a yearly MAT development plan which sets out the strategic direction for the overall MAT. This is then broken down into individual targets, responsibilities, success criteria, and expected impact upon pupil progress and then reviewed each term and reported to the Trustees.

The main priority for the year was to provide an outstanding education for the growing number of pupils the Trust was being asked to accommodate in increasingly limited accommodation. All schools continue to provide at least 'good' standard of education with many 'Outstanding' aspects. Kingsdown school was inspected in early October 2024 and was rated 'Outstanding' in every aspect.

The overall challenges and priorities for 2024/2025 were as follows:

- Obtain a decision from the DfE regarding the re-build of Kingsdown School.
- Complete the 'significant change' (age ranges) consultation and process so that age ranges for the four schools are clear and changes for September 2025 to be in line with all other schools in the area.
- Obtain additional funding for the ongoing capital works required due to the increase in both pupil numbers and needs of the children.
- Working with senior officers of the LA regarding future places and building adaptations which need to take place to manage the increase demand for places.
- Continue to develop aspects of all school practices, working closer together as a MAT.

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

Objectives and activities (continued)

c. Public benefit

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

In accordance with its charitable objectives, the charitable company strives to advance the education and life chances of students attending the four individual schools. The charitable companies' primary beneficiaries are therefore the students and benefits to students are provided through continuing to maintain a high standard of education throughout all the four schools.

d. Benefits and Beneficiaries

In accordance with its charitable objectives, the charitable company strives to advance the education and life chances of students attending the four individual schools. The charitable companies primary beneficiaries are therefore the students and benefits to students are provided through continuing to maintain a high standard of education throughout all the four schools.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

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

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

a. Review of activities

The main objective was to look carefully at the types of pupils now attending our schools, the level and type of Special Educational needs the pupils were displaying and attract the right staffing, and accommodation to help meet these needs in our schools.

The main achievement was coping with the continued and increasing pressure of the need to place pupils in the schools. The demand for special school places has continued to rise rapidly over the year leading to all schools being over their agreed PAN during the year. Places for pupils from the early years and nursery were in great demand, but unable to be met due to the numbers of pupils at statutory school age. This has led to increasing use of the "SEN Tribunal system" at the Royal Courts of Justice by parents. These then 'direct' schools to take pupils which is a national issue causing special schools a lot of difficulties in meeting the needs of increasing class sizes with no additional space. There has been continued and on-going discussion with the new LA Director of Education who took up post during the year. This has been a cyclical discussion which is on-going.

The nature of the SEN's of all the pupils in the schools is becoming more complex and wider ranging and so each school is having to adapt considerably to meet these needs. Presentations to the Curriculum and Standards committee have taken place as well as visits to each school. Questions were asked and clarification and challenge to each HT and Senior leadership team were discussed at each meeting. This will be on-going at each meeting.

Other Trustees have been given a particular focus to consider, such as a 'Trustee with oversight of the safeguarding processes and another Trustee with oversight of 'risk assessments and processes. This has led to a much greater understanding of the work of the schools, some consolidation of procedures and policies and a lot more 'scrutiny' directly from Trustees.

Link Trustees have been appointed and they have a 'terms of reference' for them to help in monitoring their role in this.

Performance targets for individual pupils and schools are made at individual levels. All pupils have an Education, Health and Care Plan, (EHCP) which sets out the targets for them These are reviewed annually with parents/carers, teachers and sometimes the LA officers.

All schools set their own overall targets/ areas for development, which are also scrutinised by the Local Governing Bodies and then the Trustees.

Each Headteacher has performance management objectives set in agreement with the HT, the CEO and Local Governors. These are agreed and reviewed annually and recommendations for pay performance levels are given based on these discussions.

The schools in the MAT are in a time of change and by September 2025 there are now much more solid plans for expansion for the schools. There have been on-going discussions with the LA about the need for more specialist school places and how this is going to be achieved. Despite a recognition of the need for additional places and some new 'space' to put them, nothing has moved forwards this year.

There has been much closer cooperation between and across the MAT for joint projects. Staff are now beginning to realise the benefits of such cooperation and working together. There will continue to be work needed in this area, but it is recognised that the nature of the pupil's needs are becoming very similar in three out of four schools, and so joint working and curriculum planning is taking place. This will continue into the future.

The DfE have made the decision late in the year to state that Kingsdown WILL be under the schools re-building programme. This is now under discussions with the DfE, SCC and relevant stakeholders.

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

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

During the year the consultation process was completed and there were meetings with parents/carers/ staff and interested parties throughout the year. Notification came from the DfE on July 2nd 2025 that the changes in age ranges were agreed and to be implemented over the next two school years.

During the year, the LA agreed to partially fund the contractor build costs of the major capital projects at The St. Christopher School and Lancaster school. These will then enable the changes in place numbers and increase in age range at Lancaster School along with reinstating some of the specialist facilities at The St. Christopher School. These went to tender and commenced during the year. They are due to be completed during the school year 25/26. While the change in age range is taking place, two classes from The St. Christopher School have been 'placed' on site at Lancaster school during the year, taught by The St. Christopher school staff. These are pupils who will then (after parental consultations) transfer to Lancaster school role in September 2026.

The trustees, specifically the audit and risk committee, work with the finance officers to ensure there are regular reviews and consistent reports to monitor significant aspects of the Multi Academy Trust's financial operations. All external ESFA/DfE returns have been submitted on time. In particular, the activities of the respite centre at The St. Christopher School are monitored to ensure that funding for educational purposes is not used for the provision of respite services. We have segregated the accounts and finances even more clearly this year.

Key performance indicators

The trustees consider the following to be the key performance indicators:

	Year ended 31/08/2025	Year ended 31/08/2024
Staff costs as a proportion of grant income		
Teaching and educational support staff	80.7%	80.4%
Administrative and support staff	8.8%	8.9%
Total	89.4%	89.3%
Staff costs per pupil	£23,170	£22,612

Please note that the effects of the LGPS pension valuations on staff costs have been ignored in the calculations above.

Staff costs are considerably higher in special schools due to the need for specialist support for pupils.

Overall attendance at the schools during 2024/2025 was as follows:

	2025	2024
The St. Christopher School	92.1%	92.2%
Kingsdown School	89.3%	88.1%
Lancaster School	84.7%	87.5%
St. Nicholas School	87.1%	85.9%
MAT average	88.3%	88.4%

Attendance continues to be lower in special schools due to the ongoing health concerns and the more complex nature of pupils attending special provision.

The main focus of the year was to continue to ensure the quality of education provided was the best and reflected in our work with others and recognised by Ofsted. Of the four schools, three are graded as 'good' overall with all of them having many areas of 'outstanding' practice. The fourth school (Kingsdown) was recognised as Outstanding in all areas in October 2024. There have been significant changes in personnel across the Trust which has led to new impetus and willingness to work together for the good of all the pupils.

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

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

There have been a number of new initiatives where schools are working together more cooperatively.

b. Going concern

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

c. Promoting the success of the company

SEN Trust Southend will always promote the success of each academy. Appropriate financial controls are in place which allow each academy to manage resources responsibly and to the benefits of all the pupils in place. To safeguard the success of each academy, appropriate advice is actively sought when needed, which allows the trust to operate with reasonable care and skill. The success of each school within the MAT is measured by Ofsted grading and parental and community perception. All schools continue to be graded either Good or Outstanding. All schools are over-subscribed due to parental perception of the success of the pupil's within the schools. We have positive relations with other companies and payments are made promptly and on time. We have an overall MAT website which sets out the aims and procedures for all the schools as well as individual academy websites which promote and make clear the individual aims and objectives of each school.

Financial review

Principal funding sources

The academy trust's principal funding sources are the Department of Education, Southend City Council and Essex County Council.

The majority of this funding is in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted for particular purposes. As such, grants received and any associated expenditure are included within restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The academy trust also received capital grants from the Department of Education and Southend City Council to be used for capital purposes. These amounts are included within restricted fixed asset funds and any associated expenditure is capitalized in the balance sheet withing fixed assets. The restricted fixed asset fund is reduced by an appropriate depreciation charge calculated in accordance with the academy trust's accounting policies.

Financial review

For the year ended 31 August 2025, total income excluding restricted fixed assets was £18,125,216 (2024: £16,835,709) and total expenditure excluding fixed assets was £17,192,562 (2024: £15,519,882) leading to excess income over expenditure for the period excluding fixed assets and before fund transfers of £932,654 (2024: £1,315,827).

During the year, there were two large building projects in progress which have been partly funded by Southend City Council. These are currently on track to be fully opened in 2025/26 academic year.

As at 31 August 2025, the total funds of the multi academy trust were £43,747,019 (2024: 40,210,009) with the main increase in funds due to increase in restricted fixed asset funds of £3,341,052.

The Local Government Pension Scheme continues to be in surplus this year and an asset ceiling has been applied. Details are given in the notes to the financial statements.

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

Strategic report (continued)

a. Reserves policy

The trustees review the reserve levels of the Multi Academy Trust annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The trustees monitor estimated year-end carry forward figures via the reports from the Chief Financial Officer. The budget plan identifies how any carry forward will be allocated in the plan for the following academic year, including the identification of any funds earmarked for a specific project or purpose.

The trustees deem it necessary to hold three months expenditure £4,298,000 (2024: £3,880,000) as reserves in order to meet any short-term funding issues. This provides a healthy buffer to ensure the schools can continue operating if there were any funding issues with the DfE or Local Government. It also ensures that there are enough cash reserves to operating during the peaks and troughs of funding along with delays in funding.

The total funds held at the balance sheet date was: £43,747,019

The restricted reserves were: £3,016,709

The unrestricted reserves were £3,727,950

Of these funds, there were designated funds of £2,350,000, including the following:

- Purchase of additional land for the potential rebuild of Kingsdown or the expansion of the MAT 16-19 provision £1,250,000
- Refit of new buildings to improve 16-19 provision and MAT offices £100,000
- Major roof repairs across MAT £500,000
- Fit out the new classrooms £500,000

The restricted fixed asset fund was £40,019,069. Included in this is the financial contribution of £3,787,800 from the local authority for the expansion of two schools. Part of the income has been received in year and the balance is shown in accrued income. The assets under construction are shown in fixed assets and there is a capital commitment of £2,347,109 not shown in the accounts

At the balance sheet date, the amount of restricted and unrestricted reserves, excluding designated reserves, was £4,394,659 which meets the Trustee requirements to hold 3 months expenditure.

Any surplus funds are not held to meet normal recurring expenditure, however they would be used in emergencies and for planned expansion of the Trust. It is used to maximise opportunities for large scale projects over a period of time which are not funded by the day-to-day funds allocated to meet the needs of the pupils within the year.

At 31 August 2025 the surplus of the LGPS pension scheme was £6,640,000 (2024: £1,979,000) although the surplus has not been recognised as there are no indications that future contributions will reduce, or that the scheme will refund contributions already made. See note 28 for further explanation.

b. Investment policy

The aim of the investment policy is to ensure funds that the Trust does not immediately need to cover anticipated expenditure are invested to maximise its income but with minimal risk. The aim is to research where funds may be deposited applying prudence in ensuring there is minimum risk. The trustees do not consider the investment of surplus funds as a primary activity, rather as good stewardship as and when circumstances allow.

During the period, the trust received interest of £174,521 (2024: £64,972) from a variety of high interest savings accounts. These funds are held in line with the trust's investment policy

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The trustees maintain a risk register which is a living document, regularly reviewed and updated. Risks are allocated a degree of severity of impact based on level of risk and likelihood of an event occurring.

The trustees have identified the following key risks to SEN Trust Southend:

- a) The greatest risk to the MAT is the RAAC situation at Kingsdown school which was only identified towards the end of the school year 2022/2023. Although the school has had considerable resources spent on it to make it 'safe', this is not a long-term solution and it has been stated that the school would qualify for a new build.
- b) A drop in student numbers would result in lower funding levels and possibly unviable class groups. The Local Authority controls admissions to the four academies and a reduction in referrals could have an impact on funding. At present, demand for places across the trust remains high.
- c) Place funding continues to be a principal risk for each school. For those schools within the Trust who are oversubscribed the additional pupils are not funded fully and have to be managed within the overall funding stream. The amount of place funding per pupil has not changed for many years.
- d) Fluctuations in government funding and grants being withdrawn needs to be monitored closely for any potential financial impacts.
- e) The pupil-staff ratio is much higher in a special school. Fluctuations in the Local Government pension scheme, the teachers' pension scheme and increases to both living and minimum wage have major financial implications for each school.
- f) The changes in national pay levels are maintained but not often fully funded- i.e. teachers' pay award was only part funded by central Government grants and so schools have to find the additional costs. The higher level of staffing needed for special schools, is therefore a higher risk to find these additional funds.
- g) The over subscription of each school poses both a financial risk along with health and safety concerns which need to be mitigated

Fundraising

Each school raises independent school funds to pay for specific projects or additional activities. These funds are raised through partnerships with parents/carers and do not involve any professional fundraising companies or individuals. They are often through locality groups and other organisations who are aiming to support those with SENs in general or who have a relative attending the school. We have not had any complaints about fundraising activities. We do not specifically 'elicit' funds from external groups, but apply for grants from those who support young people with SENs.

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

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

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

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

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting (continued)

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

	2025	2024
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	2,037,468	2,117,599
Energy consumption breakdown (kWh):		
Gas	1,074,372	1,263,445
Electricity	878,678	772,688
Transport fuel	84,418	81,465
Scope 1 emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):		
Gas consumption	196.6	231.1
School minibuses	20.7	18.5
Total scope 1	217.3	249.6
Scope 2 emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):		
Purchased electricity	155.5	160.0
Scope 3 emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):		
Employee owned vehicles where Trust purchases the fuel	0.9	1.2
Total gross emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):	373.7	410.8
Intensity ratio:		
Tonnes of CO2 equivalent per pupil	0.603	0.676

Intensity ratios are also reported showing emissions per square meter floor area at 0.031 (2024: 0.034) tonnes of CO2 per square meter floor area.

Organisational boundary

In accordance with the 2018 Regulations, the energy use and associated GHG emissions are for those assets owned or controlled within the UK only as defined by the operational control boundary. This includes all four schools, along with Trust-owned vehicles and personal vehicles utilised for business mileage (referred to as "grey fleet").

- **Reporting period**

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

- **Quantification and reporting methodology**

The 2019 UK Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines and the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (revised edition) were followed. The 2023 UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting were used in emission calculations. The report has been prepared independently by Briar Consulting Engineers Limited.

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

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting (continued)

The electricity, gas and minibus diesel consumption were compiled from invoice records. Within the minibus fuel consumption data, 6L of petrol was classed as immaterial to accurately align with the previous report. Where data was missing or needing aligned to the reporting period, the pro-rata estimation technique was applied. Mileage claims were used to calculate energy use and emissions associated with grey fleet. Generally gross calorific values were used except for grey fleet mileage energy calculations as per Government GHG Conversion Factors.

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

Intensity ratio

Two intensity ratios are reported: Mandatory emissions (tCO₂e) per pupil and per square meter of floor area. Emissions per pupil is the recommended ratio for the sector, ensuring consistency and comparability, with pupil numbers based on the Autumn 2024 census. Emissions per square meter floor area are reported to reflect the energy efficiency of the buildings, which are the primary source of emissions.

Energy efficiency action during current financial year

In the reporting period, the Trust has taken the following energy efficiency actions:

The St Christopher School & St Nicholas School

- Corridor lighting has been replaced with LED fittings which uses significantly less electricity to provide the same level of light.

The Trust remains committed to reducing its carbon footprint and continues to look out for new energy saving and funding opportunities going forward.

Plans for future periods

Plans for future periods include:

- changes to the buildings and infrastructure to meet the change in SEN's of cohorts and the increasing requests for places.
- changes to vehicles in line with modernization and removal of restrictions on drivers
- new management structures in line with the growth of school numbers
- increasing capacity across the MAT
- managing the school estates to ensure all are safe for the education of children including mitigation against RAAC and general up-grade of larger projects such as school roofs.
- recruitment of senior staff to compliment the central team which will enable greater support to schools
- recruitment of a replacement CEO due to the planned retirement of the current CEO.

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Disclosure of information to auditors

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 9 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Thomas Robinson

T Robinson
Chair of Trustees

Jackie Mullan - Accounting Officer

J Mullan
Accounting Officer

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

As Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that SEN Trust Southend 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 Handbook.

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

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 5 times during the year.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
J Oliver	5	5
J Mullan, (Accounting Officer)	5	5
B Levitt	5	5
K Duddridge	4	5
N Hyde	5	5
T Robinson, (Chair of Trustees)	5	5
A Grellier	5	5
J Argles	5	5
J Le Masurier	5	5

SEN Trust Southend ensures that annual declarations of business, pecuniary and personal interests are made by all Members, Trustees and Local Governors, and detail is added to Registers that are published on the Trust website (Members and Trustees) and the School websites (Local Governors). Additionally, there is a standing agenda item at every board and committee meetings for all attendees to declare any conflict of interest in any agenda item. Any such declaration is minuted and the member asked to leave the meeting when the relevant item is discussed.

All trustees are provided with monthly reports outlining financial activities undertaken across the MAT which allows them to maintain effective oversight of funds. Each school within the trust also works with an active Local Governing Body which underpins robust governance and effective management arrangements.

The Audit & Risk Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to:

- oversee the finances of the schools in the trust and ensure that the funds are used to the intended purpose
- to oversee the financial regulations compliance for each academy
- to ensure finance, trust procedures and reporting requirements are followed
- to act on any concerns raised by the external finance quality assurance reviews which that Trust has asked for
- to scrutinize and recommend the Trust annual budget to the full Trust board
- to ratify academy individual budgets produced by each Local Governing Body to ensure they are in line with Trust policies and are planned for in-year balances
- to receive regular reports from the CFO, raising any queries or concerns of material interest
- review any investments in line with the financial regulations

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
N Hyde (Chair)	4	4
J Mullan (advisory capacity)	4	4
B Levitt	4	4
K Duddridge	3	4
J Le Masurier	4	4

Governance Review

Governance has been reviewed internally and at all levels. Trustees attend local and national updates where possible. Individual schools have conducted internal reviews and we have managed to recruit new governors to schools this year. Each year the Trustees review the skills they bring to the Trust and any areas where improvements can be made. Next year a full skills audit of the trustee board will be completed.

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

Review of value for money

As accounting officer, the Chief Executive Officer has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy 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'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 appropriate. The accounting officer for the Academy has delivered improved value for money during the year by continually challenging and reviewing purchases.

The employment of a part time specialist Chief Finance Officer, from outside the schools, has continued to utilise his skills and knowledge and instigated a process of looking at better value for some contracts. The trust has also continued to utilise interest bearing accoutns.

There are regular reviews and discussions as to the effectiveness of various contracts and companies used to deliver services. This helps ensure value for money and ensure the trust's estate is safe, well-maintained and complies with regulations. Due to the differing needs of the pupils attending each school it is not always possible for the same provider to work across the four schools. We centrally employ specialists under contract for specific services such as Educational psychologist services, when we know they are more efficient and meet our needs. These are not necessarily LA based.

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

Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy 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's significant risks that has been in place for the year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

The risk and control framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees
- regular reviews by the audit and risk committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecast and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- clearly defined purchasing guidelines

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework (continued)

- identification and management of risks

The Board of Trustees has decided to employ SBM Financial Services as internal auditor.

They were tasked with the duty of internal scrutiny. They carried out audits of all four schools over the spring and summer terms.

The internal auditor's role includes giving advice on financial and other matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial and other systems. In particular, the checks carried out in the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 included:

- Financial administration
- Payroll
- Lettings
- Balance sheet management
- Budget
- IT audit

On a semi-annual basis, the internal auditor reports to the Board of Trustees through the audit and risk committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees financial responsibilities outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendation and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the finance managers within each academy who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- the work of the external auditors;

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

Conclusion

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

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 9 December 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Thomas Robinson

T Robinson
Chair of Trustees

Jackie Mullan - Accounting Officer

J Mullan
Accounting Officer

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As accounting officer of SEN Trust Southend 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 Academy 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 funding 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.

Jackie Mullan - Accounting Officer

J Mullan
Accounting Officer
Date: 9 December 2025

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, 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 . Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

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

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

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from 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 9 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Thomas Robinson

T Robinson
Chair of Trustees

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF SEN TRUST SOUTHEND

Opinion

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF SEN TRUST SOUTHEND (CONTINUED)

Other information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the Academy and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' report including the Strategic report.

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the Academy for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF SEN TRUST SOUTHEND (CONTINUED)

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the Academy Trust and the industry in which it operates. We determined that the following laws and regulations were most significant:

The Companies Act 2006, Safeguarding (including statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education), employment law and public sector pay and conditions. We enquired of management to obtain an understanding of how the Academy Trust is complying with those legal and regulatory frameworks and whether they had any knowledge of actual or suspected fraud. We corroborated the results of our enquiries through our review of the board minutes for the year. We did not identify any matters relating to material non compliance with laws and regulation or matters in relation to fraud;

- We obtained an understanding of how the Company is complying with those legal and regulatory frameworks by making inquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures;
- In assessing the potential risks of material misstatement, we obtained an understanding of the Company's operations, including its objectives and strategies to understand the expected financial statement disclosures and business risks that may result in risks of material misstatement;
- In assessing the appropriateness of the collective competence and capabilities of the engagement team, the engagement partner considered the engagement team's:
 - understanding of, and practical experience with, audit engagements of a similar nature and complexity through appropriate training and participation
 - the specialist skills required and knowledge of the industry in which the client operates.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the Company's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:
 - assessing the design effectiveness of controls management has in place to prevent and detect fraud;
 - challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates;
 - identifying and testing journal entries, in particular manual journal entries made at year end for financial statement preparation; and
 - assessing the extent of compliance with the relevant laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement item.

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

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF SEN TRUST SOUTHEND (CONTINUED)

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

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF SEN TRUST SOUTHEND (CONTINUED)

Use of our report

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

Jason Lamont

Jason Lamont ACA (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

MWS Accountants Limited

Chartered Accountants

Registered Auditor

4 Chester Court

Chester Hall Lane

Basildon

Essex

SS14 3WR

Date: 18 December 2025

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 22 July 2025 and further to the requirements of the Department for Education (DfE) as included in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts 2024 to 2025, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether anything has come to our attention that would suggest, in all material respects, the expenditure disbursed and income received by SEN Trust Southend during the year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 have not been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of SEN Trust Southend's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of SEN Trust Southend's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 14 July 2017 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2024, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Assessing the risk of material irregularity in the Academy Trust
- Commissioning a self-assessment review of the Trustees' governance arrangements and consideration of any material non-compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook
- Investigating any areas of significant risk identified
- Consideration of the work performed under our audit engagement and any impact this may have on our regularity conclusion or regularity risk assessment
- A review of the internal controls and internal audit procedures for areas of significant risk and performing further substantive testing where necessary.

In line with the Framework and guide for external auditors and reporting accountants of academy trusts issued April 2023, we have not performed any additional procedures regarding the Trust's compliance with safeguarding, health and safety and estates management.

Conclusion

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

MWS

MWS Accountants Limited

Chartered Accountants
Reporting Accountant

4 Chester Court
Chester Hall Lane
Basildon
Essex
SS14 3WR

Date: 18 December 2025

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	4	45,577	-	4,023,149	4,068,726	952,678
Other trading activities		311,322	-	-	311,322	328,081
Investments	8	174,521	139,000	-	313,521	146,972
Charitable activities	5	822,563	16,632,233	-	17,454,795	16,297,026
Total income		1,353,983	16,771,233	4,023,149	22,148,365	17,724,757
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		178,278	-	-	178,278	193,914
Charitable activities	10	825,601	16,188,683	786,792	17,801,076	16,029,259
Total expenditure		1,003,879	16,188,683	786,792	17,979,354	16,223,173
Net income		350,104	582,550	3,236,357	4,169,011	1,501,584
Transfers between funds	21	(44,138)	(60,557)	104,695	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		305,966	521,993	3,341,052	4,169,011	1,501,584
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	28	-	(632,000)	-	(632,000)	(568,000)
Net movement in funds		305,966	(110,007)	3,341,052	3,537,011	933,584
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		3,393,985	3,154,716	33,661,308	40,210,009	39,276,425
Net movement in funds		305,966	(110,007)	3,341,052	3,537,011	933,584
Total funds carried forward		3,699,951	3,044,709	37,002,360	43,747,020	40,210,009

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 35 to 70 form part of these financial statements.

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 07973980

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	17	34,662,571	33,670,996
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		34,662,571	33,670,996
Current assets			
Stocks	18	4,819	6,077
Debtors	19	3,820,817	878,638
Cash at bank and in hand		6,864,901	6,838,492
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		10,690,537	7,723,207
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	20	(1,606,089)	(1,184,194)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net current assets		9,084,448	6,539,013
Total assets less current liabilities		<hr/> 43,747,019	<hr/> 40,210,009
Total net assets		<hr/> 43,747,019 <hr/>	<hr/> 40,210,009 <hr/>
Funds of the Academy			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	21	37,002,360	33,661,308
Restricted income funds	21	3,044,709	3,154,716
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total restricted funds	21	40,047,069	36,816,024
Unrestricted income funds	21	3,699,950	3,393,985
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total funds		<hr/> 43,747,019 <hr/>	<hr/> 40,210,009 <hr/>

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 07973980

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

The financial statements on pages 31 to 70 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 09 December 2025 and are signed on their behalf, by:

Thomas Robinson

T Robinson
Chair of Trustees

Jackie Mullan - Accounting Officer

J Mullan
Accounting Officer

The notes on pages 35 to 70 form part of these financial statements.

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	23	216,917	<i>(211,519)</i>
Cash flows from investing activities	24	(190,508)	<i>(266,870)</i>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		26,409	<i>(478,389)</i>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		6,838,492	<i>7,316,881</i>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	25, 26	6,864,901	<i>6,838,492</i>

The notes on pages 35 to 70 form part of these financial statements

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

1. General information

SEN Trust Southend is a company limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. Its registered office is The St Christopher School, Mountdale Gardens, Leigh-On-Sea, Essex, SS9 4AW.

2. Accounting policies

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

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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

SEN Trust Southend meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Going concern

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Academy 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 the audit and risk committee consider a period of 3 years from the year end, and based on this, the trustees have concluded that the Academy has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Income

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

• **Grants**

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

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

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

• **Donations**

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

• **Other income**

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

• **Donated fixed assets (excluding transfers on conversion or into the Academy)**

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

2.4 Expenditure

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

• **Expenditure on raising funds**

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

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure (continued)

• **Charitable activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Government grants

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of financial activities over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the Statement of financial activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

2.6 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Academy.

2.7 Taxation

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

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.8 Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £5,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

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

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold buildings	- Straight line over 50 years and straight line over 10 years
Long-term leasehold	- Straight line over various expected useful lives
Improvements to property	- Straight line over 10 years
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	- 20% reducing balance
Computer equipment	- Straight line over 3 years
Motor vehicles	- 25% reducing balance
Assets under construction	- Not depreciated

Assets in the course of construction are held on the balance sheet. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use.

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.

2.9 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

2.10 Debtors

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

2.11 Cash at bank and in hand

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

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.12 Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Academy 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.

2.13 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 19. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 20. 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.

2.14 Operating leases

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

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.15 Pensions

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

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

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

Where the estimated fair value of LGPS scheme assets exceeds the estimated total liabilities, the resulting surplus will only be recognised where there is an expectation that future contributions will reduce, or that the scheme will refund contributions already made.

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

2.16 Fund accounting

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

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

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

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

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

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The Academy 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 28, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2025. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

At the reporting date the Academy Trust's estimated fair value of LGPS scheme assets exceeded the estimated liabilities. The Trust have judged that the value of the asset should be reduced to £Nil, in line with the valuation of the actuary, with the expectation that future contributions will not reduce, nor will the Trust receive any refund of contributions already made.

Critical areas of judgment:

At the reporting date the Academy Trust's estimated fair value of LGPS scheme assets exceeded the estimated liabilities. The Trust have judged that the value of the asset should be reduced to £nil, in line with the valuation of the actuary, with the expectation that future contributions will not reduce, nor will the Trust receive any refund of contributions already made.

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

4. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Donations				
Respite centre	-	-	-	504
Other donations	45,577	-	45,577	45,026
Donated gifts and services	-	753	753	18,100
Subtotal donations	45,577	753	46,330	63,630
RAAC capital grant	-	156,912	156,912	791,469
Capital grants- DfE	-	46,984	46,984	97,579
Capital grants- local authority	-	3,818,500	3,818,500	-
Subtotal	-	4,022,396	4,022,396	889,048
	45,577	4,023,149	4,068,726	952,678
<i>Total 2024</i>	63,630	889,048	952,678	

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Educational Operations	-	16,632,233	16,632,233	15,536,694
Provision of Respite Activities	822,563	-	822,563	760,332
	822,563	16,632,233	17,454,796	16,297,026
<i>Total 2024</i>	760,332	15,536,694	16,297,026	

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

6. Funding for the Academy's charitable activities

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Educational Operations			
DfE grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	6,250,000	6,250,000	5,670,000
Other DfE grants			
Pupil premium	382,536	382,536	353,337
Others	49,438	49,438	176,179
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	6,681,974	6,681,974	6,199,516
Other Government grants			
Local authority grants	7,930,472	7,930,472	8,610,982
Teachers pension and pay grants	664,867	664,867	726,196
Core schools budget grants	935,985	935,985	-
Special schools supplementary grants	418,935	418,935	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	9,950,259	9,950,259	9,337,178
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	16,632,233	16,632,233	15,536,694
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<i>15,536,694</i>	<i>15,536,694</i>	

7. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Uniform income	1,398	1,398	2,337
Hire of facilities	65,999	65,999	64,382
Catering income	58,374	58,374	55,253
Training income	-	-	15,105
Extended school income	92,706	92,706	88,098
Other income	92,845	92,845	102,906
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	311,322	311,322	328,081
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<i>328,081</i>	<i>328,081</i>	

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

7. Income from other trading activities (continued)

8. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Deposit account interest	174,521	-	174,521	64,972
Pension income	-	139,000	139,000	82,000
	<u>174,521</u>	<u>139,000</u>	<u>313,521</u>	<u>146,972</u>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u><u>64,972</u></u>	<u><u>82,000</u></u>	<u><u>146,972</u></u>	

9. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2025 £	Premises 2025 £	Other 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Costs incurred by trading for a fundraising purpose:					
Direct costs	-	-	178,278	178,278	193,914
Educational Operations:					
Direct costs	12,655,238	706,023	714,988	14,076,249	12,883,283
Allocated support costs	1,460,845	841,243	597,137	2,899,225	2,286,723
Provision of respite activities:					
Direct costs	759,210	22,011	17,339	798,560	798,264
Allocated support costs	-	14,826	12,215	27,041	60,989
	<u>14,875,293</u>	<u>1,584,103</u>	<u>1,519,957</u>	<u>17,979,353</u>	<u>16,223,173</u>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u><u>13,332,115</u></u>	<u><u>1,688,526</u></u>	<u><u>1,202,532</u></u>	<u><u>16,223,173</u></u>	

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

10. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	<i>Total 2024 £</i>
Educational Operations	-	16,975,475	16,975,475	15,170,006
Respite Activities	825,601	-	825,601	859,253
	<u>825,601</u>	<u>16,975,475</u>	<u>17,801,076</u>	<u>16,029,259</u>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u><u>886,388</u></u>	<u><u>15,142,871</u></u>	<u><u>16,029,259</u></u>	

11. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Educational Operations	14,076,250	2,899,225	16,975,475	15,170,006
Respite Activities	798,560	27,041	825,601	859,253
	<u>14,874,810</u>	<u>2,926,266</u>	<u>17,801,076</u>	<u>16,029,259</u>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u><u>13,681,547</u></u>	<u><u>2,347,712</u></u>	<u><u>16,029,259</u></u>	

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

11. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Educational Operations 2025 £	Respite 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Staff costs	1,460,844	-	1,460,844	891,039
Technology costs	168,006	-	168,006	-
Indirect employee expenses	39,588	2,147	41,735	146,436
Repairs and maintenance	380,851	7,646	388,497	334,266
Cleaning and caretaking	143,600	-	143,600	213,935
Other premises costs	22,339	2,297	24,636	24,711
Energy	255,739	4,883	260,622	388,719
Insurance	35,461	-	35,461	17,695
Security and transport	52,932	2,068	55,000	59,713
Bank charges	3,844	-	3,844	927
Non-educational contracts	170,542	-	170,542	217,789
Other supplies and services	12,790	8,000	20,790	21,634
Other administration costs	99,962	-	99,962	30,848
Operating leases	18,098	-	18,098	-
Special facilities	34,629	-	34,629	-
	<u>2,899,225</u>	<u>27,041</u>	<u>2,926,266</u>	<u>2,347,712</u>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u>2,286,723</u>	<u>60,989</u>	<u>2,347,712</u>	

During the year ended 31 August 2025, the Trust incurred governance costs of £27,960 (2024: £27,160).

12. Net income

Net income for the year includes:

	2025 £	<i>2024 £</i>
Operating lease rentals	18,098	878
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	728,034	726,895
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	16,500	16,500
- other services	3,500	3,500
	<u>748,132</u>	<u>747,773</u>

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

13. Staff

a. Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	10,974,406	10,348,640
Social security costs	1,043,461	882,110
Pension costs	2,242,417	1,929,370
	14,260,284	13,160,120
Agency staff costs	615,009	145,781
Staff restructuring and severance costs	-	26,214
	14,875,293	13,332,115

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Redundancy payments	-	10,214
Severance payments	-	16,000
	-	26,214

b. Severance payments

The Academy paid - severance payments in the year (2024 - 1), disclosed in the following bands:

c. Staff numbers

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

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
Teaching staff	73	73
Administrative and support staff	322	324
Management staff	20	20
	415	417

d. Higher paid staff

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

13. Staff (continued)

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

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	-	4
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	3	2
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	3	2
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	-	1
In the band £100,001 - £110,000	1	2
In the band £110,001 - £120,000	1	-
	1	-

e. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy was £668,540 (2024 £595,632).

14. Central services

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

- Corporate governance and reporting
- Provision of executive and support staff
- Financial support services
- Staff training
- Legal and audit services
- Professional fees
- IT support and software
- Other administrative services as arising

The Trust charges for these services on the following basis:

Charging a 'top slice' of 5.5% based on each school's top up funding.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
The St Christopher School	174,548	159,135
Kingsdown School	91,353	86,592
St Nicholas School	59,969	54,708
Lancaster School	89,993	84,401
Total	415,863	384,836

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

15. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy. 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. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2025	<i>2024</i>
		£	£
J Mullan, (Accounting Officer)	Remuneration	50,000 -	<i>50,000 -</i>
		55,000	<i>55,000</i>
	Pension contributions paid	0 - 5,000	<i>0 - 5,000</i>

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

16. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

The Academy 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 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 membership.

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

17. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Long-term leasehold £	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Assets under construction £	Total £
Cost or valuation								
At 1 September 2024	13,410,164	27,282,199	1,126,056	757,085	329,683	291,806	-	43,196,993
Additions	1,000	173,364	-	44,079	98,626	-	1,483,309	1,800,378
At 31 August 2025	<u>13,411,164</u>	<u>27,455,563</u>	<u>1,126,056</u>	<u>801,164</u>	<u>428,309</u>	<u>291,806</u>	<u>1,483,309</u>	<u>44,997,371</u>
Depreciation								
At 1 September 2024	1,801,132	6,011,525	848,693	384,986	259,301	220,360	-	9,525,997
Charge for the year	157,752	523,767	35,080	24,418	52,429	15,357	-	808,803
At 31 August 2025	<u>1,958,884</u>	<u>6,535,292</u>	<u>883,773</u>	<u>409,404</u>	<u>311,730</u>	<u>235,717</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,334,800</u>
Net book value								
At 31 August 2025	<u><u>11,452,280</u></u>	<u><u>20,920,271</u></u>	<u><u>242,283</u></u>	<u><u>391,760</u></u>	<u><u>116,579</u></u>	<u><u>56,089</u></u>	<u><u>1,483,309</u></u>	<u><u>34,662,571</u></u>
At 31 August 2024	<u><u>11,609,032</u></u>	<u><u>21,270,674</u></u>	<u><u>277,363</u></u>	<u><u>372,099</u></u>	<u><u>70,382</u></u>	<u><u>71,446</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>33,670,996</u></u>

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

17. Tangible fixed assets (continued)

The Academy's transactions relating to land and buildings included an impairment in the SOFA year ended 31 August 2023 of £2,919,600 in respect of the main building at Kingsdown School, which was been found to contain RAAC. The buildings value was impaired in the accounts by the estimated cost of bringing the building back up to standard. The cost of the works will then be recognised as additions in subsequent years' accounts.

Additons in the current year include £169,349 (2024: £783,744) of mitigation works in relation to the RAAC issue.

The impairment charge was included in the Statement of Financial Activities within depreciation and impairment costs in the year ended 31 August 2023.

As at the year end, held within fixed assets is a impairment of £2,919,600 (2024: £2,919,600).

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

18. Stocks

	2025 £	2024 £
Uniform and catering stock	<u>4,819</u>	<u>6,077</u>

19. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	94,865	96,232
Other debtors	803,753	546,915
Prepayments and accrued income	2,922,199	235,491
	<u>3,820,817</u>	<u>878,638</u>

20. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	225,867	288,604
Other taxation and social security	247,826	184,586
Other creditors	-	17,887
Accruals and deferred income	1,132,396	693,117
	<u>1,606,089</u>	<u>1,184,194</u>

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	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 September 2024	502,652	74,636
Resources deferred during the year	894,926	502,652
Amounts released from previous periods	(502,652)	(74,636)
	894,926	502,652

Income was deferred during the year as follows:

- Cottage respite stays income for post year-end £80,764 (2024: £66,229)
- Relational practice grant £Nil (2024: £7,750)
- Short Breaks grant £2,904 (2024: £5,833)
- Small capital bid grant £31,564 (2024: £31,564)
- Swimming pool lettings income £15,756 (2024: 9,790)
- Teachers pay and pensions grants £Nil (2024: £379,994)
- Universal Infant Free School Meals £11,284 (2024: £Nil)
- Core Schools Budget Grant £749,760 (2024: £Nil)
- Other minor £2,894 (2024: £1,492)

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

21. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Redevelopment of current buildings	2,150,000	-	-	(2,150,000)	-	-
Fit out of new classrooms	500,000	-	-	-	-	500,000
Purchase of additional land for Kingsdown re-build	-	-	-	1,250,000	-	1,250,000
Refit of buildings	-	-	-	100,000	-	100,000
Roof repairs	-	-	-	500,000	-	500,000
	2,650,000	-	-	(300,000)	-	2,350,000
General funds						
General fund	400,713	525,614	(178,278)	255,862	-	1,003,911
Respite Centre	343,272	822,563	(825,601)	-	-	340,234
MAT	-	5,805	-	-	-	5,805
	743,985	1,353,982	(1,003,879)	255,862	-	1,349,950
Total Unrestricted funds	3,393,985	1,353,982	(1,003,879)	(44,138)	-	3,699,950
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	2,794,210	6,250,000	(4,734,503)	(1,592,023)	-	2,717,684
Other DfE/ESFA	-	49,438	(49,438)	-	-	-
Special Schools Top Up Funding	-	7,762,035	(7,762,035)	-	-	-
Other Local Authority Grants	-	168,438	(168,438)	-	-	-
Pupil Premium	68,736	382,536	(394,120)	-	-	57,152

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

21. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Teachers Pension and Pay Grants	-	664,867	(664,867)	-	-	-
MAT	291,770	-	(20,363)	(1,534)	-	269,873
Core schools budget grant	-	935,985	(935,985)	-	-	-
Special schools supplementary grant	-	418,934	(418,934)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	-	139,000	(1,040,000)	1,533,000	(632,000)	-
	3,154,716	16,771,233	(16,188,683)	(60,557)	(632,000)	3,044,709

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

21. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Inherited FA on conversion	25,655,999	-	(299,858)	-	-	25,356,141
Assets purchased	7,972,619	-	(486,834)	1,823,809	-	9,309,594
ESFA grants	7,725	46,983	-	(54,708)	-	-
DfE grants re RAAC claims	-	156,913	-	(156,913)	-	-
Donated by DfE	2,465	-	-	(2,465)	-	-
Donated assets	22,500	753	-	(23,253)	-	-
Local authority grants	-	3,818,500	-	(1,483,309)	-	2,335,191
MAT	-	-	(100)	1,534	-	1,434
	<u>33,661,308</u>	<u>4,023,149</u>	<u>(786,792)</u>	<u>104,695</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,002,360</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>36,816,024</u>	<u>20,794,382</u>	<u>(16,975,475)</u>	<u>44,138</u>	<u>(632,000)</u>	<u>40,047,069</u>
Total funds	<u><u>40,210,009</u></u>	<u><u>22,148,364</u></u>	<u><u>(17,979,354)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(632,000)</u></u>	<u><u>43,747,019</u></u>

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

21. Statement of funds (continued)

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

Restricted general funds and other restricted funds:

These relate to the Academy's development and operational activities.

Restricted fixed asset fund:

These grants relate to capital funding to carry out works of a capital nature.

Pension reserve:

The pension reserve relates to the Academy's share of the deficit of the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Funds have been transferred in respect of the following:

£104,695 has been transferred from restricted funds to restricted fixed asset fund representing capital expenditure made from revenue grant funding.

£44,138 has been transferred from unrestricted funds to the restricted fund to cover a deficit in that fund.

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

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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21. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2023 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2024 £</i>
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Redevelopment of current buildings	-	-	-	2,150,000	-	2,150,000
Fit out of new classrooms	-	-	-	500,000	-	500,000
	-	-	-	2,650,000	-	2,650,000
General funds						
General fund	2,777,175	456,179	(182,641)	(2,650,000)	-	400,713
Respite Centre	441,689	760,836	(859,253)	-	-	343,272
	3,218,864	1,217,015	(1,041,894)	(2,650,000)	-	743,985
Total Unrestricted funds	3,218,864	1,217,015	(1,041,894)	-	-	3,393,985
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	2,766,189	5,670,000	(4,869,874)	(772,110)	-	2,794,205
Other DfE/ESFA	-	176,179	(176,179)	-	-	-
Other Local Authority Grants	-	8,610,982	(8,610,982)	-	-	-
Pupil Premium	53,590	353,337	(338,191)	-	-	68,736
Teachers Pension and Pay Grants	-	726,196	(726,196)	-	-	-
MAT	149,505	-	(242,566)	384,836	-	291,775
ESFA capital grants	1,709	-	-	(1,709)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	82,000	486,000	-	(568,000)	-
	2,970,993	15,618,694	(14,477,988)	(388,983)	(568,000)	3,154,716

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

21. Statement of funds (continued)

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2023 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2024 £</i>
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Inherited FA on conversion	25,968,375	-	(312,370)	-	-	25,656,005
Assets purchased	7,087,357	-	(385,049)	1,270,306	-	7,972,614
ESFA grants	-	97,579	-	(97,579)	-	-
DfE grants re RAAC claims	-	791,469	-	(783,744)	-	7,725
Donated by DfE	5,836	-	(3,372)	-	-	2,464
Donated assets	25,000	-	(2,500)	-	-	22,500
	<u>33,086,568</u>	<u>889,048</u>	<u>(703,291)</u>	<u>388,983</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>33,661,308</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>36,057,561</u>	<u>16,507,742</u>	<u>(15,181,279)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(568,000)</u>	<u>36,816,024</u>
Total funds	<u><u>39,276,425</u></u>	<u><u>17,724,757</u></u>	<u><u>(16,223,173)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(568,000)</u></u>	<u><u>40,210,009</u></u>

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

21. Statement of funds (continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2025 were allocated as follows:

	2025	<i>2024</i>
	£	£
St Christopher School	4,733,879	4,636,477
Kingsdown School	302,831	410,954
St Nicholas Secondary School	863,597	642,452
Lancaster School	548,674	567,047
Central services	295,678	291,771
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	6,744,659	6,548,701
Restricted fixed asset fund	37,002,360	33,661,308
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	43,747,019	<i>40,210,009</i>
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs	Other support staff costs	Educational supplies	Other costs excluding depreciation	Total 2025	<i>Total 2024</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
St Christopher School	6,198,792	229,214	74,596	754,078	7,256,680	6,677,895
Kingsdown School	2,795,734	370,826	42,380	414,286	3,623,226	3,275,603
St Nicholas Secondary School	1,745,793	298,071	50,347	300,034	2,394,245	2,103,639
Lancaster School	2,633,317	436,273	73,287	337,298	3,480,175	3,152,390
Central services	58,151	126,461	-	231,613	416,225	286,751
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Academy	13,431,787	1,460,845	240,610	2,037,309	17,170,551	<i>15,496,278</i>
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

SEN TRUST SOUTHEND
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

22. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	34,662,571	34,662,571
Current assets	3,780,760	4,569,988	2,339,789	10,690,537
Creditors due within one year	(80,810)	(1,525,279)	-	(1,606,089)
Total	<u>3,699,950</u>	<u>3,044,709</u>	<u>37,002,360</u>	<u>43,747,019</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	17,413	-	33,653,583	33,670,996
Current assets	3,452,790	4,262,692	7,725	7,723,207
Creditors due within one year	(76,218)	(1,107,976)	-	(1,184,194)
Total	<u>3,393,985</u>	<u>3,154,716</u>	<u>33,661,308</u>	<u>40,210,009</u>

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

23. Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income for the year (as per Statement of financial activities)	4,169,011	1,501,584
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and impairment	808,803	726,895
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(1,435,349)	(889,048)
Interest receivable	(174,521)	(64,972)
Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inherited	(502,000)	(494,000)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	(139,000)	(82,000)
Decrease in stocks	1,257	5,104
Increase in revenue debtors	(354,379)	(576,988)
Increase in capital debtors	(2,587,800)	-
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	421,895	(346,094)
Pension administration expenses	9,000	8,000
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	216,917	(211,519)

24. Cash flows from investing activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	174,521	64,972
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(1,800,378)	(1,220,890)
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	1,435,349	889,048
Net cash used in investing activities	(190,508)	(266,870)

25. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash in hand and at bank	6,864,901	6,838,492
Total cash and cash equivalents	6,864,901	6,838,492

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

26. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2024 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	6,838,492	26,409	6,864,901
	6,838,492	26,409	6,864,901

27. Capital commitments

	2025 £	2024 £
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	2,347,109	11,910
	2,347,109	11,910

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

28. Pension commitments

The Academy'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 Essex County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

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

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

- employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy). 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 will be implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2028.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £1,186,000 (2024 - £885,000).

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

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

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

28. Pension commitments (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2025 was £1,889,000 (2024 - £1,746,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £1,533,000 (2024 - £1,417,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 356,000 (2024 - £329,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 24.2 - 25 per cent for employers and 5.5 - 12.5 per cent for employees.

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

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

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2025	2024
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.60	3.80
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.60	2.80
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	6.15	5.10
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.60	2.80
Inflation assumption (RPI)	2.95	3.05

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

	2025	2024
	Years	Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	21.8	20.7
Females	24.1	23.3
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	23.4	22.0
Females	25.8	24.7

Sensitivity analysis

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

28. Pension commitments (continued)

	2025	<i>2024</i>
	£000	<i>£000</i>
Discount rate +0.1%	246	308
Discount rate -0.1%	(253)	(318)
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	(252)	(321)
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	247	313
Salary increases +0.1%	(5)	(6)
Salary increases -0.1%	5	6
	246	<i>308</i>

Share of scheme assets

The Academy's share of the assets in the scheme was:

	At 31 August 2025	<i>At 31 August 2024</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Equities	10,097	8,307
Gilts	246	255
Property	1,409	1,038
Cash and other liquid assets	282	252
Alternative assets	2,723	2,208
Other managed funds	3,171	2,723
	17,928	<i>14,783</i>

The actual return on scheme assets was £1,517,000 (2024 - £1,444,000).

The amounts recognised in the Statement of financial activities are as follows:

	2025	<i>2024</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Current service cost	(1,031,000)	(923,000)
Interest income	795,000	661,000
Interest cost	(656,000)	(579,000)
Administrative expenses	(9,000)	(8,000)
	(901,000)	<i>(849,000)</i>

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

28. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2025 £	2024 £
At 1 September	14,783,000	<i>11,722,000</i>
Current service cost	1,031,000	<i>923,000</i>
Interest cost	656,000	<i>579,000</i>
Employee contributions	356,000	<i>329,000</i>
Actuarial losses	1,354,000	<i>1,351,000</i>
Benefits paid	(252,000)	<i>(121,000)</i>
At 31 August	17,928,000	<i>14,783,000</i>

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

	2025 £	2024 £
At 1 September	14,783,000	<i>11,722,000</i>
Interest income	795,000	<i>661,000</i>
Actuarial gains	722,000	<i>783,000</i>
Employer contributions	1,533,000	<i>1,417,000</i>
Employee contributions	356,000	<i>329,000</i>
Benefits paid	(252,000)	<i>(121,000)</i>
Administration costs	(9,000)	<i>(8,000)</i>
At 31 August	17,928,000	<i>14,783,000</i>

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

28. Pension commitments (continued)

Impact of the McCloud/Sargeant judgement on the Local Government Pension Scheme

An allowance was made in 2019 for the Court of Appeal judgement in relation to the McCloud & Sargeant cases which relate to age discrimination within the Judicial & Fire Pension schemes respectively. On 27 June 2019 the Supreme Court denied the Government's request for an appeal, and on 15 July 2019 the Government released a statement to confirm that it expects to have to amend all public service schemes, including the LGPS.

The estimated impact on the total liabilities at 31 August 2019 was allowed for as a past service cost and has resulted in a slight increase in the defined benefit obligation as at 31 August 2025.

This adjustment is an estimate of the potential impact on the Trust's defined benefit obligation as provided by the scheme's actuary.

On 13 May 2021, the Government issued a ministerial statement on the proposed remedy to be applied to LGPS benefits in response to the McCloud and Sargeant cases. It is not anticipated that there are any material differences between the approach underlying the estimated allowance in 2019 and the proposed remedy.

Guaranteed Minimum Pension (GMP) Equalisation

As a result of the High Court's Lloyds ruling on the equalisation of GMPs between genders, it is anticipated that the Fund will pay limited increases for members that have reached State Pension Age (SPA) by 6 April 2016, with the Government providing the remainder of the inflationary increase.

For members that reach SPA after this date, it has been assumed in the valuation that the Fund will be required to pay the entire inflationary increase. It is not therefore necessary

Goodwin case

Following a case involving the Teachers' Pension scheme, known as the Goodwin case, differences between survivor benefits payable to members with same-sex or opposite-sex survivors have been identified within a number of public sector pension schemes. As a result, the Government have confirmed that a remedy is required in all affected public sector pension schemes, which includes the LGPS.

It is anticipated that the impact on the value of LGPS liabilities as a whole, and for the majority of employers participating in the LGPS, will not be material. However, the impact on individual employers will vary depending on their specific membership profile.

Sufficient information is not currently available to assess the actual impact on the Academy Trust as such no provision has been included within these financial statements.

Asset Ceiling

At the reporting date the Academy Trust's estimated fair value of LGPS scheme assets exceeded the estimated total liabilities. The resulting surplus should only be recognised where there is an expectation that future contributions will reduce, or that the scheme will refund contributions already made.

The scheme actuaries have assessed the position and concluded:

- There is no right for the Trust to receive a refund of the surplus at a level required by the accounting standard.
- The Trust is expected and assumed, as an academy trust, to participate in the scheme indefinitely.

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

28. Pension commitments (continued)

- The Trust is bound by a minimum funding requirement to make contributions to the fund, and there is no expectation for the contribution rates to change beyond the information provided by the existing Rates and Adjustments certificate.

- FRS102 does not require any additional liability recognised from an onerous funding commitment.

- Any reduction in contributions is expected to have an economic benefit of £nil.

As the recognition threshold for the surplus has not been reached the Academy Trust's share of the net plan assets/liabilities have been reduced to £Nil in the financial statements.

The amount of asset not recognised was £6,640,000 and is included in the gains and losses on the Trust's share of scheme assets.

29. Operating lease commitments

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Not later than 1 year	7,150	1,130
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	25,030	610
	32,180	1,740
	32,180	1,740

30. Members' liability

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

31. Related party transactions

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

M Fox, spouse of L Fox, the Headteacher of St. Nicholas School, was employed by St Nicholas School as a music tutor and received remuneration totalling £16,445 (2024 - £7,130) during the year. L Fox was not involved in the decision-making process regarding M Fox's appointment. M Fox received no special treatment as a result of his relationship to the Headteacher.

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

32. Academy respite trading account for the year ended 31 August

	2025	2025	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Respite income	822,563		760,332	
Respite donations	-		504	
	<u>822,563</u>		<u>760,836</u>	
Total income		822,563		760,836
Expenditure				
Provisions, social skills and events	16,014		25,446	
Printing and stationery	1,325		1,641	
Staff costs	759,210		747,573	
Recruitment and support	2,147		4,897	
Maintenance of premises and equipment	7,646		21,184	
Utilities	7,180		10,859	
Security and transport	2,068		8,395	
Other support costs	8,001		15,654	
Depreciation	22,011		23,604	
	<u>825,602</u>		<u>859,253</u>	
Total operating costs		825,602		859,253
Deficit from all sources		(3,039)		(98,417)
Surplus brought forward		343,272		441,689
Surplus carried forward		<u>340,233</u>		<u>343,272</u>