Company Registration Number: 02414699 (England & Wales)

### TELFORD CITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE TRUST LIMITED

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

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### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

### **Members**

The Mercers' Company Tarmac Holdings Limited JF Bowater S Davidson

#### Governors

GL Ruoss, Chair

JF Bowater

HV Clark (resigned 30 September 2024)

**RJ Harrison OBE** 

B Jones (resigned 29 September 2025)

TCA Haywood (appointed 1 September 2024)

SB Roberts

E Williams

G Vine

CM Harding-Jack (appointed 5 March 2025)

J Roberts

K Evers (appointed 7 November 2024)

### Company registered number

02414699

### Company name

Telford City Technology College Trust Limited

### Principal and registered office

Thomas Telford School Old Park Telford Shropshire TF3 4NW

### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### **Company secretary**

M Davies

### Senior management team

I Rawlings, Headteacher and Accounting Officer R Furlong, Senior Deputy Head E Powell, Senior Deputy Head T Osborne ACA, Director of Finance

### Independent auditor

Crowe U.K. LLP Black Country House Rounds Green Road Oldbury West Midlands B69 2DG

### **Bankers**

HSBC Bank plc Town Centre Telford Shropshire TF3 4BW

### **Solicitors**

Stone King LLP Boundary House 91 Charterhouse Street London EC1M 6HR

### Investment manager

RBC Brewin Dolphin 6th Floor The Chatwin Building 81 Colmore Row Birmingham B3 2BA

### GOVERNORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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

The charitable company operates a school for pupils aged 11 to 19, serving catchment areas in Telford and Wolverhampton. It had a roll of 1,659 in the school census on 02 October 2024, comprising 1,104 students under the age of 16 and 555 students aged 16-19.

During the year the charitable company also operated a school-centred initial teacher training provider, West Midlands Consortium, which provided routes to qualified teacher status through the PGCE and other routes. West Midlands Consortium ceased to operate on 31st August 2025.

### Structure, governance and management

#### a. Constitution

The 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 trust. The Governors of Telford City Technology College Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as Thomas Telford School.

Details of the Governors 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 £1, for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

### c. Governors' indemnities

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the charitable company has purchased insurance to protect Governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on trust business. It is not possible to quantify the Governors and officers' indemnity element from the overall costs of the insurance premium paid.

### d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Governors

The management of the charitable company is the responsibility of the Governors, who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the articles of association.

The Governors of the charitable company comprise the board of Governors of the trust and are nominated by the sponsors of the charitable company, Tarmac Holdings Limited and The Mercers' Company, or are co-opted by the Governors.

Governors retire by rotation in accordance with the company's articles of association, which provide that, at each annual general meeting, one-third of the Governors must retire, being the longest in office since their last election, such Governors being eligible for re-election.

The day-to-day running of the trust is carried out by the Headteacher and the senior management team.

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

### e. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Governors

The training and induction provided for new Governors will depend on their existing experience but will always include training on safeguarding. Where necessary, induction will provide training on charity and educational, legal and financial matters. All new Governors are given a tour of the school and are afforded the opportunity to meet with staff and students on a regular basis. All Governors are provided with copies of key policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as a governor. The induction for new Governors joining the Board is tailored to suit the needs of the individual.

### f. Organisational structure

The management structure consists of two levels: the Governors and the senior management team. The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels. The Governors are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the school by the use of budgets and performance reporting and making major decisions about the direction of the school, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

The senior management team controls the school at an executive level, implementing the policies laid down by the Governors and reporting back to them. As a group, the senior management team is responsible for the authorisation of expenditure within budgets agreed by the Governors and the appointment of staff.

The company owned 100% of the issued ordinary share capital of Thomas Telford School Online Limited (03904138). Thomas Telford School Online Limited was dormant for the period 1 September 2024 to 5 August 2025 and was dissolved on 5 August 2025.

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

It is the responsibility of the governing board to consider any annual pay increase recommended by the remuneration committee. Teachers will be paid at a rate that is comparable to other employers of teachers in the state sector. The Headteacher carries out individual pay reviews each year and discusses these with the remuneration committee. Prior to the start of each academic year, teachers receive notification in writing of their pay, including any increases, and a copy of their post description.

At the discretion of the Headteacher, additional payments may be made to teachers for the following principal reasons:

- Covering lessons for absent colleagues
- Timetabled teaching commitments above 80%
- Exceptional time commitments to extra-curricular activities in sport, performing arts and outdoor activities etc.
- Performance-related pay (subject to separate approval by the remuneration committee and the governing board)

Annual pay reviews are linked to performance, with appropriate incremental progression and taking account of cost-of-living increases. In very rare cases, increases will be withheld where the performance of the employee is unsatisfactory.

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

### Structure, governance and management (continued)

### h. Trade union facility time

No employees were union officials for the period 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025 (2024/2025).

### i. Connected Organisations, Including Related Party Relationships

The Company owned 100% of the issued ordinary shares of Thomas Telford School Online Limited, which was dissolved on 5 August 2025.

The Charitable Company is the sponsor of five academies in the West Midlands and Shropshire areas. These academies are part of Thomas Telford Multi Academy Trust, which the Company continues to support by way of a services agreement.

The Mercers' Company and Tarmac Holdings Limited, the school's main sponsors, are committed to the aims and objectives of the school. They continue to offer generous financial support to the students in a wide variety of ways, including financial grants. Each sponsor nominates four Governors to serve on the governing board, and this provides the sponsors with ongoing information regarding the achievements of the school. The Headteacher is also able to seek advice from Sponsors when needed.

### j. Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

All employees have regular team meetings where management disseminate relevant information and provide feedback on any issues raised. One-to-one staff appraisals are used to answer any concerns employees may have.

Governors recognise that equal opportunities should be an integral part of good practice within the workplace and that a working environment which fosters the contribution and needs of all people is essential.

The school has external ramps for those not able to use steps and the main entrance to the building is large enough to provide wheelchair access to lifts and routes to all the main areas of the school, including accessible toilet and other facilities. The school supports the employment of disabled persons both in recruitment and retention of employees who may become disabled whilst employed, as well as through training and career progression. There are a number of policies which the school has adopted in relation to aspects of human resource management including: Equal Opportunities, Pay & Performance, Volunteers and Health & Safety policies

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

### Objectives and activities

### a. Objects and aims

The principal activity of the Charitable Company is the operation of Thomas Telford School to provide education for students of varying abilities between the ages of 11 and 19 with an emphasis on Science and Technology.

The main objectives of the Charitable Company are summarised below:

- to raise the standard of educational achievement of all students;
- to ensure that every child enjoys the same high-quality education in terms of resourcing, tuition and care, including through the focused application of pupil premium funding;
- to improve the effectiveness of the Charitable Company by keeping the curriculum and organisational structure under continual review;
- to provide value for money for the funds expended;
- to comply with all the statutory and national curriculum requirements; and
- to maintain close links with industry and commerce.

### b. Objectives, strategies and activities

The school's main strategy is encompassed in its mission statement which is:

'The general aim of Thomas Telford School is to maximise students' performance'.

To this end the activities provided include:

- tuition and learning opportunities for all students to attain appropriate academic qualifications; training opportunities for all staff, and especially teaching staff;
- secondments and placing of students with industrial and commercial partners;
- a programme of sporting and after school leisure activities for all students; and
- a careers advisory service to help students obtain employment or progress to purposeful higher education

To ensure that standards are continually raised both in the short term and long term, the school operates a programme of observation of lessons, is visited by inspectors and undertakes a comparison of results from entry to Key Stage 3, from thence to GCSE examinations; and from GCSE to A level, to assess the added value.

### c. Public benefit

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

In accordance with the Articles of Association the Charitable Company has adopted a "Scheme of Government" approved by the Department for Education ("DfE"). The Scheme of Government specifies, amongst other things, the basis for admitting students to the school, the catchment area from which the students are drawn, and that the curriculum should comply with the substance of the national curriculum with an emphasis on Science and Technology and their practical applications.

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

### Strategic report

### a. Educational achievements and performance

After good examination results in 2024, results in 2025 were also good; 33% (2024: 30%) of GCSE grades achieved were 9 to 7 and 49% (2024: 49%) of A-Level and vocational grades achieved were A\* to A or Distinction\* to Distinction.

200 Year 13 students (74% of the relevant cohort) will be progressing to university this year or next, and 17% have secured employment, including 17 students who have secured highly sought-after higher and degree apprenticeships. 3 students gained entry to Cambridge or Oxford and 8 students secured entry to university to read Medicine.

64% of Year 11 students will continue their studies in the Thomas Telford School sixth form and the remaining 36% will progress to either post-16 education and training elsewhere, professional sports contracts or apprenticeships.

All students receive comprehensive careers support to ensure a smooth transition to future education or employment at the end of Year 11.

The trust fosters outreach projects with other local schools as part of its programme of dissemination of good practice in the sphere of education. In addition, the trust has sponsored the establishment of three academies in the West Midlands and Shropshire regions. These academies are now part of the core activities of Thomas Telford Multi Academy Trust ("TTMAT") which the trust continues to support by way of a services agreement. This sets out the trust's continuing commitment to provide a broad range of practical assistance to the West Midlands academies and to other constituent members who have subsequently joined or will become part of TTMAT as its expansion plans develop.

The long-established vision that all students should be well positioned to enter the world of employment and ably equipped to cope with the demands of modern society is the driving force behind the school's ongoing commitment to support TTMAT and ensure its students receive the same educational opportunities as those attending Thomas Telford School.

For the foreseeable future, the trust intends to continue to improve its examination results record and maintain its high standards whilst continuing to support education through its sponsorship and outreach work. The school has a rigorous maintenance programme to ensure that the buildings and facilities are kept in excellent condition.

### b. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of Governors has a reasonable expectation that the trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

### c. Fundraising

The Charitable Company had no fundraising activities requiring disclosure under S162A of the Charities Act 2011.

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

### **Financial Review**

#### a. Financial Performance

The majority of the trust's income is provided by Department for Education ("DfE") in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE during the year ended 31 August 2025 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Capital grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund, in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2019), The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned.

In the year ended 31 August 2025, the trust's total income was £14.0m (2024: £13.4m), which included:

- £13.4m (2024: £12.5m) from the trust's educational activities
- £0.1m (2024: £0.1m) from donations and capital grants
- £0.3m (2024: £0.3m) from investments
- £0.2m (2024: £0.5m) from the trust's initial teaching training activities

Total income increased by £0.6m, or 4.5%, year-on-year, which was mainly due to an increase in recurrent grants provided by the DfE.

In the year ended 31 August 2025, the trust's total expenditure was £13.8m (2024: £13.3m), which included:

- £12.7m (2024: £12.0m) on the trust's educational activities
- £0.8m (2024: £0.8m) on depreciation of tangible fixed assets
- £0.1m (2024: £0.1m) on raising funds
- £0.2m (2024: £0.4m) on the trust's initial teaching training activities

Total expenditure increased by £0.5m, or 3.8%, year-on-year, which mainly reflected increased staff costs and additional investment in the refurbishment and maintenance of the estate. Expenditure on staff of £9.5m (2024: £8.7m) represented 68% of total income (2024: 65%).

In the year ended 31 August 2025, the trust's net funds increased by £0.5m (2024: increase of £0.7m), which was primarily due to net gains on investments of £0.3m (2024: £0.7m).

The value of tangible assets increased to £11.7m (2024: £11.4m), due to investment in new equipment. The school invested £1.2m in fixed asset additions during the year. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the students of the school.

The value of investments was £10.1m (2024: £10.0m), mainly due to gains on the underlying assets being offset by investment withdrawals to support the purchase of capital items referred to above. Cash at bank and in hand remained at £0.5m (2024: £0.5m). Investments have performed in line with the Governors' expectations.

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

### b. Reserves Policy

The Governors continually monitor the reserves of the trust. This process encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams and the need to match commitments with income and the nature of reserves. The Governors have determined that the level of reserves, which are not invested in fixed assets at the year end, of £9.5m (2024: £9.4m), is adequate for its immediate needs. The ultimate needs of the Charitable Company are considered to be 9 to 12 months of reserves in order to cover operating expenditure to complete an academic year. Operating expenditure for this purpose is defined as total resources expended excluding depreciation. The investment funds retained by the school are also intended to ensure its ability to maintain and develop the fabric of the school buildings and to continue to provide students with state-of-the-art facilities in the longer term.

### c. Investments Policy

Free cash is invested in a manner commensurate with the perceived need. Short-term investments are made in interest-bearing cash accounts and other liquid forms. Funds set aside to meet longer term needs are invested in a portfolio managed by RBC Brewin Dolphin in accordance with the investment policy approved by the board of Governors.

### d. Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Governors have a comprehensive risk management process in place to identify and monitor the risks faced by the school. The principal risks identified include governance, statutory compliance, finance, insurance, student attainment and progress, attendance, behaviour, health and safety, organisation, operations, safeguarding, reputation, HR and ICT. A risk rating mechanism is in place with greater emphasis directed towards identified higher risk areas.

### e. Risk Management

The Governors confirm that all material risks to which the Charitable Company is exposed are continually reviewed and systems and insurance arrangements have been established to manage and mitigate the risks identified. Further details can be found within the governance statement.

### Plans for future periods

The school will continue to strive to improve the levels of performance of its students at all levels and will continue its efforts to ensure that students secure employment or places in higher education when they leave. Looking forward to 2025/26 and beyond, the school will continue to ensure consistently high standards in education for the students. In furtherance of the school's strategy and in order to aid the delivery of the charitable objectives, the school will continue to:

- review the operational and governance structures to ensure that it operates in the most efficient and costeffective way: and
- invest in facilities and equipment to improve the fabric of the building and to provide an environment conducive to learning.

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

### Funds held as custodian

The Charitable Company acts as an agent in distributing bursary funds and grants from the ESFA. Payments received and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. In some instances, the trust can use a proportion of the allocation towards its own administration costs and, where applicable, this is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

### Disclosure of information to auditor

Insofar as the Governors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the Charitable Company's auditor is unaware, and
- each Governor has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Governor in order to be aware
  of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Charitable Company's auditor is aware of that
  information.

The Governors' Report was approved by order of the Board of Governors, as the company directors, on 12 November 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

G L Ruoss Chair

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

### Scope of responsibility

As Governors, we acknowledge that we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Telford City Technology College Trust Limited 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 Governors, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DFE's Governance Handbook and competency framework for governance.

The governing board has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, 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 Telford City Technology College Trust Limited and the Secretary of State for Education. The accounting officer is also responsible for reporting to the governing board any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

#### Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Governors' Report and in the Statement of Governors' responsibilities. The governing board has formally met three times during the year.

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

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
GL Ruoss, Chair	3	3
JF Bowater	2	3
HV Clark (resigned 30 September 2024)	0	0
RJ Harrison OBE	3	3
B Jones	3	3
TCA Haywood (appointed 1 September 2024)	1	3
SB Roberts	3	3
E Williams	3	3
K Evers (appointed 7 November 2024)	3	3
G Vine	1	3
CM Harding-Jack (appointed 5 March 2025)	2	2
J Roberts	2	3

The governing board has convened in-person on a termly basis, with the option to participate by video conferencing facilities to support the best possible attendance, to maintain effective oversight. The Chair has met regularly with the Headteacher to also monitor progress and be kept informed of any pertinent matters which may arise from time to time. Governors receive monthly reports relating to the financial performance and position of the school and, from time to time, other relevant reports relating to matters at the school. Governors are encouraged to visit the school at any time to meet with the Headteacher and other employees or simply to observe aspects of the school day.

During the year, the governing board has overseen many aspects of running the school, with the students' progress and achievements being its main priority. Alongside this, other important issues such as student wellbeing, in particular following the pandemic, improving the performance of individual curriculum departments where required, examining the physical security of the site, including cyber security, consideration of capital projects, and balancing annual income with expenditure have also been considered during the year.

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

### Governance (continued)

In order to manage potential conflicts of interest, The Charitable Company maintains a register of interests for both Governors and senior management, which is reviewed on a regular basis by the governing board and senior management team and updated as required. The register of interests is available for relevant key management to review on a day-to-day basis, as needed.

Evaluation of the actions taken in relation to the challenges, and the general wellbeing, positivity and performance results of the students coupled with the general ethos within the school, bear testament to the fact that the actions encouraged and taken by the governing board have been effective.

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Governors. The Committee maintains an oversight of the Trust's financial, governance, risk management and internal control systems. In addition, the Committee monitors the performance of the Trust's investment portfolio and its compliance with the agreed Investment Policy. It reports termly and annually to the Governing Board and the Accounting Officer (where applicable) on the conduct of its business and the scope of its enquiries and reviews and any resultant conclusions or further investigations. All recommendations are presented to the Board for consideration, and, if appropriate, approval, with the Board's decisions recorded in the minutes of the meeting when these were reached.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of a possible	
JF Bowater	3	3	
GL Ruoss	3	3	
TCA Haywood	2	2	

The Remuneration Committee is also a sub-committee of the main Board of Governors. The Committee review the annual salary and discretionary performance-related pay awards for all, staff (including the Head), with due regard to the School's Pay Policy and other relevant documents. The Committee also considers the performance of the Head. The Committee's recommendations are presented for the consideration of the Governing Board and the decisions reached are recorded in the minutes of the meetings at which these were reached.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of a possible	
GL Ruoss	2	2	
B Jones	2	2	
SB Roberts	2	2	

### Governance review

Governors continue to be satisfied that the overall expertise of the board was strong, and the level of governance ability exhibited by members continued to be appropriate and sufficient to enable Governors to execute their responsibilities effectively. There remains some scope to further develop local links, particularly with local businesses, in order to improve knowledge of the local and regional economic conditions and needs. The Trust undertakes regular governance reviews as part of a wider programme of self-assessment and improvement. Due to the resignation of Board members and the need to identify suitably qualified replacements, a governance review was not undertaken during the academic year. The Trust intends to undertake a full review during the next academic year.

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

### Review of value for money

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

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

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

- investing in the infrastructure and facilities of the school to increase the opportunities available to students, to maintain high levels of safety and to improve energy efficiency, including:
  - o the purchase of new ICT equipment for use in the classroom
  - o the refurbishment of the fitness centre
  - o the installation of photovoltaic solar panels
  - o the purchase of minibuses
  - o the creation of new learning spaces
- maintaining strong educational results and destination outcomes. The Governors believe that the most
  effective demonstration of value for money is in the educational achievements of the school's students
  and the high-quality opportunities they pursue following completion of their studies.
- exercising a high level of governance and oversight of school finances. In addition to the statutory external
  audit, the trust engaged the services of a separate independent firm of chartered accountants to deliver a
  programme of internal scrutiny. The programme reviews key financial policies, systems and procedures,
  including the use of tenders, and presents reports on compliance termly to the Finance Audit and Risk
  committee and the governing board.

The governing board reviews and challenges the budget each year and is mindful of the need to balance expenditure against income to ensure that the school remains a 'going concern', when assessed by reference to strict accounting standards. The Finance Audit and Risk committee and the governing board reviews the annual accounts and the external auditor's audit findings report in detail each year.

The governing board also receives monthly and termly budget monitoring reports and investigates any deviations from the plan to ensure that the school demonstrates good value for money as well as efficient and effective use of resources. The school takes a prudent approach to expenditure generally. As approximately 70% of the school's income is expended on staffing, the staffing structure and composition is reviewed regularly by the governing board to ensure that it is fit for purpose and can adapt and respond as necessary to support the successful attainment of the objectives agreed in the school's Development Plan.

The senior management team monitors and reviews expenditure within each budget category and makes adjustments based on the effectiveness of strategies introduced in previous years, changes in the curriculum offer and any new strategies identified in the school's development plan.

The school regularly benchmarks its financial performance against other schools and academy trusts to demonstrate comparatively that the school provides good value for money.

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

### Review of value for money (continued)

Tender exercises are periodically undertaken to ensure that high value contracts in particular are assessed against the marketplace on a regular basis to ensure that long term contracts remain competitive. From 2020 this notably applied to the renegotiated gas and electricity contracts.

The school collaborates with a number of other schools and academy trusts to achieve best value, notably by way of bulk purchasing economies. Departmental budget holders are continuously looking for the most competitive deals using various procurement tools such as internet shopping, advice from other academies and economies of scale. They ensure that suppliers compete on the grounds of cost, quality, suitability, product and after sales support.

The Governors and senior management team apply principles of best value when making decisions about:

- the allocation of resources to best promote the aims and values of the school
- the targeting of resources to best improve standards and the quality of education provision
- the use of resources to best support the various educational needs of all pupils; and
- long term planning for future maintenance and capital spend requirements

The school has developed procedures for assessing priority of need and obtaining goods and services which provide "best value" in terms of suitability, efficiency, time, and cost. Measures in place include:

- competitive tendering procedures
- procedures for accepting "best value" quotes, which may not necessarily be the cheapest (e.g. suitability for purpose and quality and durability of product)
- · internal project management of major new buildings and equipment installations; and
- reviewing controls and managing risks. The school'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.

Monthly budget monitoring reports are produced and reviewed by the Director of Finance, the accounting officer and the full governing board. Any necessary remedial actions are taken to address any significant variances that may have an impact on the financial performance for the year or in the longer term. The school ensures that all surplus cash balances are invested in interest bearing accounts to maximise interest earning potential.

A separate investment fund for longer term needs is managed by specialist advisors at RBC Brewin Dolphin. Targets are set for capital growth and income generation and performance is regularly reviewed by the Governors, which includes regular meetings between the Finance Audit and Risk Committee and RBC Brewin Dolphin.

Insurance levels are reviewed annually and used cost effectively to manage risks.

### The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Charitable Company 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 Telford City Technology College Trust Limited for the year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

### Capacity to handle risk

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

#### The risk and control framework

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

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

The board of Governors engaged the services of Curo, a firm of chartered accountants, to act as internal audit and to deliver a programme of internal scrutiny covering the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025.

The internal auditor provides advice on financial and other matters and performs a range of checks on the trust's financial and other systems. In particular, the checks carried out in the current period included:

- Review of journal entries
- Review of payroll
- Review of bank reconciliations
- Review of controls over standing data
- Sample testing of purchase transactions

On a termly basis, the internal auditor reports to the board of Governors, through the Finance Audit and Risk committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of Governors' financial responsibilities. These reports include a summary report outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year-on-year progress.

In the year ending 31 August 2025, the internal auditor delivered the work programme as planned. No control issues were identified by the internal auditor's work.

These arrangements can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, that transactions are authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected within a timely period.

### GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

### Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditor
- · the work of the external auditor
- the work of the Director of Finance, who has responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework
- the school resource management self-assessment tool

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the internal auditor 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 chartiable company has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

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

G L Ruoss

Chair of Trustees

Date: 12 November 2025

I Rawlings

Accounting Officer

### STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As accounting officer of Telford City Technology College Trust Limited, I confirm that I have had due regard to the framework of authorities governing regularity, propriety and compliance, including the charitable company's funding agreement with DfE, and the principles of the Academy Trust Handbook, including responsibilities for estates safety and management. I have also considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and DfE of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I, and the Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the charitable company, or material non-compliance with the framework of authorities.

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

I Rawlings

Accounting Officer

Date: 12 November 2025

### STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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

Company law requires the Governors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Governors 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 Governors 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 judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Governors 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 Governors 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 DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

The Governors 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 Governors and signed on its behalf by:

Chair

Date: 12 November 2025

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF TELFORD CITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE TRUST LIMITED

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Telford City Technology College Trust Limited (the 'Charitable Company') for the year ended 31 August 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows 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 Charitable Company's affairs as at 31 August 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended:
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; 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 Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charitable Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the 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 Governors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

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

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

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF TELFORD CITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. The Governors 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 Governors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Governors' Report has 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 Charitable Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Governors' 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 Governors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

### **Responsibilities of Governors**

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

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF TELFORD CITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

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

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

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

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the Charitable Company operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Charities Act 2011 together with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006, the Academy Accounts Direction and the Academy Trust Handbook. We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the Charitable Company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the Charitable Company for fraud. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context were General Data Protection Regulation, health and safety legislation, Ofsted and employee legislation.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquire of the Governors and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be in the following areas: the override of controls by management, including posting of unusual journals; inappropriate treatment of non-routine transactions and areas of estimation uncertainty.

Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management and the Board about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence with the Department for Education, and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <a href="https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities">www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities</a>. This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF TELFORD CITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

### Use of our report

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

Matt Doyle-Healey (Senior Statutory Auditor)

Mirkhlibert

for and on behalf of Crowe U.K. LLP Statutory Auditor Black Country House Rounds Green Road Oldbury West Midlands B69 2DG

Date: 17.11.25

### INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO TELFORD CITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE TRUST LIMITED AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 5 September 2025 and further to the requirements of the Department for Education (DfE) as included in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts 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 Telford City Technology College Trust Limited 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 Telford City Technology College Trust Limited 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 Telford City Technology College Trust Limited 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 Telford City Technology College Trust Limited and the Secretary of State for Education, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

### Respective responsibilities of Telford City Technology College Trust Limited's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Telford City Technology College Trust Limited's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 19 November 1990 and having due regard to the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2024, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

### **Approach**

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting 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 Charitable Company's income and expenditure.

The work undertaken to draw our conclusion includes a review of the design and implementation of the Charitable Company's internal controls and review processes on regularity, supported by detailed tests on samples of costs incurred by the Charitable Company and specific transactions identified from our review.

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO TELFORD CITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE TRUST LIMITED AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

### 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.

Reporting Accountant Crowe U.K. LLP

and We Wi

Statutory Auditor Black Country House Rounds Green Road Oldbury West Midlands B69 2DG

Date: 17.11.25

## 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	_	55,903	33,976	89,879	114,370
Investments	5	306,703	-	-	306,703	311,987
Charitable activities	6	1,349,898	11,971,343	8,122	13,329,363	12,427,760
Teacher training	-	193,490	54,000	-	247,490	496,504
Total income		1,850,091	12,081,246	42,098	13,973,435	13,350,621
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	7	34,159	-	-	34,159	32,645
Charitable activities: Charitable Company educational	7					
operations		895,273	11,875,384	797,713	13,568,370	12,781,446
Teacher training		82,970	111,788	-	194,758	467,466
Total expenditure		1,012,402	11,987,172	797,713	13,797,287	13,281,557
Net income/(expenditure) before net gains on investments		837,689	94,074	(755,615)	176,148	69, <i>064</i>
Net gains on investments		323,227	<u>-</u>	-	323,227	662,968
Net		,			,	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
income/(expenditure)		1,160,916	94,074	(755,615)	499,375	732,032
Transfers between funds	17	(1,012,173)	(94,074)	1,106,247	-	-
Net movement in funds		148,743	-	350,632	499,375	732,032

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) (CONTINUED) 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 £
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		9,372,202	-	11,398,773	20,770,975	20,038,943
Net movement in funds		148,743	-	350,632	499,375	732,032
Total funds carried forward		9,520,945	<u>-</u>	11,749,405	21,270,350	20,770,975

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

The notes on pages 29 to 55 form part of these financial statements.

### TELFORD CITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE TRUST LIMITED

(A Company Limited by Guarantee) REGISTERED NUMBER: 02414699

### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Mada		2025		2024
Fixed assets	Note		£		£
Tangible assets	13		11,749,405		11,398,773
Investments	14		10,052,708		10,026,167
			04 000 440		04.404.040
Current assets			21,802,113		21,424,940
Debtors	15	533,078		285,931	
Cash at bank and in hand		501,748		495,519	
		4.004.000		704.450	
Current liabilities		1,034,826		781,450	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one					
year	16	(1,566,589)		(1,435,415)	
Net current liabilities			(531,763)	-	(653,965)
Not our one number					
Total net assets			21,270,350		20,770,975
Funds of the Charitable Company					
Restricted funds:					
Fixed asset funds	17	11,749,405		11,398,773	
Total restricted funds	17		11,749,405		11,398,773
Unrestricted income funds	17		9,520,945		9,372,202
Total funds			21,270,350		20,770,975
rotariands			=======================================		=====

The financial statements on pages 25 to 55 were approved and authorised for issue by the Governors and are signed on their behalf, by:

GL Ruoss

Chair

Date: 12 November 2025

The notes on pages 29 to 55 form part of these financial statements.

### 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	19	322,666	(310,626)
Cash flows from investing activities	20	(316,437)	(277,427)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		6,229	(588,053)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		495,519	1,083,572
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	21, 22	501,748	495,519

The notes on pages 29 to 55 form part of these financial statements

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

### 1. Accounting policies

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

### 1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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

### 1.2 Company status

The Charitable Company is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England & Wales, registered number 02414699. The registered office is Old Park, Telford, Shropshire, TF3 4NW. In the event of the Charitable Company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charitable Company.

### 1.3 Application of the Academy Trust Handbook

It is not a requirement of the Charitable Company's Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State to follow the Academy Trust Handbook ("ATH"). The board of Governors does however have due regard to the principles of the ATH as a matter of good governance.

### 1.4 Going concern

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

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

### Accounting policies (continued)

### 1.5 Income

All incoming resources are recognised when the Charitable Company 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.

### • Sponsorship income

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

### 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 Charitable Company has provided the goods or services.

### Donated goods, facilities and services

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

### 1.6 Investment income

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

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

### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

### 1.7 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 Charitable Company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

### Charitable activities

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

### 1.8 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

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

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

### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

### 1.8 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Long leasehold site- 125 yearsBuildings- 50 yearsAll-weather pitch- 10 yearsFurniture & Fixtures- 7 yearsComputer equipment- 4 yearsMotor Vehicles- 4 Years

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

### 1.9 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance Sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

### 1.10 Operating leases

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

### 1.11 Taxation

The Charitable Company 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 Charitable Company 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.

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

### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

### 1.12 Financial instruments

The Charitable Company only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and financial liabilities of the Charitable Company 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 15. 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 16. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument. Amounts due to the Charitable Company's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

### 1.13 Pensions

Retirement benefits to employees of the Charitable Company are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ("TPS"), the Thomas Telford Group Pension Plan, and the National Employment Savings Trust ('NEST'). The TPS is a defined benefit scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Charitable Company. The other schemes are defined contribution schemes and the pension costs for those schemes represent contributions payable by the Charitable Company in the year.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Charitable Company 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.

### 1.14 Fund accounting

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

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.

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

### Accounting policies (continued)

### 1.15 Agency arrangements

The school acts as an agent in distributing bursary funds and grants from the DfE and other government bodies. Payments received and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the school does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. In some instances the school can use a proportion of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the statement of financial activities. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in note 29.

### 2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The Charitable Company makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. Management do not consider the financial statements to require any estimates or assumptions that are considered integral to the financial statements. 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.

### 3. General Annual Grant (GAG)

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Charitable Company was subject to limits at 31 August 2025 on the amount of GAG that could be carried forward from one year to the next. An amount equal to 12% of GAG could be carried forward, of which up to 2% could be used for general recurrent purposes, with any balance being available for premises/capital purposes.

The Charitable Company has not exceeded these limits during the year ended 31 August 2025.

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

### 4. Income from donations and capital grants

The Mercers' Company	Restricted funds 2025 £ 55,903	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025	Total funds 2025 £ 55,903
Capital grants	-	33,976	33,976
	55,903	33,976	89,879
The Mercers' Company Capital grants	Restricted funds 2024 £ 81,075	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £ - 33,295	Total funds 2024 £ 81,075 33,295
	81,075	33,295	114,370

### 5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Dividends and bank interest	306,703	306,703
	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Dividends and bank interest	311,987 ————————————————————————————————————	311,987

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

### 6. Funding for the Charitable Company's educational operations

Educational Operations	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Educational Operations			
DfE grants			
General annual grant (GAG)	-	11,228,602	11,228,602
Other DfE grants			
Pupil Premium	-	167,198	167,198
Other DfE grants	-	572,060	572,060
	-	11,967,860	11,967,860
Other Government grants			
Local authority grants	-	3,483	3,483
Other income from the Charitable Company's educational operations	1,041,702	8,122	1,049,824
Central Services Income	308,196	-	308,196
Total Educational Operations	1,349,898	11,979,465	13,329,363

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

### 6. Funding for the Charitable Company's educational operations (continued)

Educational Operations	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
DfE grants			
General annual grant (GAG)	-	10,414,797	10,414,797
Other DfE grants			
Pupil Premium	-	145,165	145,165
Other DfE grants	-	461,133	461,133
	-	11,021,095	11,021,095
Other Government grants			
Local authority grants	-	24,261	24,261
Other income from the Charitable Company's educational operations	905,652	20,655	926,307
Central Services Income	456,097	-	456,097
	1,361,749	11,066,011	12,427,760

### 7. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2025 £	Premises 2025 £	Other 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Expenditure on investment management Educational Operations:	-	-	34,159	34,159
Direct costs	7,194,825	1,245,724	1,854,692	10,295,241
Allocated support costs Teacher Training:	2,160,229	402,630	710,270	3,273,129
Direct costs	98,813	-	83,177	181,990
Allocated support costs			12,768	12,768
	9,453,867	1,648,354	2,695,066	13,797,287

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

### 7. Expenditure (continued)

	Staff Costs 2024 £	Premises 2024 £	Other 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Expenditure on investment management: Educational Operations:	-	-	32,645	32,645
Direct costs	6,564,623	1,374,976	1,715,397	9,654,996
Allocated support costs Teacher Training:	1,981,784	258,219	886,447	3,126,450
Direct costs	190,164	-	241,469	431,633
Allocated support costs		-	35,833	35,833
	8,736,571	1,633,195	2,911,791	13,281,557

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

### 8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Educational Operations	10,295,241	3,273,129	13,568,370
Teacher Training	181,990	12,768	194,758
	10,477,231	3,285,897	13,763,128
	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Educational Operations	9,654,996	3,126,450	12,781,446
Teacher Training	431,633	35,833	467,466
	10,086,629	3,162,283	13,248,912

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

### 8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

### **Analysis of support costs**

	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Staff costs	2,160,230	1,981,784
Depreciation	180,646	181,547
Other support costs	693,640	626,185
Premises expenses	217,366	258,219
Legal and professional	9,310	88,920
Governance	24,705	25,628
	3,285,897	3,162,283

During the year ended 31 August 2025, the Charitable Company incurred governance costs in relation to statutory audit services and other legal services.

### 9. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2025 £	2024 £
Operating lease rentals	31,532	47,341
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	797,713	785,512
Gain on disposal of fixed assets	(8,122)	(20,655)
Fees paid to auditor for:		
- audit	17,850	16,000
- other services	3,800	3,600

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

### 10. Staff

### a. Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	7,282,400	6,830,601
Social security costs	798,772	700,886
Pension costs	1,362,263	1,182,111
	9,443,435	8,713,598
Staff restructuring costs	2,000	6,970
Invoiced staff costs	8,432	16,003
	9,453,867	8,736,571
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
	2025 £	2024 £
Redundancy payments	-	6,970
Severance payments	2,000	_

### b. Severance payments

The Charitable Company paid 2 severance payments in the year (2024 - Nil), disclosed in the following bands:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
£0 - £25,000	2	-

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

#### 10. Staff (continued)

### c. Staff numbers

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

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Teachers	111	106
Administration and support	95	84
Management	4	4
	210	194
	<del></del> :	

### d. Higher paid staff

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

	2025 No.	2024 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	9	8
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	3	3
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	1
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	-	1
In the band £120,001 - £130,000	1	-
In the band £170,001 - £180,000	1	-
In the band £320,001 - £330,000		1

### e. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Charitable Company comprise the Governors and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Charitable Company was £396,859 (2024 - £692,430).

### 11. Governors' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Governors received any remuneration or other benefits (2024 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 August 2025, expenses totalling £378 were reimbursed or paid directly to Governors (2024 - £368).

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

#### 12. Governors' and Officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Charitable Company has purchased insurance to protect Governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on school business. The cost for the year ended 31 August 2025 was £270 (2024 - £270). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

### 13. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Assets under construction £	Total £
Cost or valuation						
At 1 September 2024	19,945,050	2,083,112	1,901,896	58,602	-	23,988,660
Additions	-	767,409	124,198	134,483	126,000	1,152,090
Disposals	-	(27,481)	(210,126)	-	-	(237,607)
At 31 August 2025	19,945,050	2,823,040	1,815,968	193,085	126,000	24,903,143
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2024	9,664,273	1,416,570	1,485,383	23,661	-	12,589,887
Charge for the year	450,830	161,652	163,263	21,969	-	797,714
On disposals	-	(23,737)	(210,126)	-	-	(233,863)
At 31 August 2025	10,115,103	1,554,485	1,438,520	45,630	-	13,153,738
Net book value						
At 31 August 2025	9,829,947	1,268,555	377,448	147,455	126,000	11,749,405
At 31 August 2024	10,280,777	666,542	416,513	34,941	-	11,398,773

The trust leases the land it occupies from Shropshire County Council on long leases of 125 years. The land associated with this lease has been accounted for on the same basis as the other long term leases in order to properly reflect the substance of the arrangement.

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

### 14. Fixed asset investments

15.

	Investments in subsidiary companies £	Listed investments £	Other asset investments £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 September 2024	2	9,329,953	696,212	10,026,167
Additions	-	1,299,900	(1,299,900)	-
Disposal proceeds	(2)	(1,743,412)	1,743,412	(2)
Withdrawal	-	-	(550,000)	(550,000)
Unrealised gain/(loss)	-	86,337	(2,486)	83,851
Investment manager's fees	-	-	(40,991)	(40,991)
Realised gain	-	218,351	21,026	239,377
Investment income	-	-	294,306	294,306
At 31 August 2025	-	9,191,129	861,579	10,052,708
Net book value				
At 31 August 2025	-	9,191,129	861,579	10,052,708
At 31 August 2024	2	9,329,953	696,212	10,026,167
Debtors				
			2025 £	2024 £
Due within one year				
Trade debtors			5,162	14,694
Other debtors			86,523	65,555
Prepayments and accrued income			441,393	205,682
			533,078	285,931

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

### 16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	161,206	203,983
Other taxation and social security	190,903	157,510
Other creditors	213,395	280,977
Accruals and deferred income	818,407	733,536
Capital creditors	182,678	59,409
	1,566,589	1,435,415
Deferred income		
	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 September 2024	140,597	168,889
Resources deferred during the year	168,003	140,596
Amounts released from previous periods	(140,597)	(168,889)
	168,003	140,596
	<del></del>	

At the balance sheet date the Charitable Company was holding funds of £168,003 (2024 - £140,596) relating to monies received in advance for school trips and grants received in advance.

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

### 17. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds - all funds	9,372,202	1,656,601	(929,431)	(901,654)	323,227	9,520,945
Teacher training	-	193,490	(82,971)	(110,519)	-	-
	9,372,202	1,850,091	(1,012,402)	(1,012,173)	323,227	9,520,945
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant	-	11,228,601	(11,134,527)	(94,074)	-	-
Other government grants	_	572,061	(572,061)	_		_
Local authority grants	_	3,483	(3,483)	_	_	_
Teacher training	-	54,000	(54,000)	_	_	_
Other	_	55,903	(55,903)	_	_	-
Pupil Premium	-	167,198	(167,198)	-	-	-
		12,081,246	(11,987,172)	(94,074)		

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

### 17. Statement of funds (continued)

Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
3,032,361	33,976	(191,965)	-	-	2,874,372
4,972,089	8,122	(485,416)	1,106,247	_	5,601,042
3,394,323	-	(120,332)	-	-	3,273,991
11,398,773	42,098	(797,713)	1,106,247	-	11,749,405
20,770,975	13,973,435	(13,797,287)	-	323,227	21,270,350
	September 2024 £ 3,032,361 4,972,089 3,394,323 11,398,773	September 2024 Income £  3,032,361 33,976  4,972,089 8,122 3,394,323 -  11,398,773 42,098	September 2024 £         Income £         Expenditure £           3,032,361         33,976         (191,965)           4,972,089 3,394,323         8,122 (485,416) (120,332)           11,398,773         42,098         (797,713)	September 2024 £         Income £         Expenditure £         Transfers in/out £           3,032,361         33,976         (191,965)         -           4,972,089 3,394,323         8,122 (485,416) 1,106,247 (120,332)         -           11,398,773         42,098         (797,713) 1,106,247	September 2024 £         Income £         Expenditure £         Transfers in/out £         Gains/ (Losses) £           3,032,361         33,976         (191,965)         -         -           4,972,089

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

The restricted fixed asset funds are provided by the Government and the private sector for specific capital projects. Such funds continue to be treated as restricted due to ongoing restrictions imposed by the DfE and sponsors over the use or disposal of the related assets.

Transfers represent expenditure on fixed assets from other government grants.

Unrestricted funds are available to be spent at the discretion of the Governors.

The restricted income fund relates to Government funding for the provision of education by the Charitable Company. Funding is repayable if the Charitable Company does not meet all of the funding requirements.

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

### 17. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds - all funds	8,315,372	1,217,639	(848,647)	24,870	662,968	9,372,202
Teacher training	-	327,886	(251,269)	(76,617)	-	-
	8,315,372	1,545,525	(1,099,916)	(51,747)	662,968	9,372,202
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant	-	10,414,797	(10,059,780)	(355,017)	_	-
Other government grants	_	461,133	(461,133)	_	-	-
Local authority grants	-	24,261	(24,261)	-	-	-
Teacher training	-	168,618	(168,618)	-	-	-
Other	-	81,075	(81,075)	-	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	145,165	(145,165)	-	-	-
	-	11,295,049	(10,940,032)	(355,017)	-	-

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

### 17. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Capital grants	3,194,897	33,295	(195,831)	-	-	3,032,361
Capital expenditure						
from GAG	4,956,520	-	(391,195)	406,764	-	4,972,089
Private sector	3,572,154	-	(177,831)	-	-	3,394,323
Profit/Loss on Disposal of Fixed Assets	-	20,655	(20,655)	-	-	-
	11,723,571	53,950	(785,512)	406,764	-	11,398,773
Total Restricted funds	11,723,571	11,348,999	(11,725,544)	51,747		11,398,773
Total funds	20,038,943	12,894,524	(12,825,460)	-	662,968	20,770,975

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

### 18. 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	-	-	11,749,405	11,749,405
Fixed asset investments	10,052,708	-	-	10,052,708
Current assets	-	1,034,826	-	1,034,826
Creditors due within one year	(531,763)	(1,034,826)	-	(1,566,589)
Total	9,520,945	-	11,749,405	21,270,350

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

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	11,398,773	11,398,773
Fixed asset investments	10,026,167	-	-	10,026,167
Current assets	-	781,450	-	781,450
Creditors due within one year	(653,965)	(781,450)	-	(1,435,415)
Total	9,372,202	-	11,398,773	20,770,975

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

	Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activit	ies	
		2025 £	2024 £
	Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	499,375	732,032
	Adjustments for:		
	Depreciation	797,713	785,512
	Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(33,976)	(33, 295)
	Bank Interest receivable	(12,398)	(30,755)
	Dividends and interest receivable from investments	(294,305)	(281, 232)
	(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(247,146)	54,806
	Decrease in creditors	(51,502)	(854,071)
	Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets	(11,866)	(20,655)
	Change in market value of investments	(323,229)	(662,968)
	Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	322,666	(310,626)
20.	Cash flows from investing activities		
		2025 £	2024 £
	Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(965,668)	£ (401,305)
	Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets	11,866	20,655
	Capital grants from DfE	33,976	33,294
	Bank Interest receivable	12,398	30,755
	Investment management fees	40,991	39,174
	Cash withdrawn from investments	550,000	-
	Net cash used in investing activities	(316,437)	(277,427)
21.	Analysis of cash and cash equivalents		
21.	Analysis of cash and cash equivalents	2025 £	2024 £

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

### 22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September		
	2024 £	Cash flows £	2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	495,519	6,229	501,748

### 23. Contingent liability

In March 2023, the School received correspondence from HMRC which sought to confirm the School's eligibility to continue to recover input VAT (under S33B of the VAT Act) as a City Technology College. In the meantime, the School has continued to submit VAT 126 claims in good faith and those claims continue to be settled by HMRC. The Board, after making appropriate enquiries, does not believe that, at the point of approving these accounts, there is a probable obligation to repay amounts previously recovered through VAT 126 claims, which were submitted in good faith and approved for payment by HMRC at the time.

### 24. Capital commitments

	2025 £	2024 £
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	84,000	-

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

#### 25. Pension commitments

The Charitable Company's employees belong to three principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Thomas Telford School Group Pension Plan with Scottish Equitable, or the National Employment Savings Trust ("NEST") for its nonteaching staff. The last two referred to are defined contribution schemes.

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

Contributions amounting to £164,438 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2025 (2024 - £144,890) and are included within creditors.

#### **Teachers' Pension Scheme**

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

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

### Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £1,349,351 (2024 - £1,105,049).

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).

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

#### Pension commitments (continued)

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The Charitable Company is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the Charitable Company 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 Charitable Company has set out above the information available on the scheme.

### 26. Operating lease commitments

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts payable:		
Within 1 year	20,156	35,416
Between 1 and 5 years	12,921	28,417
	33,077	63,833

### 27. 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 £1 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a member.

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

### 28. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Charitable Company and the composition of the Board of Governors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the Governors 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 Charitable Company's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

The following related party transactions took place in the period of account:

G Ruoss, K Evers, S Roberts and T Haywood are members of The Mercers' Company which provided sponsorship of £55,903 (2024: £81,075) to the Charitable Company in the year.

The spouse of Mr I Rawlings, a member of the senior management team, is employed by the Charitable Company. Mr I Rawlings' spouse is paid within the normal pay scale for their role and they receive no special treatment as a result of their relationship to a member of the senior management team.

The spouse of Mr T Osborne, a member of the senior management team, was employed by the Charitable Company. Mr T Osborne's spouse is paid within the normal pay scale for their role and they receive no special treatment as a result of their relationship to a member of the senior management team.

No other related party transactions took place in the period of account.

### 29. Agency arrangements

The school distributes bursary funds to students as an agent for the DfE. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2025 the school received £75,268 (2024 - £72,304) and disbursed £103,140 (2024 - £58,448) from the fund. An amount of £879 (2024 - £28,751) is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds.

The school distributes SD training bursaries to students as an agent for the DfE. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2025 the School received £375,600 (2024 - £196,800) and disbursed £381,600 (2024 - £196,800) from the fund. An amount of £Nil (2024 - £6,000) is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds.