

Company registration number 08171068 (England and Wales)

**LYMM HIGH SCHOOL**

**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**



# **LYMM HIGH SCHOOL**

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# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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### Members

Mrs E A Green  
Mrs L Hacker  
Mrs R Knowles  
Mr G Neal  
Mrs L Thomason  
Dr K Walshe

### Governors

Mr M C D Bainton (Parent) (Resigned 9 July 2025)  
Rev Canon E M Burgess (Foundation) (Resigned 9 July 2025)  
Mr M P Clarke (Parent) (Resigned 9 July 2025)  
Mrs A Cleminson (Community)  
Mr R P Dobson (Staff)  
Mrs E A Green (Chair of Governors) (Foundation)  
Mrs L A Hacker (Foundation) (Resigned 16 March 2025)  
Mrs K Hill (Staff) (Appointed 22 September 2025)  
Mrs R Knowles (Foundation)  
Mr R Mukherjee (Community)  
Mr G J Neal (Foundation)  
Ms D Owen (Community) (Appointed 1 September 2024)  
Mrs Y Poskitt (Staff)  
Mr M Ransby (Parent) (Appointed 1 September 2024)  
Mrs J Rooney (Community)  
Mr M A B Ritty (Staff) (Resigned 30 June 2025)  
Mrs L Shaw (Parent)  
Ms C M Somerfield (Parent)  
Mrs L E Thomason (Parent)  
Mr R E Tucker (Parent) (Appointed 1 September 2024)  
Dr K Walshe (Academy Trust appointed)  
Mr G Williams (Foundation)

### Senior leadership team

- Headteacher
- Senior Deputy Headteacher
- Senior Deputy Headteacher
- Deputy Headteacher
- Assistant Headteacher
- Assistant Headteacher
- Assistant Headteacher
- Associate Assistant Head
- Associate Assistant Head
- SENDCo Assistant Head
- Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Chief Operating Officer

Mr G Williams  
Mr R Johnson  
Mrs E Feast  
Mrs H Jennings  
Miss N Dixon  
Miss S Mulholland  
Ms N Neesam  
Dr F Dodds  
Mrs C McGahey  
Mrs K Yates  
Mrs R Ball  
Mr S Marsden

### Company secretary

Ms H J Headon

### Company registration number

08171068 (England and Wales)

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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**Principal and registered office**

Oughtlington Lane  
Lymm  
Cheshire  
WA13 0RB

**Independent auditor**

Xeinadin Audit Limited  
46 Hamilton Square  
Birkenhead  
Wirral  
Merseyside  
CH41 5AR

**Solicitors**

Browne Jacobson LLP  
Victoria Square House  
Victoria Square  
Birmingham  
B2 4BU

**Internal Auditor**

TIAA  
Dallam Court  
Dallam Lane  
Warrington  
Cheshire  
WA2 7LT

# **LYMM HIGH SCHOOL**

## **GOVERNORS' REPORT**

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

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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 Academy operates an academy for pupils aged 11-18 serving a catchment area in Cheshire. It has a pupil capacity of 1,901 and had a roll of 1,923 in the October 2024 school census.

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

#### **Constitution**

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

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

#### **Members' liability**

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

#### **Governors' indemnities**

Professional indemnity insurance is in place to protect governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring on academy business.

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

On 1 September 2012 the governors appointed all those governors that served the predecessor school and who wished to continue, to be governors of the newly formed Academy. The governors were appointed on a term of office that would end when their original term at the predecessor school would have ended, thus ensuring a staggered re-election or replacement process.

The Academy shall have the following governors as set out in its Articles of Association and funding agreement up to:

- 1 Governor who is appointed by the Members of the Academy Trust
- 7 Parent Governors - elected by parents
- 3 Staff Governors - elected by staff
- 5 Foundation Governors - appointed by Lymm Grammar School Trust
- 4 Community Governors - appointed by the governing body considering community interest in the success of the school
- The Headteacher who is treated for all purposes as being ex officio Governor

Governors are appointed for a four year period, except that this time limit does not apply to the Headteacher. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of governor, any governor can be re-appointed or re-elected.

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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### Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Governors

The Academy has an established Governor Recruitment, Induction and Training process, and one Governor takes lead responsibility for Governor training and development. The training and induction provided for new Governors will depend upon their existing experience but would always include a tour of the Academy and an opportunity to meet staff and students. All Governors are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as Governors. As there are normally very few new Governors appointed in a year, induction tends to be done informally and is tailored specifically to the individual. Advantage is taken of specific courses offered by the Local Authority and other bodies.

### Organisational structure

The Governors are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the Academy by the use of financial management information, making strategic decisions about the direction of the School and capital expenditure, making senior appointments, and approving the Annual Report and Financial Statements.

The Headteacher is the Accounting Officer.

The Senior Leadership Team consists of the Headteacher, Senior Deputy Headteachers, Deputy Headteacher, five Assistant Headteachers, two Associate SLT members, Head of Student Services and a Chief Operating Officer. These managers control the school at an executive level implementing the policies laid down by the governors and reporting back to them. As a group the Senior Leadership Team is responsible for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets and the appointment of staff, though appointment boards for posts in the management team always contain a governor. Some spending control is devolved to members of the management team with limits above which a senior manager must countersign.

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

The Governing Body annually review and adopt the Academy Pay Policy which details the process that needs to be followed in determining the remuneration of key personnel. In line with the Leadership Pay Policy, key personnel i.e. the Headteacher and Senior Deputy Heads annual salary are determined by the Remuneration Committee (which consists of Governors appointed by the Board). The Committee meets annually to assess whether the outcomes of individuals appraisals meet the criteria for pay progression.

### Trade union facility time

#### Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	2
Full-time equivalent employee number	2.00

#### Percentage of time spent on facility time

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

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

Total cost of facility time	38,889
Total pay bill	11,698,361
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time	-

#### Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	-
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# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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### **Engagement with employees**

The Academy is committed to engaging with all employees throughout the organisation and this is achieved through various mechanisms of communication which include: -

- Communicating issues that are a matter of concern for employees through whole school e-mails and staff meetings.
- The start of year Inset day which is held in September provides employees with updates about events and developments taking place.
- The Headteacher and other members of the SLT regularly discuss employment issues with the Trade Unions. The Academy has also agreed to be part of the Trade Union Recognition Agreement (TURA).
- Employees performance is paramount to the success of the organisation. This is managed, encouraged and developed using a standardised performance management process.
- The Academy employs an Assistant Headteacher and a Head of Human Resources, who are responsible for co-ordinating and leading on staff development, and for liaising closely with managers to ensure a successful professional development programme is in place.
- The Head of Human Resources is augmenting a Staff Wellbeing Programme, which will provide a substantial range of staff benefits.
- Any applications for employment from disabled persons, or the treatment of employees who become disabled whilst in employment will be treated equally, fairly, and consistently with other prospective candidates or employees of the Academy. Disabled employees will be given the same opportunities for training, career development and promotion as all other employees. The Academy will make reasonable adjustments where possible to allow disabled employees to continue in the employment of the Academy.

### **Equality & Diversity**

The Academy is a welcoming organisation which prides itself on its sense of community. The Academy actively fosters a culture of tolerance, honesty, cooperation, and mutual respect. Through our whole school policies and collaborative working practices we are committed to:

- Adhering to the Equalities Act 2010 and to promoting its values and principles.
- Tackling discrimination on the grounds of age, disability, pregnancy and maternity, gender identity, race, religion, belief, gender and sexual orientation.
- Advancing equal opportunity.
- Fostering positive relationships between all groups of people.
- Teaching children to understand and value the principles of equality and diversity.

We believe it is our responsibility to promote equality and diversity throughout the Academy, we work collaboratively to remove barriers and we will not tolerate discrimination on any grounds.

# **LYMM HIGH SCHOOL**

## **GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

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

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

The Academy relies on external suppliers for several key services. As well as being important for our success, we believe that dealing with suppliers in the right way is the right thing to do.

The Academy actively engages with suppliers through the undertaking of appropriate procurement exercises, ongoing contract management processes and partnership engagement. The Board-approved Financial Regulations and Procedures set out the procurement rules for the Academy which ensure that taxpayers' money is used in ways that are demonstrably open, fair, and good value. It requires that all suppliers are given an equal opportunity to seek business and make competitive offers, and that spending choices and decisions are transparent and defensible. Financial Regulations and Procedures expect good contract management with suppliers to build and maintain a strong working relationship with the supplier with all relevant partners and stakeholders, checking that the scheduled goods, works or services are being delivered on time and to the required standards set out in the contract.

#### **Parents and carers**

The Academy actively engages with parents and carers of pupils via the individual communications methods which include email, text and the use of online platforms such as Class Charts. These online platforms enable quick communication between staff and parents and one-to-one communications. The Academy seek parent views via annual parent questionnaires and engage face to face (or online) with parents at parents' evenings and a wide range of other school events.

#### **Pupils**

Pupil views are gathered through a variety of routes such as pupil questionnaires, school councils and daily communications in class and in school in general. Pupils are systematically surveyed throughout the year using an appropriate methodology consistent with their stage and age. Surveys collate pupil views on wellbeing and mental health as well as their educational experience.

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

Lymm High School Leisure Centre Limited (a company limited by guarantee) manages the leisure facilities owned by the academy. There is a shared use agreement between the leisure centre and the Academy. The Academy has a parent teacher association which actively supports the Academy.

The School operates the Ty'n Y Felin Residential Centre which is owned by the Lymm Grammar School Trust. The School uses the centre for schools and manages external bookings. It covers operating costs and retains lettings and other income. This arrangement ceased in February 2025.

In addition The Lymm Grammar School Trust owns the School buildings.

There are no related parties which either control or significantly influence the decisions and operations of the academy. There are no sponsors.

#### **Objectives and activities**

##### **Objects and aims**

In 2012, the Governing Body, staff, parents and students worked together to create the Lymm High School Charter, which sets out the enduring aims and principles which guide the school now and in the future. The Charter states that "Lymm High School exists to enable its students to enjoy learning, achieve their full potential and be successful. Through outstanding teaching and learning provision, we help them to become independent lifelong learners, confident and capable individuals, and socially responsible citizens and members of the community". It also outlines the school's commitment to comprehensive education, the importance of our relationship with nine partner primary schools, the value we place on our staff, the requirement for robust governance arrangements together with diligent stewardship of public funding and other resources.



# **LYMM HIGH SCHOOL**

## **GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

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

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

The School's main strategy is to develop and maintain a culture of excellence across our organisation that provides opportunities for all children and students in our school. Lymm High School is an organisation that provides opportunities for staff and students alike but always embraces the local community so as to ensure that the school is at the centre. We aim for our communities to be proud of their local school.

As we continue to grow we are determined to remain an organisation of 'first choice'. We believe that it is important that children are able to attend a 'Good' or 'Outstanding' local school. The school's approach to this strategy includes:

- Tuition and learning opportunities for all students to attain appropriate academic qualifications
- Training and development opportunities for all staff
- A programme of after school activities for all students
- A career advisory service to help students obtain employment or move on to higher education
- A wide range of enrichment opportunities
- High quality professional learning opportunities for all school employees
- A process of continual monitoring and review of teaching and learning together with rigorous data analysis of individual pupil achievement.

### **Public benefit**

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

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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### Strategic report

#### Achievements and performance

The school continues to perform very strongly against all the usual external benchmarks.

Examination results were exceptional again in 2025. There were no nationally available progress scores this year, but the attainment headlines were in line with 2024 (when progress was in the top 5 comprehensive schools in the North West). Attainment scores were also the highest in Warrington. For example:

- 69% met the basics measure at grade 9-5, well above the national average of 45%
- An Attainment 8 score of 59.6, well above national average of 45.9
- EBacc score of 5.25, well above national average of 4.08

At A level, headline figures were as strong as the school has ever seen, including:

- 27% of grades at A\*-A
- 54% A\*-B
- 81% A\*-C

The quality of teaching is consistently very strong across the school (which is reflected in the outcomes). This is supported by a well-planned programme of professional development for colleagues at all different stages of their careers.

Pastoral care remains excellent, as does the especially broad enrichment offer. Participation levels are high, including on the school's 'Leadership Ladder' which was designed specifically to encourage and celebrate students who take part in meaningful activities beyond the classroom.

Behaviour also remains excellent. Attendance figures were significantly higher than national averages for 2024-25 (93.6% attendance vs 91.3% nationally and 15% vs 25.1% for persistent absence rates).

All of this was recognised when the school was inspected by Ofsted in February 2024 and judged to be Good, with the 6th Form judged to be Outstanding.

The key strategic priorities for the school for the coming year are to continue to raise levels achievement and attendance, especially for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

#### Key performance indicators

The main financial performance indicators are:

- Income – percentage of general funds derived from GAG and other funding and self-generated income
- Staff costs as a percentage of general funds income
- Cash balance at balance sheet date and cash flow forecasting
- Revenue reserves at balance sheet date and level of free reserves

It is the Academy's policy that, in general terms, the income received in any one year is spent for the benefit of those children in the school that year.

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### Going concern

The activities of the School, together with the factors likely to affect its future development and performance are set out in the Strategic Report. The financial position of the School, including its cashflow and liquidity, are presented in the Financial Statements and accompanying Notes.

The school has sufficient reserves and has allocated a proportion of these for physical improvements during the year. A reserve fund of c. £1.5M remains in place.

Accordingly the School has a reasonable expectation that it has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, and for this reason will continue to adopt the going concern basis in the preparation of its Financial Statements.

#### Financial review

Most of the Academy income is obtained from the 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 in the period ended 31 August 2024 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Trust also received capital grants from the DfE and other organisations. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP FRS102), such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the restricted general fund and fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

During the period ended 31 August 2025 total income amounted to £15,757,187 (2024 £14,231,656) and after deducting expenditure of £16,565,096 (2024 £15,668,214) there was net expenditure for the year of £807,909 (2024 £1,436,558). The deficit for the year was after charging depreciation of £1,221,089 and deemed net pension income in connection with the Local Government Pension Scheme of £46,000. Monies received during the year from DfE and the Local Authority for capital projects amounted to £711,966.

Total reserves carried forward amounted to £26,808,050. This is in line with the trust's strategy to build and maintain adequate reserves to continue to fund ambitious plans of future improvements and development of the organisation and its infrastructure.

Unrestricted net income in the year ended 31 August 2025 amounted to a surplus of £91,350 (2024 £91,707). At 31 August 2025 the net book value of fixed assets amounted to £26,109,200 (2024 £26,472,968) and movements in fixed assets are shown in note 13 to the financial statements. The cost of fixed asset additions in the period ended 31 August 2025 amounted to £868,454 which was largely represented by the School's investment in the built environment funded by a successful condition improvement fund bids for replacement of windows in Block B and other funding towards the purchase of modular building to house the Performing Arts Centre.

The School's subsidiary, Lymm High School Leisure Centre, generated a surplus of £114,400 (2024 £69,270) as a result of increased lettings. This has resulted in achieving overall surplus funds of £114,400 which were donated to the School.

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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### **Reserves policy**

The governors' policy is to review the reserve levels of the School annually.

The governors have determined that the majority of funds received from the Education & Skills Funding Agency should be used for the annual running costs of the School. Within this framework, School will carry forward a prudent level of resources designed to:

- Ensure necessary working capital to cover any delays between spending and receipt of grants.
- Cover possible unforeseen contingencies.
- Provide a buffer given uncertain, inadequate and probably worsening levels of funding.

The School has defined the reserves policy to ensure that sufficient funds are accumulated to ensure school buildings are maintained and developed, and equipment and ICT assets renewed when required in the foreseeable future as well as ensuring that there are additional funds for school improvement activity and a general reserve to cover any cash flow requirements

At the year-end unrestricted general reserves were £294,894 and restricted general reserves were £907,137. These were 80% backed by cash.

The accounts show that currently there is no provision for the School's net liability associated with the Local Government Pension Scheme (the pension scheme for non-teaching staff), the the School's share of the fund is in surplus

### **Investment policy**

Investment management is the management of the Academy's liquid and illiquid assets e.g. buildings, cash flows, its banking and the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks. The Academy implemented an investment policy and has identified a number of investment strategies. At 31st August 2025, the Academy had £500,000 (2004: £1,000,000) in fixed term or term notice accounts with Lloyds Bank. The reduction in these balances is due to the fact that the monies related to execution of the estates strategy and operational activity. The Academy also recognises the need to invest in the infrastructure of the Trust in terms of buildings and IT. In this financial year, £633,000 was invested from reserves for the purchase of additional accommodation, IT and other equipment & renovation projects to support our educational aims. The Academy has, through its investment policy, recognised that, due to it using public funds, it must invest in low risk opportunities and take into consideration sector regulations and advice.

### **Principal risks and uncertainties**

The School is committed to effective risk management including a financial risk register which is regularly reviewed by governors.

When the budget and financial plan was agreed in the summer of 2023, a set of sensitivities were modelled. The most significant risks were relating to:

- Staffing costs – as most of the School's income is spent on staffing it is vulnerable to pay rises which are not fully covered by funding.
- Other income – the effect of changes in the level of other income including Leisure Centre income, lettings and catering.

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

#### Fundraising

The School benefits from its fundraising activities as well as those of the Lymm High School PTA. It does not engage professional fundraisers or commercial participators.

Given the nature of the School's fundraising, it does not subscribe to any fundraising regulation schemes or standards. Instead, it applies the principles of regularity and probity to any activities.

The School has not received any complaints about its own fundraising activity or those of any agent. The School does not undertake intrusive or persistent fundraising.

#### Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

##### UK Greenhouse gas emissions and energy use data for the period

	2025 kWh	2024 kWh
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	2,643,401	2,677,641
Energy consumption breakdown:		
- Gas	1,872,470	1,866,328
- Electricity	755,856	770,238
- Transport fuel	15,075	41,075
	2025 tonnes CO2e	2024 tonnes CO2e
Emissions calculated (metric tonnes CO2e):		
<i>Scope 1 emissions</i>		
- Gas combustion	346.47	351.71
- Fuel consumed for owned transport	-	-
<i>Total scope 1</i>	346.47	351.71
<i>Scope 2 emissions</i>		
- Electricity purchased	133.79	159.48
<i>Scope 3 emissions</i>		
- Fuel consumed for transport not owned by the Academy	14.01	14.10
<i>Total gross emissions</i>	494.27	525.29
<i>Intensity ratio</i>		
Tonnes CO2e per pupil	0.25	0.27

#### Quantification and reporting methodology

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

#### Intensity measurement

The chosen intensity measurement ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2 equivalent per pupil, the recommended ratio for the sector.

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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### Measures taken to improve energy efficiency

We have taken the following measures to improve energy efficiency:

- Adjusting heating schedules to start later and end earlier
- Installing double - glazed windows to the B Block of the old hall

### Plans for future periods

The overall performance in this reporting period was satisfactory and as a consequence will directly reinforce the School's medium to long-term strategy. The School's main annual objectives for the next year are:

- Build on the 'Good' Ofsted judgement
- Strive for continuous improvement in examinations results and all indicators of performance in the School, in particular the performance of disadvantaged students
- Continue to develop school facilities via the estates and ICT strategy
- Build adequate financial reserves to fund building and other investment need in areas identified, as well as protect the school against changes to the financial landscape
- Develop an environmental sustainability strategy
- Ensure staff and student wellbeing strategies are developed and implemented

Excellent standards of behaviour will be maintained to create a well-ordered community with learning and the support of students at the heart. The school's aim is to maintain pupil numbers and continue to improve progress outcomes, particularly for disadvantaged pupils. Transitional arrangements for pupils entering the school will be well planned and structured, providing support for pupils at this important stage of their education. The curriculum will be broad, balanced and relevant in all key stages from KS3 to KS5 allowing all students to achieve success.

Teaching and learning will have pace, purpose, variety and rigour. Students will be able to progress as a result of personalised programs of study and the provision of an on-line curriculum. All students will be confident users of ICT. Students will be aware of their own strengths and weaknesses and, through assessment for learning, know what they need to do to improve.

Staff will be confident practitioners with appropriate professional development opportunities. Educational outcomes in all performance indicators will be well above national averages and the Academy will be in the "high performing" category. The strategic development of the Academy will be effectively planned, monitored and supported by well-equipped and committed local governing bodies and the main board of governors.

### Auditor

In so far as the Governors are aware:

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

The Governors' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Governors, as the company directors, on 10 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Mrs E A Green (Chair of Governors)  
Foundation

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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### Scope of responsibility

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

The Board of Governors 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 Lymm High School and the Secretary of State for Education. The accounting officer is also responsible for reporting to the Board of Governors 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 Board of Governors has formally met 5 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Governors was as follows:

Governors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mr M C D Bainton (Parent) (Resigned 9 July 2025)	5	5
Rev Canon E M Burgess (Foundation) (Resigned 9 July 2025)	5	5
Mr M P Clarke (Parent) (Resigned 9 July 2025)	4	5
Mrs A Cleminson (Community)	4	5
Mr R P Dobson (Staff)	4	5
Mrs E A Green (Chair of Governors) (Foundation)	5	5
Mrs LA Hacker (Foundation) (Resigned 16 March 2025)	2	3
Mrs K Hill (Staff) (Appointed 22 September 2025)		
Mrs R Knowles (Foundation)	4	5
Mr R Mukherjee (Community)	2	5
Mr G J Neal (Foundation)	1	5
Ms D Owen (Community) (Appointed 1 September 2024)	5	5
Mrs Y Poskitt (Staff)	4	5
Mr M Ransby (Parent) (Appointed 1 September 2024)	4	5
Mrs J Rooney (Community)	4	5
Mr M A B Rutty (Staff) (Resigned 30 June 2025)	2	4
Mrs L Shaw (Parent)	4	5
Ms C M Somerfield (Parent)	4	5
Mrs L E Thomason (Parent)	2	5
Mr R E Tucker (Parent) (Appointed 1 September 2024)	5	5
Dr K Walshe (Academy Trust appointed)	4	5
Mr G Williams (Foundation)	5	5

The board continually reviews itself and considers whether any changes are required and appropriate appointments are made. The internal auditors review of governance within the Academy reported that they considered corporate governance as 'strong'. Annual away days are organised with SLT members to evaluate and review the School Improvement Plan.

### Conflicts of interest

On an annual basis the Trust requires completion of pecuniary interest forms and declaration of eligibility for all Trustees and Members. In addition, staff must make self-declarations. Where required by the Academies Trust Handbook this information is published on the school website. This is communicated to ensure that any transactions that may lead to a conflict of interest are managed and dealt with before any such transactions are approved.

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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### Governance reviews

**Strategic leadership** - The board of governors engages with SLT in annually setting and approving the school improvement plan. Governors, through their challenge to leaders, ensure the highest of expectations. Appropriate decision-making is delegated clearly through the Scheme of Delegations, with key governors delegated responsibility for key areas including safeguarding and SEND. Governors take part in stakeholder activities across the year such as parent forums and student voice sessions.

**Accountability** - The governing body has established a commitment to strong accountability, balancing wellbeing of staff with the demands of their respective roles. This year, governors undertook a strategic away day and supported SLT to prepare for Ofsted who undertook their visit in March 2024. In addition, they have kept the Estates & ICT strategies under review.

**People** - The governors regularly review the skills of its governing body through a skills audit. The body's composition has a strong blend of skills, encompassing educational, financial, risk and project management as well as legal expertise. The governing body has a designated Governance Professional and has appointed a Training Link governor.

**Structures** - The structures of governance are clearly documented and shared. There are clear delegation of duties and responsibilities, enshrined within the governor's scheme of delegation. Guidance, supporting committees in the execution of their responsibilities, has been issued in the form of Terms of Reference.

**Compliance** - Trustees have taken great care during this year to ensure the Trust engages with internal and external regulations to ensure it is fully compliant.

**Evaluation** - The governing body regularly reviews their skills, knowledge and understanding through the completion of a skills audit and governors have a 1-2-1 each year to review their effectiveness and highlight any areas of development. With succession planning in mind, recent additions to the governing body have been targeted to fill potential skills gaps.

The Finance, Audit and Resources Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Governors. Its purpose is to undertake a detailed scrutiny of financial management and report back to the main board. It met 6 times during the year.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Governors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mrs E A Green (Chair of Governors) (Foundation)	6	6
Mrs L A Hacker (Foundation) (Resigned 16 March 2025)	1	3
Mr G J Neal (Foundation)	5	6
Mr M Ransby (Parent) (Appointed 1 September 2024)	5	6
Mrs L Shaw (Parent)	6	6
Mr R E Tucker (Parent) (Appointed 1 September 2024)	6	6
Dr K Walshe (Academy Trust appointed)	6	6
Mr G Williams (Foundation)	6	6

### Review of value for money

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



# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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The accounting officer considers how the academy's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of governors where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where available. The accounting officer for the academy has delivered improved value for money during the year by raising student achievement and pupil numbers/ funding, successful CIF bids for investment in estates, continuing to review occupancy costs and deliver savings, controlling timetabling, catering and staffing costs.

#### **The purpose of the system of internal control**

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Lymm High School for the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

#### **Capacity to handle risk**

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

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

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

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

The Board of Governors have appointed TIAA as internal auditors and has agreed a 3 year programme of checks covering all key risk areas.

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

- Assurance review of Human Resources
- Assurance review of Strategic Control
- Assurance review of Student Support
- Follow Up on previous years

Internal audit has delivered their schedule of works as planned and has not reported any material weakness in the school's financial operations as a result of the above reviews, giving a reasonable or substantial assurance assessment in all areas. The finance, audit and resources committee maintains an action log of any recommendations raised and regularly reviews the status of these points and actions taken to improve. The committee has agreed the delivery of this work, the outcomes and regularly monitors the actions agreed. No significant issues were raised during the period.

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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### **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 and external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the advice of the finance and audit committee.

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Finance, Audit and Resources Committee and a plan to address minor weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

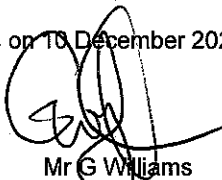
### **Conclusion**

Based on the advice of the audit and risk committee and the accounting officer, the Board of Governors is of the opinion that the Academy has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the Board of Governors on 10 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Mrs E A Green (Chair of Governors)  
Foundation



Mr G Williams  
Foundation

# **LYMM HIGH SCHOOL**

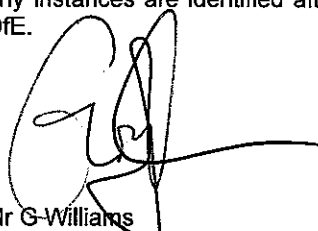
## **STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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As accounting officer of Lymm High School, I confirm that I have had due regard to the framework of authorities governing regularity, propriety and compliance, including the trust's funding agreement with the Department for Education (DfE), and the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including responsibilities for estates safety and management. I have also considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Board of Governors 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 Governors are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the Academy, 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 Governors and DfE.



Mr G Williams  
Accounting Officer

10 December 2025

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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The Governors (who act as trustees for Lymm High School and are also the directors of Lymm High School for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Governors' report and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025 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 in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The 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 that grants received from ESFA/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 on 10 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Mrs E A Green (Chair of Governors)  
**Foundation**

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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### Opinion

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

### Basis for opinion

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

### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our 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.

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF LYMM HIGH SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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

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

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

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

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

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of 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 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 Academy's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Governors either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

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

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:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance regarding actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of the Board of Trustees/Governors and its committees;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business, and reviewing accounting estimates for bias;
- Reviewing correspondence with regulators including the Department for Education (DfE) and Ofsted; and
- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.

# **LYMM HIGH SCHOOL**

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF LYMM HIGH SCHOOL (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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

- making enquiries of management team as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

The potential effect of these laws and regulations on the financial statements varies considerably.

Firstly, the Academy Trust is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements, including the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, the Academy Trust Handbook issued by the DfE, and taxation legislation. We assessed compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

Secondly, the Academy Trust is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequence of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines, litigation, or regulatory intervention. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect, given the nature of the Trust's operations: safeguarding and child protection, health and safety, data protection (GDPR), anti-bribery, money laundering, and employment law.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of management and those charged with governance, and inspection of relevant correspondence with regulatory bodies, if any. Therefore, if a breach of operational regulations is not disclosed to us or evident from correspondence reviewed, an audit may not detect that breach.

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

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control identified during our audit.

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF LYMM HIGH SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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

### Use of our report

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



**Helen Furlong FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)**

For and on behalf of Xeinadin Audit Limited, Statutory Auditor  
Chartered Accountants  
46 Hamilton Square  
Birkenhead  
Wirral  
Merseyside  
CH41 5AR

Date: 17.12.25



# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON REGULARITY TO LYMM HIGH SCHOOL AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 22 March 2022 and further to the requirements of the Department for Education (DfE) as included in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether anything has come to our attention that would suggest, in all material respects, the expenditure disbursed and income received by Lymm High School during the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 have not been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Lymm High School 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 Lymm High School 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 Lymm High School and the Secretary of State for Education, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

### **Respective responsibilities of the accounting officer of Lymm High School and the reporting accountant**

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

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

### **Approach**

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Review of governing body and committee minutes
- Review of Internal Assurance reports
- Review of Register of Interests
- Review of related party transactions
- Review of internal control procedures
- Review of capital expenditure tendering process

## LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

### INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON REGULARITY TO LYMM HIGH SCHOOL AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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#### **Conclusion**

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

*Xeinadin Audit Ltd*

**Reporting Accountant**  
Xeinadin Audit Limited

Date: *17.12.25*

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	34,992	711,966	746,958	249,423
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	12,837,193	-	12,837,193	11,878,880
Other trading activities	5	2,095,899	59,359	-	2,155,258	2,060,641
Investments	6	17,778	-	-	17,778	42,712
<b>Total</b>		<u>2,113,677</u>	<u>12,931,544</u>	<u>711,966</u>	<u>15,757,187</u>	<u>14,231,656</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	7	646,727	-	-	646,727	601,804
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	8	1,375,600	13,535,693	1,007,076	15,918,369	15,066,410
<b>Total</b>	7	<u>2,022,327</u>	<u>13,535,693</u>	<u>1,007,076</u>	<u>16,565,096</u>	<u>15,668,214</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		91,350	(604,149)	(295,110)	(807,909)	(1,436,558)
Transfers between funds	23	-	138,798	(138,798)	-	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	25	-	1,708,000	-	1,708,000	377,000
Adjustment for restriction on pension assets	25	-	(1,845,000)	-	(1,845,000)	(466,000)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		91,350	(602,351)	(433,908)	(944,909)	(1,525,558)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
Total funds brought forward		203,544	1,509,488	26,039,927	27,752,959	29,278,517
Total funds carried forward		<u>294,894</u>	<u>907,137</u>	<u>25,606,019</u>	<u>26,808,050</u>	<u>27,752,959</u>

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2024	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and capital grants	3	-	24,777	224,646	249,423
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	11,878,880	-	11,878,880
Other trading activities	5	2,036,915	23,726	-	2,060,641
Investments	6	42,712	-	-	42,712
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,079,627</b>	<b>11,927,383</b>	<b>224,646</b>	<b>14,231,656</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	7	601,804	-	-	601,804
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	8	1,386,116	12,739,415	940,879	15,066,410
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1,987,920</b>	<b>12,739,415</b>	<b>940,879</b>	<b>15,668,214</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>91,707</b>	<b>(812,032)</b>	<b>(716,233)</b>	<b>(1,436,558)</b>
Transfers between funds	23	-	(47,294)	47,294	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	25	-	377,000	-	377,000
Adjustment for restriction on pension assets	25	-	(466,000)	-	(466,000)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>91,707</b>	<b>(948,326)</b>	<b>(668,939)</b>	<b>(1,525,558)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		111,837	2,457,814	26,708,866	29,278,517
Total funds carried forward		203,544	1,509,488	26,039,927	27,752,959

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	13		26,109,200		26,473,968
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stock	14	18,389		15,159	
Debtors	15	408,866		198,382	
Cash at bank and in hand		960,439		1,780,207	
		<u>1,387,694</u>		<u>1,993,748</u>	
<b>Current liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(603,886)		(586,260)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>783,808</u>		<u>1,407,488</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>26,893,008</u>		<u>27,881,456</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	17		(84,958)		(128,497)
<b>Net assets excluding pension asset</b>			<u>26,808,050</u>		<u>27,752,959</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme asset	20		-		-
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u><u>26,808,050</u></u>		<u><u>27,752,959</u></u>
<b>Funds of the Academy:</b>					
<b>Restricted funds</b>	19				
- Fixed asset funds			25,606,019		26,039,927
- Restricted income funds			907,137		1,509,488
<b>Total restricted funds</b>			<u>26,513,156</u>		<u>27,549,415</u>
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	19		<u>294,894</u>		<u>203,544</u>
<b>Total funds</b>			<u><u>26,808,050</u></u>		<u><u>27,752,959</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 25 to 50 were approved by the Governors and authorised for issue on 10 December 2025 and are signed on their behalf by:



Mrs E A Green (Chair of Governors)  
Foundation

Company registration number 08171068 (England and Wales)

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## CHARITABLE COMPANY BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	13	26,109,200	26,473,968
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stock	14	14,546	12,085
Debtors	15	492,134	247,554
Cash at bank and in hand		871,689	1,701,055
		1,378,369	1,960,694
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(594,561)	(553,206)
<b>Net current assets</b>		783,808	1,407,488
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		26,893,008	27,881,456
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	17	(84,958)	(128,497)
<b>Net assets excluding pension asset</b>		26,808,050	27,752,959
Defined benefit pension scheme asset	20	-	-
<b>Total net assets</b>		26,808,050	27,752,959
<b>Funds of the Academy:</b>			
<b>Restricted funds</b>	19		
- Fixed asset funds		25,606,019	26,039,927
- Restricted income funds		907,137	1,509,488
<b>Total restricted funds</b>		26,513,156	27,549,415
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	19	294,894	203,544
<b>Total funds</b>		26,808,050	27,752,959

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# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Net cash used in operating activities	22		(555,574)		(626,393)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		17,778		42,712	
Capital grants from DfE Group		331,432		38,253	
Capital funding received from sponsors and others		307,249		186,393	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(868,454)		(604,168)	
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>			(211,995)		(336,810)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>					
Repayment of long term bank loan		(50,579)		(75,695)	
Finance costs		(1,620)		(1,805)	
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>			(52,199)		(77,500)
<b>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>			(819,768)		(1,040,703)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			1,780,207		2,820,910
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year</b>			960,439		1,780,207

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

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

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### 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

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

#### 1.2 Going concern

The Governors assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, ie whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable company to continue as a going concern. The 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 Academy has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### 1.3 Income

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

##### Grants

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

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

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

##### Donations

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

##### Other income

Other income, including the hire of facilities, school shop income, school trip income and income generated from the leisure centre is recognised in the period it is receivable and to the extent the Academy has provided the goods or services.



# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

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

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### Donated goods, facilities and services

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

#### Donated fixed assets

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

### 1.4 Expenditure

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

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

#### Expenditure on raising funds

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

#### Charitable activities

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

### 1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

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

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a [straight-line/reducing balance] basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Leasehold land and buildings	2% on cost
Leasehold improvements	10% on cost
Assets under construction	10% on cost
Computer equipment	33.33% on cost
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	20% on reducing balance / 10% on cost

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.

#### 1.6 Liabilities

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

#### 1.7 Leased assets

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

#### 1.8 Financial instruments

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

##### Financial assets

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

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

##### Financial liabilities

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

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

#### 1.9 Stock

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

#### 1.10 Taxation

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

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.11 Pensions benefits

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

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

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

#### 1.12 Fund accounting

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

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

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

#### 1.13 Concessionary Loans

Concessionary loans are initially recognised as a liability at the amount received, with the carrying amount being adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments made.

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

#### Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

(Continued)

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 25, will impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2025. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

#### Critical areas of judgement

In the preparation of the financial statements, a critical judgement has been made regarding the recognition of the defined benefit pension surplus. The scheme's accounting valuation showed a surplus of £2,724,000 at the balance sheet date.

The Academy has determined that, in accordance with the accounting standards, there is no unconditional right to a refund of the surplus, nor is it virtually certain that future contributions will be reduced as a result of this surplus. The ability to realise the surplus is not wholly within the control of the entity, as it is subject to the discretion of the scheme's trustees and future actuarial valuations.

Therefore, the potential economic benefit from this surplus has been assessed as being restricted by the 'asset ceiling' and, as such, the surplus has been restricted to £Nil in the balance sheet. This restriction has been recognised within Other Comprehensive Income.

### 3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Capital grants	-	711,966	711,966	224,646
Other donations	-	34,992	34,992	24,777
	<u>-</u>	<u>746,958</u>	<u>746,958</u>	<u>249,423</u>

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 4 Funding for the Academy's charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	11,285,526	11,285,526	11,063,426
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
- Pupil premium	-	265,856	265,856	245,058
- Others	-	938,438	938,438	378,540
	-	12,489,820	12,489,820	11,687,024
<b>Other government grants</b>				
Local authority grants	-	347,373	347,373	191,856
<b>Total funding</b>	-	12,837,193	12,837,193	11,878,880

### 5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Hire of facilities	14,878	-	14,878	70,104
Catering income	842,837	-	842,837	840,588
Tuition and exam fees	-	10,200	10,200	15,557
Shop income	30,498	-	30,498	15,648
School trips and fundraising	640,306	-	640,306	591,647
Charitable fundraising	16,883	-	16,883	34,921
Leisure Centre income	550,497	-	550,497	483,942
Other income	-	49,159	49,159	8,234
	2,095,899	59,359	2,155,258	2,060,641

### 6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Short term deposits	17,778	-	17,778	42,712

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Non-pay expenditure Premises £	Other £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	-	-	646,727	646,727	601,804
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	9,178,564	975,529	842,989	10,997,082	9,875,326
- Allocated support costs	2,380,912	1,363,232	1,177,143	4,921,287	5,191,083
	<u>11,559,476</u>	<u>2,338,761</u>	<u>2,666,859</u>	<u>16,565,096</u>	<u>15,668,213</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2025 £	2024 £
Operating lease rentals	49,708	54,941
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,221,088	1,135,679
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	12,133	-
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	14,750	11,000
- Other services	26,600	23,200
Bank and loan interest	1,620	1,805
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	(46,000)	(23,000)

### 8 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Direct costs</b>				
Educational operations	2,295	10,994,787	10,997,082	9,875,326
<b>Support costs</b>				
Educational operations	1,373,305	3,547,982	4,921,287	5,191,083
	<u>1,375,600</u>	<u>14,542,769</u>	<u>15,918,369</u>	<u>15,066,409</u>

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

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

### 8 Charitable activities (Continued)

#### Analysis of support costs

	2025 £	2024 £
Support staff costs	2,464,599	2,409,909
Depreciation	257,692	194,801
Technology costs	180,753	186,371
Premises costs	1,105,540	1,324,454
Other support costs	890,401	1,051,932
Governance costs	22,302	23,616
	<u>4,921,287</u>	<u>5,191,083</u>

### 9 Staff

#### Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were:

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	8,452,657	7,972,847
Social security costs	981,223	806,449
Pension costs	1,983,619	1,754,802
Staff costs - employees	<u>11,417,499</u>	<u>10,534,098</u>
Agency staff costs	141,977	15,829
	<u>11,559,476</u>	<u>10,549,927</u>
Staff development and other staff costs	138,885	126,099
Total staff expenditure	<u>11,698,361</u>	<u>10,676,026</u>

#### Staff numbers

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

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Teachers	110	111
Administration and support	157	158
Management	12	11
	<u>279</u>	<u>280</u>

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

#### 9 Staff

(Continued)

##### Higher paid staff

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

	2025 Number	2024 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	12	7
£70,001 - £80,000	6	2
£80,001 - £90,000	-	2
£90,001 - £100,000	2	-
£130,001 - £140,000	-	1
£140,001 - £150,000	1	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

##### Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy 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 Academy was £1,484,223 (2024: £1,232,059).

#### 10 Governors' remuneration and expenses

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

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

G Williams (Headteacher and governor)

Remuneration £140,000 - £145,000 (2024: £130,000 - £135,000)

Employers pension contributions paid £35,000 - £40,000 (2024: £30,000 - £35,000)

Y Poskitt (staff governor)

Remuneration £25,000 - £30,000 (2024: £35,000 - £40,000)

Employers pension contributions paid £0 - £5,000 (2024: £5,000 - £10,000)

R Dobson (staff governor)

Remuneration £50,000 - £55,000 (2024 £45,000 - £50,000)

Employers pension contributions paid £15,000 - £20,000 (2024 £10,000 - £15,000)

M Rutty (staff governor)

Remuneration £45,000 - £50,000 (2024 £40,000 - £45,000)

Employers pension contributions paid £10,000 - £15,000 (2024 £10,000 - £15,000)

During the period ended 31 August 2025 and 31 August 2024, there were no governors' expenses reimbursed.



# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 11 Governors' and officers' insurance

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

### 12 Lymm High School Leisure Centre

A summary of the results of the subsidiary is shown below:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Turnover	684,551	485,972
Staffing and delivery costs	(684,551)	(434,663)
Other operating income	-	(308)
	<u>-</u>	<u>51,617</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Aggregate assets and liabilities		
Cash at bank	88,750	79,152
Current assets	13,869	43,172
Current liabilities	(9,325)	(33,053)
Amounts due to parent company	(93,294)	(89,271)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 13 Tangible fixed assets - group and charitable company

	Leasehold land and buildings £	Leasehold improvements £	Assets under construction £	Computer equipment £	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>						
At 1 September 2024	26,890,000	5,846,832	9,827	727,533	424,357	33,898,549
Additions	-	623,843	21,720	75,541	147,350	868,454
Disposals	-	(159,099)	(31,547)	(356,668)	(51,183)	(598,497)
At 31 August 2025	26,890,000	6,311,576	-	446,406	520,524	34,168,506
<b>Depreciation</b>						
At 1 September 2024	3,520,292	3,258,863	-	496,470	148,956	7,424,581
On disposals	-	(159,099)	(31,547)	(344,535)	(51,183)	(586,364)
Charge for the year	389,719	585,782	31,547	137,107	76,934	1,221,089
At 31 August 2025	3,910,011	3,685,546	-	289,042	174,707	8,059,306
<b>Net book value</b>						
At 31 August 2025	22,979,989	2,626,030	-	157,364	345,817	26,109,200
At 31 August 2024	23,369,708	2,587,969	9,827	231,063	275,401	26,473,968

### 14 Stock - group

	2025 £	2024 £
Shop stock	18,389	15,159
<b>Stock</b>		
	2025 £	2024 £
Shop stock	14,546	12,085

### 15 Debtors - group

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	6,210	41,898
VAT recoverable	150,054	118,640
Other debtors	39,256	-
Prepayments and accrued income	213,346	37,844
	408,866	198,382

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

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

### 15 Debtors - charitable company

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	1,320	1,799
Amounts owed by group undertakings	93,293	89,271
VAT recoverable	148,854	118,640
Other debtors	39,258	-
Prepayments and accrued income	209,409	37,844
	<u>492,134</u>	<u>247,554</u>

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Government loans	43,495	50,535
Trade creditors	137,704	138,159
Other creditors	41,787	10,969
Accruals and deferred income	380,900	386,597
	<u>603,886</u>	<u>586,260</u>

### 16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year - charitable company

	2025 £	2024 £
Government loans	43,495	50,535
Trade creditors	137,471	136,902
Other creditors	41,787	10,969
Accruals and deferred income	371,808	354,800
	<u>594,561</u>	<u>553,206</u>

### 17 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year - group and charitable company

	2025 £	2024 £
Government loans	<u>84,958</u>	<u>128,497</u>

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

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

### 17 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year - group and charitable company

(Continued)

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Analysis of loans</b>		
Not wholly repayable within five years by instalments	24,704	36,478
Wholly repayable within five years	103,749	142,554
	<u>128,453</u>	<u>179,032</u>
Less: included in current liabilities	(43,495)	(50,535)
	<u>84,958</u>	<u>128,497</u>
 <b>Loan maturity</b>		
Debt due in one year or less	43,495	50,535
Due in more than one year but not more than two years	21,336	43,452
Due in more than two years but not more than five years	38,918	48,567
Due in more than five years	24,704	36,478
	<u>128,453</u>	<u>179,032</u>

The above loans are Salix Loans received from the ESFA, these loans are interest free and repayable over 8 years. Also included are CIF loans amounting to £92,261 which are repayable over 10 years at an interest rate of 1.95%.

### 18 Deferred income - group and charitable company

	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	<u>235,161</u>	<u>189,956</u>
 Deferred income at 1 September 2024	189,956	132,962
Released from previous years	(189,956)	(132,962)
Resources deferred in the year	<u>235,161</u>	<u>189,956</u>
 Deferred income at 31 August 2025	<u>235,161</u>	<u>189,956</u>

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 18 Deferred income - charitable company

	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	226,069	158,159
Deferred income at 1 September 2024	158,159	-
Released from previous years	(158,159)	-
Resources deferred in the year	226,069	158,159
Deferred income at 31 August 2025	226,069	158,159

### 19 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,509,488	11,285,526	(12,026,675)	138,798	907,137
Pupil premium	-	265,856	(265,856)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	938,438	(938,438)	-	-
Other government grants	-	347,373	(347,373)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	94,351	(94,351)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	137,000	(137,000)	-
	1,509,488	12,931,544	(13,535,693)	1,798	907,137
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Inherited on conversion	23,485,374	-	(505,413)	-	22,979,961
DfE group capital grants	2,161,469	711,966	(655,089)	(111,445)	2,106,901
Capital expenditure from GAG	279,228	-	165,808	14,044	459,080
Private sector capital sponsorship	113,856	-	(12,382)	(41,397)	60,077
	26,039,927	711,966	(1,007,076)	(138,798)	25,606,019
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	27,549,415	13,643,510	(14,542,769)	(137,000)	26,513,156
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	172,711	2,186,603	(2,633,651)	-	(274,337)
School trips	-	(640,306)	640,306	-	-
Charitable fundraising	30,833	16,883	(28,982)	-	18,734
	-	550,497	-	-	550,497
	203,544	2,113,677	(2,022,327)	-	294,894
<b>Total funds</b>	27,752,959	15,757,187	(16,565,096)	(137,000)	26,808,050

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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### 19 Funds

(Continued)

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

#### **Unrestricted funds**

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

#### **Restricted fixed asset funds**

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the funders where the asset acquired is held for a specific purpose. This includes grants from the Department for Education and the initial fixed assets acquired on conversion. Depreciation is charged against this fund.

#### **Restricted general funds**

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received and also includes grants from the Department for Education. The pension reserve represents the value of the Academy's share of the deficit in the Local Government Pension Scheme.

The Academy is not subject to GAG carried forward limits.

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 19 Funds

(Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	2,457,814	11,063,426	(11,964,458)	(47,294)	1,509,488
Pupil premium	-	245,058	(245,058)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	378,540	(378,540)	-	-
Other government grants	-	191,856	(191,856)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	48,503	(48,503)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	89,000	(89,000)	-
	<u>2,457,814</u>	<u>11,927,383</u>	<u>(12,739,415)</u>	<u>(136,294)</u>	<u>1,509,488</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Inherited on conversion	23,875,121	-	(389,747)	-	23,485,374
DfE group capital grants	2,418,297	224,646	(481,475)	-	2,161,468
Capital expenditure from GAG	286,629	-	(54,695)	47,294	279,228
Private sector capital sponsorship	128,819	-	(14,962)	-	113,857
	<u>26,708,866</u>	<u>224,646</u>	<u>(940,879)</u>	<u>47,294</u>	<u>26,039,927</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>29,166,680</u>	<u>12,152,029</u>	<u>(13,680,294)</u>	<u>(89,000)</u>	<u>27,549,415</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	94,007	1,560,764	(1,966,002)	150,000	(161,231)
Charitable fundraising	17,830	34,921	(21,918)	-	30,833
Replacement of 3G pitch surface	-	-	-	(150,000)	(150,000)
	-	483,942	-	-	483,942
	<u>111,837</u>	<u>2,079,627</u>	<u>(1,987,920)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>203,544</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>29,278,517</u>	<u>14,231,656</u>	<u>(15,668,214)</u>	<u>(89,000)</u>	<u>27,752,959</u>

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

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

### 20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2025 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	-	503,181	25,606,019	26,109,200
Current assets	469,103	918,591	-	1,387,694
Current liabilities	(174,209)	(429,677)	-	(603,886)
Non-current liabilities	-	(84,958)	-	(84,958)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>294,894</b>	<b>907,137</b>	<b>25,606,019</b>	<b>26,808,050</b>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	-	506,464	25,967,504	26,473,968
Current assets	390,700	1,530,625	72,423	1,993,748
Current liabilities	(187,156)	(399,104)	-	(586,260)
Non-current liabilities	-	(128,497)	-	(128,497)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>203,544</b>	<b>1,509,488</b>	<b>26,039,927</b>	<b>27,752,959</b>

### 21 Pension and similar obligations

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

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

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

#### Teachers' Pension Scheme

##### Introduction

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

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



# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

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

### 21 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

#### Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £1,557,600 (2024: £1,308,000).

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

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

#### Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 19.7% for employers and 5.5 - 9.9% for employees.

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

Total contributions made	2025 £	2024 £
Employer's contributions	546,000	532,000
Employees' contributions	170,000	167,000
Total contributions	<u>716,000</u>	<u>699,000</u>

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

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

### 21 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	2025 %	2024 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.4	3.35
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.7	2.65
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	6.05	5

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

	2025 Years	2024 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	19.4	19.1
- Females	23.5	23.5
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	21.2	21
- Females	25.3	25.3

#### Sensitivity analysis

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

	2025	2024
Discount rate - 0.1%	151,000	181,000
CPI rate + 0.1%	149,000	177,000
Pay growth + 0.1%	7,000	8,000

#### The Academy's share of the assets in the scheme

	2025 Fair value £	2024 Fair value £
Equities	5,313,000	5,093,000
Bonds	3,148,000	2,630,000
Property	1,279,000	1,036,000
Other assets	98,000	80,000
Total market value of assets	9,838,000	8,839,000
Restriction on scheme assets	(2,680,000)	(868,000)
Net assets recognised	7,158,000	7,971,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £430,000 (2024: £720,000).

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

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

### 21 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2025 £	2024 £
Current service cost	455,000	466,000
Interest income	(456,000)	(408,000)
Interest cost	410,000	385,000
Total amount recognised	409,000	443,000

#### Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations

2025  
£

At 1 September 2024	7,971,000
Current service cost	455,000
Interest cost	410,000
Employee contributions	170,000
Actuarial gain	(1,690,000)
Benefits paid	(158,000)
At 31 August 2025	7,158,000

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

2025  
£

At 1 September 2024	8,850,000
Interest income	456,000
Actuarial loss/(gain)	(26,000)
Employer contributions	546,000
Employee contributions	170,000
Benefits paid	(158,000)
At 31 August 2025	9,838,000
Restriction on scheme assets	(2,680,000)
Net assets recognised	7,158,000

#### Restriction of pension scheme assets

The net gain recognised on scheme assets has been restricted because the full pension surplus is not expected to be recovered through refunds or reduced contributions in the future.

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 26 Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		(807,909)	(1,436,558)
Adjusted for:			
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		(711,966)	(224,646)
Investment income receivable	6	(17,778)	(42,712)
Finance costs payable		1,620	1,805
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	25	(91,000)	(66,000)
Defined benefit pension scheme finance income	25	(46,000)	(23,000)
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		1,221,088	1,135,679
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		12,133	-
(Increase) in stocks		(3,230)	(3,185)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		(137,199)	71,236
Increase/(decrease) in creditors		24,667	(39,012)
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>		<b>(555,574)</b>	<b>(626,393)</b>

### 23 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2024 £	Cash flows £	31 August 2025 £
Cash	1,780,207	(819,768)	960,439
Loans falling due within one year	(50,535)	7,040	(43,495)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(128,497)	43,539	(84,958)
	<b>1,601,175</b>	<b>(769,189)</b>	<b>831,986</b>

### 24 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy 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. The following related party transactions took place in the financial period.

6 of the Governors are Foundation governors appointed by Lymm Grammar School Trust.

Lymm Grammar School Trust owns the school buildings. No rent is charged in the year.

In addition, up to 3 February the School operated the Ty'n Y Felin Residential Centre, which is also owned by the Grammar School Trust. No rent was charged for the property, although the School met all the running costs.

### 25 Members' liability

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