

Company registration number 08449062 (England and Wales)

**TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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### Members

P Carter (Resigned 13 September 2024 and re-appointed 30 August 2025)  
S Hall  
E Fletcher  
L Sebahg (Appointed 01 September 2024 and resigned 31 August 2025)  
D Black (appointed 5 November 2025)  
M Higgins (appointed 5 November 2025)

### Trustees

P Carter (Resigned as Chair and trustee 11 September 2024)  
M McHugh (Chair)  
L McNally (Accounting Officer)  
N Elliott  
J Rainsford (Resigned 31 August 2025)  
A M Ocampo Lucumi (Resigned 16 September 2025)  
K Allan  
P Monaghan  
H Murray (Appointed 11 December 2024)  
C Priday (Appointed 11 December 2024 and resigned 3 March 2025)  
C Boccovi (Appointed 19 February 2025)  
  
J Burlton - Trinity Post 16 Solutions Ltd (Appointed 5 November 2025)  
L Robinson - Trinity Post 16 Solutions Ltd (Resigned 13 November 2025)

### Senior management team

- CEO	L McNally
- CFO	J Moodie
- Head of Safeguarding, Inclusion & School Improvement	M Kennedy
- Head of School - Business	J Renwick
- Head of School - Sanctuary Site	S Stuart
- Head of School - TAN Upper Site	M Flint
- Associated Head - TAN Lower Site	S Hunter (Appointed 01 September 2024)
- Head of School - TAN Upper Site	S Stuart
- Head of School - TSA & TPSL	A Carter (Appointed 01 June 2025) S Butler (Appointed 01 October 2024)

### Company registration number

08449062 (England and Wales)

### Registered office

Condercum Road  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE4 8XJ

### Academies operated

Trinity Academy Newcastle  
Trinity Solutions Academy  
Trinity Post 16 Solutions Ltd  
Trinity Academy Newbridge

### Location

Newcastle upon Tyne  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
Sunderland

### Principal

S Stuart, M Flint & S Hunter  
S Butler  
S Butler  
A Carter

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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<b>Independent auditor</b>	RSM UK Audit LLP 1 St. James' Gate Newcastle upon Tyne United Kingdom NE1 4AD
<b>Bankers</b>	Lloyds Bank PLC Grey Street Newcastle upon Tyne NE99 1SL
<b>Solicitors</b>	Muckle LLP Time Central 32 Gallowgate Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4BF

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

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The trustees present their annual report with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for 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 Trust oversees three academies and a private limited company, each serving a wide regional catchment area and catering to learners with diverse educational needs:

### **Trinity Academy Newcastle – *Special Academy***

Trinity Academy Newcastle provides education for learners aged 5 to 16 who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) for Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs. With a designated capacity of 195 learners, the academy reported an enrolment of 210 learners in the May 2025 school census.

### **Trinity Academy New Bridge – *Special Academy***

Trinity Academy New Bridge supports learners aged 11 to 16 with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an EHCP for SEMH. The academy has a capacity of 134 learners, with enrolment figures reported in the May 2025 school census.

### **Trinity Solutions Academy – *Post-16 Mainstream Academy***

Trinity Solutions Academy offers vocational study programmes for learners aged 16 to 19. It has a commissioned allocation capacity of 106 learners, including 44 places for those with higher needs. The academy reported an enrolment of 103 learners in the ILR R13 return and continues to focus on increasing learner numbers.

### **Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited – *Private Limited Company***

Operating as a Specialist Post-16 Institution (SPI), Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited delivers bespoke educational programmes for learners aged 19 to 25 with learning disabilities (LLDD). With a commissioned allocation capacity of 17 learners, the institution reported an enrolment of 16 learners in the ILR R13 return.

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

### **Constitution**

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association adopted on 9 December 2015 are the primary governing documents of the academy trust. The trustees of Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust are also the charitable company's directors for company law. The charitable company is known as Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust.

Details of the Trustees who served during the year and to the date these accounts are approved are included in the Reference and Administrative Details.

### **Members' liability**

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

### **Trustees' indemnities**

Members' and Trustees' indemnity provisions are detailed in note 12 of the financial statements.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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

Articles of Association, 50-64 state:

50. The Members may appoint up to 3 Trustees.

50A. The Members may appoint Staff Trustees through such process as they may determine.

50B. The total number of Trustees (including the principal) who are employees of the Academy Trust shall not exceed one third of the total number of Trustees.

51. Not used.

52. Not used.

53. Subject to Article 57, the Parent Trustees shall be elected by parents of registered pupils at the Special Academy. A Parent Trustee must be a parent of a pupil at the Special Academy at the time when he/she is elected.

54. The Governing Body shall make all necessary arrangements for, and determine all other matters relating to, an election of Parent Trustees, including any question of whether a person is a parent of a registered pupil at the Special Academy. An election of Parent Trustees which is contested shall be held by secret ballot.

55. The arrangements made for the election of Parent Trustee shall provide for every person who is entitled to vote in the election to have an opportunity to do so by post or, if he prefers, by having his ballot paper returned to the Academy Trust by a registered pupil at the Special Academy.

56. Where a vacancy for a Parent Trustee is required to be filled by election, the Governing Body shall take such steps as are reasonably practical to secure that every person who is known to them to be a parent of a registered pupil at the Special Academy is informed of the vacancy and that is required to be filled by election, informed that he is entitled to stand as a candidate, and vote at the election, and given an opportunity to do so.

57. The number of Parent Trustees required shall be made up by Parent Trustees appointed by the Governing Body if the number of parents standing for election is less than the number of vacancies.

58. In appointing a Parent Trustee, the Governing Body shall appoint a person who is the parent of a registered pupil at the Special Academy; or where it is not reasonably practical to do so, a person who is the parent of a child of compulsory school age.

### **CO-OPTED TRUSTEES**

59. The Trustees may appoint Co-Trustees. A co-opted Trustee means a person who is appointed to be a Trustee by being Co-opted by Trustees who have not themselves been so appointed. The Trustees may not co-opt an employee of the Academy Trust as a Co-opted Trustee if thereby the number of Trustees who are employees of the Academy Trust would exceed one third of the total number of Trustees (including the principal).

60 – 64. Not used.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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

#### Governance Onboarding and Induction Process

The Trust is committed to ensuring that all prospective and newly appointed trustee and Local Advisory Board (LAB) members are fully supported and equipped to fulfil their governance responsibilities effectively. The following outlines the key stages and expectations of the onboarding process.

#### Initial Meeting with Governance Leadership

Before joining the Governance team, prospective trustees and LAB members will be invited to an informal meeting with senior governance leaders:

- Prospective trustee: Meeting with the Chair of the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
- Prospective LAB members: Meeting with the Chair of the LAB and the CEO.

These meetings aim to:

- Assess the suitability of the prospective appointee.
- Explore the skills and experience they may bring to the governance team.
- Clarify role expectations and available support.
- Where appropriate, include a brief tour of the Academy's facilities.
- Be held in person or via video link, subject to mutual agreement.

#### Appointment Process

Appointments will follow the procedures outlined in:

- Articles of Association – for Board trustees.
- Local Governance Handbook – for LAB members.

All appointments are subject to:

- Completion of an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.
- Submission of a Declaration of Pecuniary Interests relating to the Trust, its Academies, or partner organisations.

#### DBS and Eligibility Requirements

- All new trustees must complete an enhanced DBS check within 21 days of appointment, facilitated by the Trust's HR department.
- The DBS certificate number and issue date must be recorded on the Single Central Record.
- Trustees are required to renew their DBS check every three years.
- All associated costs will be covered by the Trust.

#### Induction Pack

New trustees will receive a comprehensive induction pack containing key documentation and resources, including:

- Governance structure overview.
- Articles of Association or Local Governance Handbook.
- Scheme of Delegation.
- MAT Growth Strategy.
- Accounts Direction.
- Latest Annual Reports.
- Trust and Academy Improvement/Development Plans.
- Ofsted Inspection Reports and data dashboards.
- Code of Conduct for trustees.
- Minutes from the most recent meeting.
- Governance board member list.
- Trust website details.
- Future meeting dates.
- Relevant newsletters and bulletins.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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- Outline of available training.
- Key policies.
- Trust email account setup and access instructions.
- Glossary of educational acronyms.
- Organisational chart with staffing responsibilities.
- DfE Governance Handbook and Competency Framework.
- Academies Trust Handbook.
- Login details for NGA and CST websites.
- Documentation will be provided electronically unless hard copies are requested.

### Training and Development

All new trustees are expected to complete the National Governance Association (NGA) Induction Training, available online via the NGA website.

### Ongoing Training

- The Trust holds memberships with the NGA and Confederation of School Trusts (CST).
- Directors have full access to training and resources provided by both organisations.
- Participation in training is strongly encouraged.
- Directors should notify the Governance Professional of any completed training and submit certificates where applicable.
- The Trust will also share details of additional training opportunities, including webinars and external courses.

### Mentoring Support

To support new trustees during their first year, the Trust offers an optional mentoring programme:

- Mentors are typically experienced members of the governance team.
- The Chair of the Board or LAB will coordinate mentor assignments.
- Mentoring is voluntary and subject to the consent of both parties.

### Role and Responsibilities Guidance

New trustees will be invited to a meeting with the Chair or their mentor to gain a deeper understanding of governance within the Trust. This session will cover:

- Overview of the Trust and its Academies.
- Current strategic and operational priorities.
- Protocols for Academy visits.
- Structure and conduct of Board and committee meetings.
- Safeguarding and child protection responsibilities.
- Relationship between governance and the Senior Leadership Team.
- Confidentiality expectations.
- Constructive challenge and support mechanisms.
- Meeting attendance and apologies protocol.
- Agenda item proposals.
- Guidance on effective questioning during meetings.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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### Organisational structure

The Trust Board is supported by an effective Committee structure comprising the Resources, Audit & Risk Committee and the Quality of Education Committee. Reporting to the Quality of Education Committee. There are two Local Academy Boards - Local Academy Board (Pre 16) for Trinity Academy Newcastle and Trinity Academy New Bridge, Local Academy Board for (Post 16) Trinity Solutions Academy and Trinity Post 16 Solutions Ltd.

The Chair of the Board of Trustees meets regularly with the Chairs of the Local Academy Boards to ensure a consistency of approach across the Trust.

There is an Executive Leadership Team comprising the CEO, Director of School Improvement, Chief Finance Officer, Head of School Business and the Trust's Safeguarding and School Improvement Lead.

In addition, there is an Education Senior Leadership Team including the Trust's Executive Leadership Team, Trust Principal Advisor for Mental Health and Trauma, Trust Data and Exams Manager, Trust Premises Health & safety Lead, 4 Heads of School, 1 Associated Head Teacher, 2 Deputy Heads and 5 Asst. Heads. Key leaders from these groups work closely with the Board of Trustees to inform strategic decision making. In addition, there are individual academy Senior Leadership Teams. The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision-making at all levels.

In addition, there is a Joint Consultative Group, involving representatives from trade unions within the Trust, which meets minimally on a termly basis with the Chief Executive, members of the Executive Leadership Team. The Board of trustees has overall responsibility and is ultimately accountable for the academies within the Trust. They hold the Chief Executive to account, who in turn holds the Executive Leaders and Senior Leaders to account.

The Academy's Senior Leadership Teams are responsible for the day-to-day operation of each individual academy in addition to supporting the wider work and objectives of the Trust. Powers are delegated from the Board via the Trust's Scheme of Delegation, which is reviewed on an annual basis. The trustees, through meetings of the Board and its Committees and the Academy Boards, are responsible for the strategic direction of the Trust and its individual academies.

This includes:

- Setting the strategic direction of the Trust.
- Adopting and monitoring the Trust's Strategic Improvement Plan and individual Academy Improvement Plans.
- Detailing and reviewing the curriculum.
- Identifying Key Performance Indicators and monitoring performance.
- Monitoring progress and performance against Key Performance Indicators.
- Monitoring the standards and performance of the Trust's academies.
- Ensuring robust safeguarding arrangements are in place in each academy.
- Compliance with the Equality Act 2019.
- Budget approval and monitoring, and
- Making major decisions in relation to the Trust.



# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited – Private Company Limited by Guarantee - Company House No. 09922889 - Specialist Post-16 Institution (SPI) has two Company Directors. The directors are responsible for the management of the company's business, for which purpose they may exercise 100% control of the powers of the company.

Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited - offering bespoke educational programmes to 19-25 learners with learning disabilities (LLDD) learners serving a regional wide catchment area. It has a learner commissioned allocation capacity of 17.

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

The pay and remuneration of the Executive Leadership Team/Senior Leadership Team (Directors are not remunerated) are set in line with the Trust Pay Policy which has been consulted with staff and recognised Trade Unions; with national Teachers' Pay & Conditions linked to Individual School Ranges (ISRs) or as a result of formal job evaluation and benchmarking arrangements.

From March 2024, pay progression is automatic for all staff within their pay range until they reach the top of their scale. Pay progression is not linked to performance. Performance will be managed in line with the Appraisal Policy and, if appropriate, in line with the Capability Policy.

The Board of Directors will ensure that executive pay (including salary and any other benefits), follow a robust evidence-based process and are a reasonable and defensible reflection of the individual's role and responsibilities. Executive Leaders are not involved in deciding their own remuneration, this is solely the decision of the Trust Board with support from the Finance Director and external Human Resources.

The Board of Directors will discharge its responsibilities effectively, ensuring its approach to pay and benefits is transparent, proportionate, and justifiable, including:

- Process – that the procedure for determining executive pay and benefits is agreed by the Board in advance and documented. The Board ensures that both pay and benefits are kept proportionate.
- Independence – decisions about executive pay and benefits reflect independent and objective scrutiny by the Board and conflicts of interest are avoided.
- Robust decision-making – factors in determining pay and benefits are clear, including whether educational and financial performance considerations, and the degree of challenge in the role, have been considered.
- Proportionality – pay and benefits represent good value for money and are defensible relative to the public-sector market.
- Commercial interests – the Board is sighted on broader business interests held by senior executives and is satisfied that any payments made by the Trust to executives in relation to such interests do not undermine the transparency requirements for disclosing pay in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction.
- Documentation – the rationale behind the decision-making process, including whether the level of pay and benefits reflects value for money, is recorded and retained. A basic presumption that executive pay and benefits should not increase at a faster rate than that of teachers, in individual years and over the longer term.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### Trade Union Facility Time

Under the provision of the trade union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2017, where an academy trust has more than 49 full time equivalent employees throughout any 7 months within the reporting period, it must include information included in schedule 2 of the Regulations. The information to be published consists of four tables covering the period April 2024 to March 2025:

#### Relevant Union Officials

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

#### Percentage of time spent on facility time

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

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

Total cost of facility time	£464
Total pay bill	£5,983,868
Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time	<1%

#### Paid trade union activities

Time spent on trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	<1%
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In line with previous years, the Trust has continued to purchase Trade Union Facility Time from both Newcastle and Sunderland Local Authorities. This centralised arrangement, governed by the Employee Relations (ER) framework, promotes consistency and transparency in managing employee relations across the Trust.

The availability of dedicated Trade Union representatives plays a vital role in facilitating the early resolution of both individual and collective employee relations matters. Their involvement helps to prevent issues from escalating, thereby reducing the time and cost associated with more entrenched disputes.

This approach supports effective communication and collaboration between the Trust and Trade Unions, ensuring that clear and transparent processes are in place for granting reasonable paid time off for Trade Union duties. Such arrangements reflect good management practice and reinforce the Trust's commitment to maintaining positive and constructive employee relations.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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### **Related parties, Connected parties and co-operation with other organisations**

Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust is keen to build strong relationships and partnerships, which are essential to achieving the Trust's overarching goal: ensuring that every learner reaches their full potential.

Over the past year, the Trust has continued to strengthen its collaborative work with local teaching schools, universities, and leading mental health organisations. Notably, the Trust maintained its support for Leeds Beckett University by delivering coaching sessions as part of the Senior Mental Health Lead training programme, contributing a total value of £640 during the year.

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

Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited, a subsidiary company, was incorporated on 18 December 2015. Details of the subsidiary, including its results for the year, are included in note 14.

Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust are conscious of the need for any person who is responsible for governance within the organisation, or who are employees of the organisation, to declare any relevant business or pecuniary interests and this is particularly the case with related party relationships. The following declarations were made by Trustees: -

- P Carter – Director (Blue Flames Sports and Conference Ltd) and Vice-Chair (West Walker Primary Academy, LGB, NEAT Academy Trust).
- M McHugh – Chair (Benton Scouts Executive Committee).
- L McNally – Family members work within the Trust.
- N Elliott – Member (institution of Mechanical Engineers), Member (Royal Naval Reserve) and Family Member is employed as an engagement officer for Together for Children, Sunderland.
- A M Ocamp Lucumi – Private Tutor.
- K Allan – Co-opted Governor and Corporate Governance Manager (Northumberland NHS).
- P Monaghan – associate Principle (Education Partnership NE) and Armed Forces (Army Reserve).
- C Boccovi – Director and Trustee (College of Sexual and Relationship Therapists) and Assurance Committee Member (South East London, Integrated Care System).
- C Priday – Non-Executive Director (Tees Components) and Governor (Broomhill Primary School).

### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

#### **Objects and aims**

The principal object and activity of the Trust is to advance education in the UK by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing, and developing its academies specially organised to offer a broad and balanced curriculum with strong emphasis on the specified specialisms of those academies.

Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust is committed to the professional development of its Board of Trustees and staff team. Working to a strategic 3-year plan, with strong structures and a central focus on developing high quality teaching and learning, we are continuously improving and developing our service through high quality training for all and through a concerted drive towards distributed leadership and succession planning. Our commitment is evident through our high level of annual investment in training and development.

The Trust will set high standards for all, confident that all can experience success by continuously improving the quality of provision of all our academies and enhance pupil outcomes and attendance across the Trust.

The Trust will deliver high standard with a clear focus on a set of core beliefs to create confident, competent and kind citizens of the future.

How do we know if we are successful?

- The values of Calmness, Kindness and Honesty can be observed across all academies.
- All academies achieve the NAACEMARK award by 2026

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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

Our strong vision, values and school improvement systems are well-established. Having a balance of academies at different starting points in their journey of improvement, ensures we can use the strengths of each academy to build on our good practice and ensure that improving outcomes for children is at the heart of everything we do.

The Trust model:

- Is tailored to each individual organisation and is in response to 'rich' contextual understanding of the challenges faced
- Brings about rapid improvement and builds capacity
- Is recognised as good practice
- Draws upon research and is supported by an evidence base
- Is provided by quality assured professionals who respect and build capacity and confidence
- Maximises the use of school-to-school support
- Articulates high expectations of teachers and learners

### **Objectives 2023-2026:**

The Board of Trustees have agreed four key strategic objectives to steer the Trust's growth and development over the period 2023 to 2026.

- Continuously improving the quality of provision of all our academies and enhance pupil outcomes and attendance across the Trust
- Ensuring a financially viable and sustainable MAT and developing a strong business infrastructure
- Continue to build an effective school improvement team
- To ensure we have effective leadership and governance at all levels.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

OBJECTIVE	PERFORMANCE
To continuously improve the quality of provision of all our academies and enhance pupil outcomes and attendance across the Trust.	<p>The Trust has set up a range of forums this year to support this action. The subject lead meetings, alongside the existing Trust focus groups act as professional learning communities. CPD time used for reflection is encouraged across the academies, as well as through the appraisal process. SLT have open door policies so staff can be supported with new ideas and innovative pilots. Staff have led CPD on a range of topics throughout the year. The research library is ready to launch with middle leaders and senior leaders. There is a clear and comprehensive relational behaviour policy in place for the MAT with clear roles, responsibilities and strategies.</p> <p>Middle leader role defined with emphasis on leaders of teaching and learning within the MAT, ensuring alignment with the overall vision and goals of the organisation. Each site has completed a needs assessment within their SIP, utilising the outcome of school improvement risk assessment. All sites are clear on their areas for priority.</p> <p>The MAT has used external research and partnership working to achieve trauma informed status across all sites. The MAT continues to work collaboratively with a range of external partners and agencies.</p>
To ensure we have a financially viable and sustainable MAT, and we continue in developing a strong business infrastructure.	Improvement in the quality of provision of each academy whilst remaining sustainable with a balanced budget. Efficient staffing structures are evident that drive continuous improvement across the Trust.
To continue to build an effective school improvement team.	<p>Implemented a comprehensive training program for middle leaders focused on effective leadership practices, including communication skills, data analysis, and instructional leadership.</p> <p>CPD for middle leaders on data analysis tools and training on how to interpret and use data effectively to assess the effectiveness of teaching and learning in their areas of responsibility.</p> <p>Developing a centralised resource library containing materials, toolkits, and guides related to leading conversations on teaching and learning, accessible to all middle leaders across the MAT.</p>
To ensure we have effective leadership and governance at all levels.	<p>Strategic plan is on the agenda for all BOD and committee meetings and regular reports on updates tabled by CEO &amp; CFO.</p> <p>There is a proforma completed post LAB, highlighting the BOD key areas for challenge recorded with responses from each LAB.</p>

### Public benefit

In exercising its powers and duties, the Trust has complied with its duty to consider the Charity Commissions' guidance on Public Benefit. The main public benefit the Trust delivers is providing high quality education to its learners. This has been evidenced through the results achieved and feedback from external assessments and partnerships.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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### STRATEGIC REPORT

#### Achievements and performance

##### Ofsted Inspections

**Trinity Academy Newcastle** – The Ofsted monitoring inspection of Trinity Academy Newcastle on 4 March 2025 found that while leaders have made progress since the last graded inspection, further improvements are needed, particularly in pupil attendance. Leadership restructuring and increased staffing have strengthened oversight and curriculum continuity across the academy's two sites, with notable improvements in phonics and reading. Behaviour management has improved, with fewer serious incidents and a more proactive pastoral approach. However, inconsistent curriculum delivery and high absence rates, including persistent absence, hinder pupil progress and personal development. Trustees and governors are actively supporting improvements, and targeted plans are in place to address gaps in personal, social, and health education.

**Trinity Academy New Bridge** – The Ofsted monitoring inspection conducted on 7 January 2025 at Trinity Academy New Bridge focused on safeguarding, pupil attendance, and leadership effectiveness following raised concerns. Inspectors found safeguarding arrangements to be effective, supported by comprehensive staff training and robust record-keeping. However, the academy continued to face challenges with high levels of pupil absence, particularly among those in alternative provision, and inconsistencies in attendance monitoring. Due to leadership instability, the trust provided temporary support and initiated governance reforms. The school environment was generally calm and supportive, with staff managing behaviour effectively. Key priorities for improvement include strengthening parental engagement to improve attendance, enhancing oversight of off-site pupils, and ensuring governance reforms are fully implemented with appropriately skilled members. A full inspection subsequently took place on 1–2 July 2025. The report recognised that Trinity Academy New Bridge experienced a year of transition and improvement. While the overall quality of education, behaviour, and leadership continued to require improvement, the school made notable strides in key areas. Personal development was rated as 'Good', supported by initiatives such as mindfulness sessions, gardening therapy, and a comprehensive careers programme that broadened pupils' horizons. The introduction of a new reading hub and curriculum redesign demonstrated a clear commitment to raising standards, even though consistency in teaching and attendance remained challenges. Staff morale improved, leadership stability increased, and safeguarding arrangements remained effective. These developments signalled a positive direction for the school despite ongoing areas for growth.

##### Safeguarding

Safeguarding remained a central priority for Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust. Over the past year, we had continued to strengthen our systems, processes, and culture to ensure every learner is protected and supported. Through sustained collaboration, comprehensive training, curriculum development, and strong external partnerships, we had reinforced our commitment to creating safe, trauma-informed environments for learning.

##### Leadership, Staffing, and Training

Despite staffing changes, including the departure of the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) at Trinity Academy Newcastle early in the academic year, safeguarding oversight remained strong. Leigh-Anne Lawrence's appointment in January 2024 ensured continuity. Both DSLs have completed training with Safeguarding First and attend termly briefings to stay aligned with national standards. All DSLs and deputy DSLs across the Trust have completed mandatory refresher training, and all senior leaders are scheduled to undertake DSL training by the end of Autumn Term 1. Staff awareness has been enhanced through targeted CPD, including:

- CPOMS refresher training for accurate reporting
- Training on Red Pill ideology, incel culture, and online harms
- Prevent training for all staff
- Online safety awareness sessions

##### Trauma-Informed Practice and Anti-Bullying Recognition

All Trust sites were able to achieve Trauma-Informed Status, reflecting our proactive approach to mental health, emotional well-being, and behaviour regulation. Additionally, Trinity Academy New Bridge also earned the Bronze Anti-Bullying Charter Mark, recognising its commitment to a respectful and inclusive environment.

##### Alternative Provision and Risk Management

Progress was made on safeguarding priorities identified in the 2022/23 independent assurance assessment, particularly around Alternative Provision (AP) compliance. Employer Engagement/AP Teachers were appointed at both Trinity Academy Newcastle and Trinity Academy New Bridge, and all AP placements are now fully compliant. Subject-specific risk assessments were reviewed and implemented across the Trust.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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### Safeguarding Curriculum and Audit

Safeguarding topics were delivered systematically through a published curriculum plan, covering areas such as online safety, mental health, healthy relationships, bullying, substance abuse, and consent. These were integrated across PSHE, ICT, science, and PE. Audits have confirmed consistent delivery and good practice, supported by impactful safeguarding “drop-down” days at both sites.

### External Partnerships and Community Engagement

Our safeguarding culture was strengthened through collaboration with external agencies, including:

- The Violence Reduction Unit (knife crime, online safety, malicious communication)
- Sidestep (healthy relationships and prevention)
- Team Around the School (TAS), involving multi-agency partners from health, youth justice, education, and SEN services

Following TAS meetings, local Community Police Inspectors now host half-termly discussions with schools to coordinate responses to community-level concerns.

### KCSIE 2025 – Preparing for Change

The Department for Education has released draft updates to *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (KCSIE) for September 2025. Key changes include:

- Expanded Prevent Duty and training requirements
- Updated guidance on AI-related online harms
- Strengthened expectations around peer-on-peer abuse
- Enhanced multi-agency working
- Revised procedures for managing allegations against staff

The Trust is preparing for full compliance, with initial training sessions in the new academic year focused on Prevent and safeguarding refreshers.

In conclusion, Safeguarding remains a cornerstone of our mission. We are proud of the progress made through both external validation and internal development. As we move forward, we remain committed to continuous improvement, ensuring every student feels safe, respected, and supported across all areas of our work.

### **Mental Health**

Over the past academic year, Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust made significant progress in embedding a therapeutic and trauma-informed approach across all its provisions. This transformation is evident in both practice and culture, reflecting our deep commitment to the wellbeing and development of our students.

Our therapeutic provision continues to grow and evolve. A notable development this year was the introduction of trial portfolios within our Forest School programme. These portfolios have proven to be powerful tools for learner reflection and have fostered deeper engagement from parents and carers. Their success has led to plans for full integration into our newly developed personal development curriculum in the upcoming academic year.

Across the Trust, we have continued to invest in targeted interventions and professional development. Staff have received additional training in emotion coaching, and several pre-16 settings have introduced Drawing and Talking practitioners to enhance therapeutic support. This ongoing commitment to evidence-based practice both externally sourced and internally developed, has deepened our understanding of the root causes of learner behaviour and expanded the range of strategies available to meet their needs effectively.

Looking ahead, a key strategic focus will be addressing the increasing prevalence of speech, language, and communication needs (SLCN) among our learners. This national trend is particularly relevant to our cohort and may underpin many of the behavioural and emotional challenges they face. Exploring and responding to SLCN will be central to our development plans moving forward. This year also saw a comprehensive review of our Personal Development curriculum. Informed by a more nuanced understanding of what personal growth looks like for learners with SEMH needs, this review has enabled us to critically evaluate our current approach and design a more dynamic, responsive curriculum that reflects the individuality and complexity of our learners' journeys.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### Outcomes

Trinity Academy Newcastle

#### KS4 Outcomes

Key Stage 4 Outcomes			
KPI	2023	2024	2025
Year 11 Cohort Size	30	30	24
% of Y11s Achieving <b>5 or more</b> Qualifications	23% (7 pupils)	10% (3 pupils)	12.5% (3 pupils)
% of Y11s Achieving an <b>English</b> Qualification (GCSE or FS)	37% (11 pupils)	34% (10 pupils)	29% (7 pupils)
% of Y11s Achieving a <b>Maths</b> Qualification (GCSE or FS)	43% (13 pupils)	31% (9 pupils)	50% (12 pupils)
% of Y11s Achieving <b>English and Maths</b> Qualifications	33% (10 pupils)	21% (6 pupils)	29% (7 pupils)

#### KS2 Outcomes

Key Stage 2: Expected Standards			
The table below displays the proportion of Year 6 learners achieving specific measures in SATs.			
Expected Standard:	2023	2024	2025
Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in English Reading	7%	7%	4.2%
Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in English Writing	7%	0	0
Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in English GPS	7%	0	0
Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in Maths	0	0	8.3%
Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in Science	7%	7%	9.1%
Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in Reading, GPS and Maths	0	0	0



# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Key Stage 2: Average Scaled Scores			
<i>The table below displays the average scaled scores gained in SATS for each subject.</i>			
Average Scaled:	2023	2024	2025
Average scaled score in English Reading	93	68	94
Average scaled score in English GPS	96	92	91
Average scaled score in Maths	92	89	89
Key Stage 2: Average Progress Scores			
<i>The table below displays the average scaled scores gained in SATS for each subject.</i>			
Average Progress Score in...	2023	2024	2025
English Reading	-13.7		
English Writing	-14.6		
Mathematics	-12.1		

It will not be possible to calculate KS1-KS2 progress measures for academic years 2023/24 and 2024/25. This is because there is no relevant KS1 data required to calculate KS1-KS2 progress measures for these cohorts, as primary tests and assessments were cancelled in academic years 2019/20 and 2020/21 due to COVID-19 disruption.

### Attendance

Attendance for the year was 55.06%, a reduction of 3.77%. Lower site performed highest, with attendance of 75.27%, followed by the Sanctuary with 70.7%. Upper site performed the lowest with 45.99%.

### Behaviour

Overall behaviour incidents rose by 26% on the previous year. Out of class remains the highest occurring behaviour, accounting for 16% (1609/10,056) of behaviour incidents in 24/25. There was a 29% reduction in level 4 incidents in 24/25.

23 learners attended psychotherapeutic counselling.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### Trinity Academy New Bridge

#### KS4 Outcomes

Key Stage 4 Outcomes			
KPI	2023	2024	2025
Year 11 Cohort Size	32	31	24
% of Y11s Achieving <b>5 or more</b> Qualifications	38% (9 pupils)	16% (5 pupils)	8% (2 pupils)
% of Y11s Achieving an <b>English</b> Qualification (GCSE or FS)	59% (19 pupils)	42% (13 pupils)	38% (9 pupils)
% of Y11s Achieving a <b>Maths</b> Qualification (GCSE or FS)	66% (21 pupils)	58% (18 pupils)	75% (18 pupils)
% of Y11s Achieving <b>English and Maths</b> Qualifications	53% (17 pupils)	32% (10 pupils)	38% (9 pupils)

#### Attendance

Attendance for the year was 50.33%, a reduction of 3.08%.

#### Behaviour

Overall behaviour incidents decreased by 0.4% on the previous year. Out of class remains the highest occurring behaviour, accounting for 45% (4789/10,531) of behaviour incidents in 24/25. There was a 51% reduction in level 4 incidents, and a 39% reduction in level 5 incidents in 24/25.

### Trinity Solutions Academy

KPI	2023	2024	2025
Attendance	71%	82%	86%
Retention	64% (38/59)	77% (90/117)	85% (88/103)
Core aim achievement	61% (36/59)	62% (73/117)	58% (60/103)
Progression	61% (36/59)	52% (61/117)	63% * (65/103)

- Maths achievement – 31% (30/97)
- English achievement – 38% (35/93)

\*may rise over the autumn term

### Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited

KPI	2023	2024	2025
Attendance	95%	87%	86%
Retention	67% (6/9)	74% (14/19)	69% (11/16)
Core aim achievement	78% (7/9)	74% (14/19)	38% (6/16)
Progression	67% (6/9)	74% (14/19)	50% * (8/16)

- Maths achievement – 40% (6/15)
- English achievement – 38% (6/16)

\*may rise over the autumn term

### Trust Forest School

56. pre 16 learners across the Trust accessed forest school.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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### **Key performance indicators**

The Trust evaluates its performance through both financial and non-financial indicators, with a strong focus on ensuring that resources are used effectively to support the education and development of its learners.

#### Financial Performance Indicators

Key financial indicators reflect the Trust's commitment to the efficient and effective use of funds for the benefit of children's education. The Trust actively engages in benchmarking exercises, where available, to assess financial, environmental, and workforce-related performance. These reviews are conducted annually, and any identified areas for improvement are addressed. Comparative data from the Department for Education and the Local Authority are also utilised to inform decision-making and strategic planning.

The Board and senior leadership team continue to embed the principles of Financial Efficiency and Integrated Curriculum and Financial Planning (ICFP) into operational practices, driving improvements where necessary.

#### Non-Financial Performance Indicators

Non-financial indicators focus on learner achievements and outcomes. These are assessed using the following measures:

##### Key Stage 4 (KS4) Outcomes

- Average number of qualifications achieved per pupil
- Percentage of pupils attaining English and Maths qualifications

##### Key Stage 5 (KS5) Vocational Outcomes

- Qualification success rates

##### Learner Destinations (KS4 and KS5)

- Proportion of learners progressing to further education, training, or employment

##### Progress Monitoring

- Termly assessment of progress in English and Maths
- Progress in Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) – applicable to Pre-16 academies

##### Attendance

- Monitored termly for Pre-16 academies

For further details on learner achievements and performance, please refer to the Achievements and Performance section.

### **Going Concern**

Following appropriate enquiries, the Board of Directors is satisfied that the Trust has sufficient resources to continue its operations for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. Further information regarding this assessment is provided in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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### Financial review

The majority of the Trust's income is derived from the Department for Education (DfE) in the form of recurrent grants, or from the local authority, with usage restricted to specific purposes. Grants received from the DfE during the year ended 31 August 2025, along with the related expenditure, are presented as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

In addition, the Trust receives capital grants for fixed assets. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2019), applicable to entities preparing accounts under FRS 102, these grants are recognised as restricted income within the fixed asset fund. The balance of this fund is subsequently reduced by depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the respective assets. During the year, £61,070 was received in respect of Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) and School Condition Allocation (SCA) grants. The Board continues to support the pooling of all DFC and SCA funding to facilitate planned capital development projects across the Trust.

Also, during the period, the Trust received £876,456 in Core School Budget Grant funding from the local authorities.

Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited was incorporated on 18 December 2015 as a trading subsidiary of the Trust, in accordance with Department for Education (DfE) requirements following academy conversion. This structure enabled the continuation of post-19 education provision. Although the company was formally established in 2015, trading activities did not commence until August 2016.

The directors of Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited have resolved that any financial surplus as of 31 August 2025 will be donated to Trinity Solutions Academy.

For the financial year ended 31 August 2025, the group received total income of £10,836,882 (2024: £9,318,163) and incurred total expenditure of £9,608,436 (2024: £8,810,675).

Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust has continued to experience significant challenges in recruiting and retaining both permanent and supply staff over the past year. As a result, several positions remained vacant for extended periods, impacting staffing stability across the Trust. As a result of not being able to fulfil the Head of School position for Trinity Academy New Bridge from September 2024, the Trust School Improvement Team has heavily supported with Senior Leadership Team Support throughout the period.

As the Trust is in a strong financial position, the Board of trustees agreed to invest in further improvements to the assets of the Trust, projects completed during the year included:

- Replacement of Boiler System – £373k
- IT Investment across the Trust – £99k
- Improvements to site security (Fencing) – £54k
- Upgrades to Doors – £140k
- Purchase of new minibus for educational purpose – £35k

During the reporting period, the Trust allocated funds within the annual budget to support a strategic expansion project aimed at meeting the growing demand for post-16 provision. The project involves the construction of an additional classroom block comprising six new teaching spaces. This development is designed to accommodate the increase in post-16 learners and to provide a dedicated educational facility for the Animal and Land-Based Studies school improvement initiative. Although funds were earmarked for both the building works and the procurement of educational equipment and furniture during this financial year, delays in the procurement process have impacted the project timeline. As a result, no significant expenditure has been incurred in the current period. The project is now scheduled for delivery in Academic Year 2025/26, at which point the allocated funds will be utilised for both the development works and the associated educational resources.

### Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The Trust continues to actively review and uphold its Risk Management Strategy, supported by a comprehensive Risk Register that includes potential financial exposures. This process enables the identification and assessment of key risks facing the Trust, alongside the operational, financial, and compliance controls established to mitigate those risks.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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Throughout the year, key financial policies have undergone review to ensure they remain robust and fit for purpose. These policies define the framework for financial governance, clearly outlining roles, responsibilities, and authorisation protocols.

As at the year end, the Trust had no material liabilities arising from trade creditors or debtors that would significantly impact liquidity.

### **Reserves policy**

The Trust's Reserves Policy has due regard to legislation and statutory guidance, including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE Academies Trust Handbook.
- DfE Accounts Direction
- DfE Academy trust financial management good practice guides.
- Charity Commission Charity Reserves: Building Resilience.
- Charity Commission Charities and investment matters: a guide for Trustees.

The policy also takes consideration to key factors around the management of public funds, consideration of the Trust's principal risks and uncertainties, ensuring the Trust have the resources required to drive school improvement and supporting its vision, whilst ensuring value for money is met.

Each Academy within the Trust sets its annual budget with the aim of achieving a balanced financial position, while aligning with the strategic objectives of the Trust and supporting the educational priorities of individual Academies. Where necessary, Academies may apply for funding from the Trust's reserves to support specific capital works or targeted school improvement initiatives that address short-term development needs.

The trustees have reviewed the Trust's Reserves Policy to ensure it reflects a balanced and forward-looking approach. This review considered the need to support current learners while safeguarding resources for future generations. The policy is designed to ensure the Trust remains a going concern, supports effective risk management, promotes responsible stewardship of public funds, and enables sound decision-making. In undertaking this review, the Trustees considered:

- Forecasted income for the current and future years, including an assessment of the reliability of existing income streams and the potential to develop new sources of funding.
- Forecasted expenditure based on planned activities and strategic priorities.
- Analysis of future needs, opportunities, and risks, particularly where projected income may not be sufficient to meet anticipated costs.
- An assessment of potential shortfalls, based on the best available evidence, including the likelihood of such shortfalls occurring and the implications for the Trust should reserves not be available to mitigate them.

This approach ensures that the Trust maintains financial resilience, supports strategic planning, and continues to deliver high-quality education across its Academies.

The Board of Directors have determined that the appropriate level of restricted reserves should be within a range of 15% (£1,506,594) to 20% (£2,008,792) of predicted income. The reason for the reserves policy is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance or falling learner numbers. The Board notes that the current level of unrestricted reserves exceeds the threshold considered desirable for the organisation. This position reflects prudent financial management and provides resilience for future operations. The Board has approved detailed plans for the strategic use of these reserves, which include investment in school improvement initiatives, ICT infrastructure upgrades, and building developments. These planned expenditures are aligned with the organisation's objectives and will ensure continued delivery of its mission.

At year end, any balances carried forward by individual Academies are reviewed in accordance with the trust's reserves and budget-setting policies and guidance. All funds remain the property of the Trust and are consolidated within the Trust's financial statements. This ensures consistency in financial reporting and supports strategic financial planning across the organisation.

The trust's current level of free unrestricted reserves are £1,646,260 (2024: £1,607,421). The trust's current level of accessible reserves (total reserves excluding restricted fixed asset funds and pension reserves) totals £5,940,608 (2024: £4,721,685).

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

As the free reserves and accessible reserves are higher than the target reserves, the Board has committed the following reserve expenditure, against a review of the trust's priorities and strategic plan.

Spend category	Amount	Predicted date the project / expenditure	Description of the plans for these funds
Specific building/ estates projects	£1,360,000	31.08.2029	<p>MAT Premise Developments - The Board of Directors have agreed a five-year development plan for buildings, estate and non-building capital projects, which has been developed using intelligence gathered through the external condition surveys and in line with the trust sustainability strategy.</p> <p>The Board of Directors agreed that trust reserves would be allocated for this expenditure to allow capacity in the academy budgets to focus on delivering high-quality teaching and learning.</p>
Other non-building capital expenditure	£500,000	31.08.2029	<p>MAT ICT Developments - The Board of Directors have committed trust reserve expenditure to support a comprehensive five-year ICT refresh and development programme. This strategic investment will enhance the delivery of the curriculum, support innovative teaching practices, and assist in driving ongoing school improvement.</p>

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Strategic development	£1,000,000	31.08.2029	<p>MAT School Improvement - The Board of Directors recognises the ongoing challenges and uncertainties associated with future change, including the potential for unexpected costs and fluctuations in learner numbers especially at Post 16 &amp; 19. In light of these challenges, the Board has made the strategic decision to commit trust reserves to support school improvement initiatives across the trust, rather than allocating these expenditures to individual academy budgets. By pooling resources at the trust level, the Board aims to create greater flexibility, resilience, and the ability to respond to unforeseen challenges while maintaining a clear focus on raising standards and improving the quality of education for all learners across the trust.</p> <p>The Board of Directors have agreed a five-year period to support essential school improvement initiatives, with a particular focus on strengthening the central services of the trust. This strategic investment will enhance service delivery, increase operational capacity in the School Improvement Team, and ensure a more effective and efficient response to the needs of our academies. It will also address key areas of concern identified in recent Ofsted reports, demonstrating the Boards proactive approach to continuous improvement.</p>
Total Five-Year Reserve Commitment:	£2,860,000		

These commitments will be reviewed annually, and the trustees reserve the right to amend the reserve levels and commitments in the interest of the trust.

### Investment policy

The Trust maintains an interest-bearing current account with Lloyds Bank, as approved by the Board of Trustees. Adequate balances are consistently held to ensure the availability of liquid funds to meet all immediate and anticipated financial obligations. This includes maintaining a prudent contingency reserve to accommodate any unforeseen expenditures.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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### **Principal risks and uncertainties**

The trust, in line with other academy trusts, is exposed to a variety of risks and uncertainties. To manage these effectively, it has implemented comprehensive procedures for the identification, documentation, and mitigation of risks, including those of a financial nature.

A structured risk schedule is maintained and reviewed at least annually by the Finance, Audit and Resources Committee. An internal audit and assurance work plan is also agreed to evaluate the adequacy and effectiveness of the controls in place.

The trust maintains a detailed Risk Register, which captures the principal risks facing the organisation. This register is reviewed termly by the Board, who are also kept informed between meetings of any emerging issues that may affect the Trust's risk profile.

Recommendations arising from recent risk reviews have been implemented throughout the year, with further evaluations planned for the 2025/26 academic year to identify opportunities for strengthening the Trust's internal control environment.

The Trust has adopted a comprehensive suite of policies and procedures aimed at reducing both the likelihood and impact of identified risks. Risks are categorised by severity (extreme, moderate, or minor) to support effective prioritisation and response planning.

Principal risks relating to academic performance encompass all aspects of teaching and learning, safeguarding, and the provision of facilities. These are actively managed through targeted improvement plans and a robust performance management framework.

Key financial policies have been reviewed and updated throughout the year. These policies define the financial governance framework, including the roles and responsibilities of the Board, chief executive officer, and budget holders, as well as delegated authority for expenditure. Financial performance is monitored throughout the year by the Finance, Audit and Resources Committee, with regular reviews against budget and actual expenditure.

### **Fundraising**

The trust periodically undertakes internal fundraising initiatives, such as raffles, to support key objectives including farm development, enterprise activities, and the hardship fund. All fundraising activities are conducted in full compliance with the trust's legal and financial responsibilities, ensuring that they:

- Act in the best interests of the trust.
- Manage each academy's resources responsibly, including safeguarding its reputation.
- Demonstrate reasonable care, diligence, and skill.
- Uphold the protection of vulnerable individuals.

Fundraising activities are monitored by the trustees throughout the year to ensure accountability and transparency. The trust does not engage with external fundraising organisations.

### **Future Plans**

The trust has a three-year strategic plan covering 2023-2026, with specific aims and objectives for the session 2025/26. There are 4 Key Objectives which have been set and should be achieved. The objectives, and specific key performance indicators are detailed below:



# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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### **Strategic Objective 1: Improve Quality of Provision and Learner Outcomes**

**Focus: Strengthen teaching, learning, and leadership across all academies.**

#### **Key Performance Indicators**

- Vision & Alignment: All staff and stakeholders understand and embody the MAT vision; curriculum and CPD are aligned to it.
- Data-Driven Improvement: Standardised data systems inform targeted interventions; 90% of learners to meet key academic and destination benchmarks.
- Leadership Development: Middle leaders are empowered and trained to lead teaching and learning.
- Collaboration & Best Practice: Staff access hubs of expertise, peer observations, and shared CPD to improve practice.
- Behaviour & Inclusion: New behaviour policies and trauma-informed approaches are embedded.
- Curriculum & Assessment: Shared curriculum intent, moderation, and benchmarking ensure consistency and high expectations.
- Pupil Voice & Engagement: Learner feedback and EHCP-aligned curriculum drive improvements in engagement and outcomes.

### **Strategic Objective 2: Financial Viability and Business Infrastructure**

**Focus: Ensure sustainability and value for money**

#### **Key Performance Indicators**

- Efficiency & Growth: Streamlined operations support growth and value for money.
- Balanced Budgets: All academies maintain costed improvement plans within budget.
- Sustainable Structures: Staffing and systems are reviewed for affordability and effectiveness.
- Estates & Energy: 5-year premises plans include energy monitoring and carbon reduction.
- Income Generation: Increased lettings and site-based income streams.

### **Strategic Objective 3: Build and Effective School Improvement Team**

**Focus: Strengthen internal capacity for School Improvement**

#### **Key Performance Indicators**

- Clear Accountability: SLT roles and responsibilities for improvement are well defined and tracked.
- Staff Development: Ambitious staff are identified and supporting through CPD and leadership training.
- System Leadership: Expertise is mapped and shared across the trust; coaching and modelling are used to build capacity.
- Inclusive Engagement: All staff are encouraged to participate in trust wide improvement initiatives.

### **Strategic Objective 4: Effective Leadership and Governance**

**Focus: Strengthen governance and strategic oversight.**

#### **Key Performance Indicators**

- Governor Recruitment: LABs are fully staffed with skilled governors.
- Risk Management: Embedded across all trust activities.
- Strategic Oversight: Governance structures include regular updates, challenge, and evaluation of impact on learner outcomes.
- School Improvement Focus: Governance actively monitors and supports school improvement priorities

The trust has discussed its ambition for growth in the future with the Regional Schools Directors Office through ongoing conversations and its annual trust reviews. The trust has agreed to focus on ensuring all academies are good or better before pursuing opportunities to grow. Additionally, we are exploring the feasibility of establishing internal Alternative Provision services to mitigate rising expenses associated with external agencies. Furthermore, we are expanding our on-site facilities to accommodate the growing number of students in our post-16 provision.

Having a balance of academies at different starting points in their journey of improvement, will ensure we can use the strengths of each academy to build on our good practice and ensure that improving outcomes for children is at the heart of everything we do.

### **Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others**

There are no funds held as Custodian trustee on behalf of others.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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### AUDITOR

RSM UK Audit LLP has indicated its willingness to continue in office.

### Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

As far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the Charitable Company's auditor is unaware.
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

RSM UK Audit LLP has indicated their willingness to continue in office as auditors to the Trust.

The Trustees' report, incorporating a Strategic Report, approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company Directors, on 03 December 2025 and signed on the Board's behalf by:



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M McHugh

**Chair**

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

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### Scope of responsibility

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

As Trustees, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DFE's Governance Handbook and competency framework for governance.

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

### Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 7 times during the year and attendance was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
P Carter (Resigned as Chair and trustee 11 September 2024)	1	1
M McHugh (Chair)	6	7
L McNally (Accounting Officer)	7	7
N Elliott	6	7
J Rainsford (Resigned 31 August 2025)	0	7
A M Ocampo Lucumi (Resigned 16 September 2025)	5	7
K Allan	6	7
P Monaghan	7	7
H Murray (Appointed 11 December 2024)	5	5
C Priday (Appointed 11 December 2024 and resigned 3 March 2025)	2	2
C Boccovi (Appointed 19 February 2025)	4	4

During the period, the trust underwent two changes to the composition of its members and several changes to the composition of the Board of trustees.

### Changes to Members

- Lonie Sebagh – Appointed as a member on 01.09.2024 and resigned 31.08.2025
- Peter Carter – Resigned as a member on 13.09.2024 and re-appointed on 30.08.2025

### Changes to Directors

- Peter Carter – Resigned as a trustee on 11.09.2024
- Helen Murray – Appointed as a trustee on 11.12.2024
- Craig Priday - Appointed as a trustee 11.12.2024 and resigned 03.03.2025
- Chris Boccovi – Appointed as a trustee on 19.02.2025
- James Rainsford – Resigned as a trustee on 31.08.2025

During the academic year 24/25, the Board of trustees continued to adopt a more flexible approach to face-to-face meetings, allowing trustees to attend virtually as part of a blended meeting format, subject to prior approval. Chris Boccovi was appointed to the Board as a fully remote trustee, reflecting both his geographical location and relevant expertise. He participates in Board meetings virtually, and trustee visits were conducted via Microsoft Teams.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

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### Managing conflicts of interest

The Board of Trustees have robust procedures and policies in place for reporting and managing related party transactions that are applied across the Trust. All business and pecuniary interests will be recorded on the Register of Interests. The Declared Conflicts of Interest Register will identify any relevant material interests from close family relationships between the Trust's Members or Directors. Relevant material interests arising from close family relationships between these individuals and employees will also be identified. The Declared Conflicts of Interest Register will be always kept up to date and amended when any new interests are declared. The relevant business and pecuniary interests of Members or Directors and the Accounting Officer will be published on the Trust's website.

### Governance reviews

During the Autumn Term, the Board of trustees, with support from the Governance Professional, commissioned an External Review of Governance conducted by the National Governance Association (NGA). The review focused on four key areas:

- The effectiveness and fitness-for-purpose of the Trust's governance structure.
- The skills, knowledge, and experience of Trustees.
- The effectiveness of Trustees in fulfilling core governance functions.
- The monitoring and effectiveness of local governance.

The NGA consultant engaged with the CEO, Trust Chair, Governance Professional, trustees, local governors, and key trust staff. The review identified the need for stronger challenge and scrutiny at both Board level towards the CEO and Executive Leadership Team and at local level, particularly in the role of local governors as critical friends to Heads of School. It also highlighted that the current local governance format did not sufficiently engage with the trust's two pre-16 academies.

In response, the Board initiated several governance reforms:

- Articles of Association: The Board agreed to update the Articles of Association, which had remained unchanged since the trust's inception in 2015. Legal advice was sought, and proposed amendments are currently under review by the Department for Education and the Charity Commission, pending member approval.
- Scheme of Delegation: A comprehensive redevelopment of the Scheme of Delegation was undertaken to clarify roles, responsibilities, and lines of accountability across all governance tiers.
- Local Governance Reform: The Board established separate Local Academy Councils for each of the two pre-16 academies to enhance scrutiny and challenge at academy level. These Councils will not hold delegated powers but will work collaboratively with Heads of School to promote the trust's vision and values and strengthen community engagement.
- Chairs' Forum: A new Chairs' Forum was introduced, comprising the Chair of the Board, Chairs of the two committees, and Chairs of the three local governance tiers. This forum will meet three times annually to share insights, align governance activity with trust objectives and School Improvement Plans, and ensure robust communication across governance levels.

These changes will take effect from 1st September 2025, with the Governance Professional leading a targeted recruitment campaign to fill all governance positions ahead of implementation.

To encourage in-person attendance, the Board agreed to change the start time of its meetings and committee sessions to 5:00 PM. During the academic year, the Board met seven times, the Finance Committee met ten times, and the Quality of Education Committee met three times. Meetings scheduled for October, March, and May were cancelled due to lack of quorum. As a result, the number of Quality of Education Committee meetings has been reduced for the upcoming year to ensure quorum is met.

The Board maintains a continuous improvement mindset, actively refining its focus to ensure effective oversight and challenge of senior leaders. It remains attentive to skill gaps and invests in recruitment, training, and expert advice. This year, the Board invested in:

- NGA online training platform
- Schools North East Partner training
- Safeguarding First training
- GDPR Sentry
- Confederation of School Trusts resources

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

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Recruitment of trustees and local governors has been a strategic priority, particularly in light of the reformed local governance structure. Successful appointments were made through platforms such as Governor for Schools, Reach Volunteering, and LinkedIn.

Local Academy Board (LAB) meetings continued in their pre-16 and post-16 formats, with three meetings scheduled across the academic year. All pre-16 LAB meetings were held successfully under new leadership. However, the post-16 LAB meetings in March and June were cancelled due to long-term absence of the Chair and insufficient attendance.

Communication between LABs, committees, and the Board remains a key focus. With support from the Governance Professional, post-meeting reports are produced to highlight key messages for escalation. LAB agendas are collaboratively developed by the LAB Chair, CEO, and Governance Professional to ensure alignment with Board priorities.

The Board continues to monitor, analyse, and challenge a wide range of key performance indicators, both financial and educational, through data presented at meetings. Trustees are effective in discharging their responsibilities, ensuring the efficient use of public funds and delivering value for money through rigorous financial scrutiny.

In July 2025, Trinity Academy New Bridge underwent inspection. Verbal feedback included recommendations for strengthening governance. In response, the Board has identified training needs and skill development priorities at the local level to ensure governance is robust ahead of future inspections.

### Finance, audit and resources committee

The Finance, Audit and Resources Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of trustees. The responsibilities of this committee are, but not limited to:

- Directing the trust's programme of internal scrutiny and reporting to the Board on the adequacy of the trusts financial and other controls and management of risks.
- Ensuring that risks are being addressed appropriately through internal scrutiny.
- Reviewing the external auditor's plan each year.
- Reviewing the annual report and accounts.
- Reviewing the external auditor's findings and actions taken by the trusts in response to those findings.
- Reviewing and approving the annual five-year trust budgets including reserve expenditure and ICFP.
- Regularly monitoring expenditure and income against the budget and making recommendations to the Board.
- Reviewing and implementing the recommendations from the commissioned staffing review.
- Reviewing and approving relevant policies.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Finance, Audit and Resources Committee was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
M McHugh (Chair)	10	10
L McNally (Accounting Officer)	8	10
N Elliott	6	10
K Allan	10	10
H Murray (Appointed 11 December 2024)	7	7
C Priday (Appointed 11 December 2024 and resigned 3 March 2025)	3	3

### Quality of education, inclusion and safeguarding committee

The Quality of Education, Inclusion and Safeguarding Committee is also a sub-committee of the main Board. The responsibilities of the Quality of Education, Inclusion and Safeguarding committee are:

- Reviewing and approving relevant policies.
- Learner wellbeing
- Attendance
- Teaching and Learning
- Pupil Premium
- Sport and PE Premium
- LAC
- Assessment and Attainment
- Outcomes
- ICFP

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

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Attendance during the year at meetings of the Quality of Education, Inclusion and safeguarding Committee was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
M McHugh (Chair)	2	3
L McNally (Accounting Officer)	3	3
J Rainsford (Resigned 31 August 2025)	0	3
A M Ocampo Lucumi (Resigned 16 September 2025)	3	3
P Monaghan	3	3
C Boccovi (Appointed 19 February 2025)	2	2

### Review of value for money

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

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

### Improving Educational Outcomes

Throughout the year, the trust has successfully enhanced educational outcomes for learners through a range of targeted initiatives and strategic investments:

- Curriculum Innovation: Continued to develop a creative and diverse curriculum, ensuring all learners had opportunities to improve their individual attainment levels. This approach supported inclusive and aspirational learning experiences.
- Specialist Provision and Vocational Access: Learners benefited from access to specialist equipment, vocational opportunities, work experience placements, and bespoke alternative education or targeted interventions, tailored to meet individual needs.
- Enrichment and Engagement: Outdoor Education, Forest School, and the Duke of Edinburgh programme were integrated into the curriculum, contributing to a broad and balanced educational offer and positively impacting attendance rates.
- Partnerships and Mental Health Leadership: The trust continued its collaboration with Leeds Beckett University, supporting the delivery of Intermediate Dilemma-Based Group Coaching Sessions as part of the Senior Mental Health Lead Training programme.
- Staff Development and Qualifications: High-quality Continuing Professional Development (CPD) was provided, focusing on leadership and teaching improvement. The trust supported staff in completing their Early Career Teacher (ECT) training and Level 5 Diploma in Education and Training.
- Alternative Education Provision: The trust maintained its delivery of Pre-16 alternative education to external schools, academies, and local authorities. Income generated from these services contributed to offsetting staffing and educational costs.
- Estate Management and Compliance: The accounting officer and Board ensured effective use of funding to maintain a safe, compliant, and well-managed estate.

### Financial Performance

The trust maintains a consistent focus on achieving best value for money and demonstrates a clear understanding of the importance of efficient and effective resource management. A comprehensive financial policy underpins all procurement activity, promoting transparency and fair competition through the use of quotations and formal tendering processes.

Where appropriate, the trust leverages established procurement frameworks—including Central Government Procurement, CPC, Everything ICT, Everything FM, and YPO; to assess opportunities for enhanced value. Additionally, the trust actively consolidates purchases across its schools and collaborates with other trusts to maximise economies of scale and reduce costs.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

### The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively, and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust 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 Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Trust is exposed, together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating, and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

### The risk and control framework

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

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

The Board of Trustees has decided to buy in an internal audit service from a range of sources depending on expertise and knowledge.

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

Provider & Area	Recommendations	Comments
Newcastle City Council: Fire Risk Assessment	19 recommendations raised for the areas reviewed.	Reports received Autumn Term 2024 with recommendations to be actioned AY 24.25.
Clive Owen -Safeguarding	2 recommendations raised for the areas reviewed.	Reports received Autumn 2024 with recommendations to be actioned AY 24.25.
GDPR Sentry – GDPR Compliance – Follow up visit.	14 recommendations raised for the areas reviewed.	Reports received Spring Term 2025 with recommendations to be actioned AY 24.25.
Clive Owen – Review of ESFA Recommendations	1 Recommendation raised which was rectified prior to visit.	Reports received Spring Term 2025 with recommendations to be actioned AY 24.25.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

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The planned internal audit draft reports were received and tabled at the Finance, Audit and Resources Committee. Following this, action plans were produced based on the report's recommendations and updated throughout the period.

During the year, the Trust Premise/ Health and Safety Lead carried out thematic internal assurance on Educational Visits and Medication for Trinity Academy New Bridge. The Trust Head of Safeguarding, Inclusion and School Improvement Lead also provided termly safeguarding assurance for the Trust. The findings of the reviews were received and tabled at the Finance, Audit and Resources Committee.

### **Review of effectiveness**

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

- The work of the internal auditor.
- The financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool.
- The work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- The work of the external auditor.
- Correspondence from DfE e.g. financial notice to improve/notice to improve (FNtl/Ntl) and 'minded to' letters.

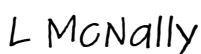
The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Finance, Audit & Resources Committee, and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Based on the advice of the Finance, Audit and Resources Committee and the Accounting Officer, the Board of Trustees is of the opinion that the academy trust has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 03 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



M McHugh  
Chair



L McNally  
Accounting Officer



# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

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As Accounting Officer of Trinity Academy Newcastle, I confirm that I have had due regard to the framework of authorities governing regularity, propriety and compliance, including the trust's funding agreement with DfE, and the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including for estates safety and management. I have also considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and DfE of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including estates safety and management.

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

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

*L McNally*

L McNally  
**Accounting Officer**

Date: 03 December 2025

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

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

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

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 03 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



M McHugh  
Chair

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Trinity Academy Newcastle (the "parent charitable company") and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 August 2025 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Group and Company Balance Sheet, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), and the Academies Accounts Direction issued by the Department for Education.

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

## Basis for opinion

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

## Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees 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 trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

# **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE (CONTINUED)**

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

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report, which includes the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report included within the Trustees' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report or the Strategic Report included within the Trustees' 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 by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

## **Responsibilities of Trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities set out on page 30, the trustees (who act as trustees for the charitable activities of the charitable company are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or the parent charitable company or to cease operations, 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.

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

Irregularities are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud through designing and implementing appropriate responses and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.

However, it is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE (CONTINUED)

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In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the group audit engagement team:

- obtained an understanding of the nature of the sector, including the legal and regulatory framework that the group and parent charitable company operates in and how the group and parent charitable company are complying with the legal and regulatory framework;
- inquired of management, and those charged with governance, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud;
- discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud.

As a result of these procedures we consider the most significant laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102, Charities SORP (FRS 102), Companies Act 2006, Department for Education's Academy Trust Handbook and Academies Accounts Direction. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliances which may have a material impact on the financial statements which included reviewing the financial statements and the Trustees' Report.

The most significant laws and regulations that have an indirect impact on the financial statements are those in relation to the Education Inspection Framework under the Education Act 2005 (as amended), Keeping Children Safe in Education under the Education Act 2002, the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. We performed audit procedures to inquire of management and those charged with governance whether the group is in compliance with these law and regulations and inspected correspondence with regulatory authorities.

The group audit engagement team identified the risk of management override of controls as the area where the financial statements were most susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud. Audit procedures performed included but were not limited to testing manual journal entries and other adjustments, evaluating the business rationale in relation to significant, unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside the normal course of business, and challenging judgments and estimates.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located 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.

*Claire Leece*

Claire Leece (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of RSM UK Audit LLP, Statutory Auditor  
Chartered Accountants  
1 St. James' Gate  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
United Kingdom  
NE1 4AD

08/12/25

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted General Funds	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	-	61,070	61,070	38,021
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	10,688,373	-	10,688,373	9,139,015
Other trading activities	5	86,802	-	-	86,802	140,503
Investments	6	637	-	-	637	624
<b>Total</b>		87,439	10,688,373	61,070	10,836,882	9,318,163
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	8	48,600	8,661,601	898,235	9,608,436	8,810,675
<b>Total</b>	7	48,600	8,661,601	898,235	9,608,436	8,810,675
<b>Net income/ (expenditure)</b>		38,839	2,026,772	(837,165)	1,228,446	507,488
Transfers between funds	18	-	(770,688)	770,688	-	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit schemes	26	-	(76,000)	-	(76,000)	(53,000)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		38,839	1,180,084	(66,477)	1,152,446	454,488
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
Total funds brought forward		1,607,421	3,114,264	18,109,697	22,831,382	22,376,894
Total funds carried forward		1,646,260	4,294,348	18,043,220	23,983,828	22,831,382

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

## GROUP AND COMPANY BALANCE SHEETS

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Notes	Group 2025 £	Company 2025 £	Group 2024 £	Company 2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	13	18,043,220	18,035,634	18,109,697	18,107,535
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	15	403,314	407,719	419,568	419,522
Cash at bank and in hand		6,129,613	6,111,750	5,700,537	5,683,827
		6,532,927	6,519,469	6,120,105	6,103,349
<b>Current liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(592,319)	(578,009)	(1,398,420)	(1,396,288)
<b>Net current assets</b>		5,940,608	5,941,460	4,721,685	4,707,061
<b>Net assets</b>		23,983,828	23,977,094	22,831,382	22,814,596
<b>Funds of the academy trust:</b>					
<b>Restricted funds</b>	18				
- Restricted fixed asset funds		18,043,220	18,035,634	18,109,697	18,107,535
- Restricted income funds		4,294,348	4,179,966	3,114,264	2,825,508
<b>Total restricted funds</b>		22,337,568	22,215,600	21,223,961	20,933,043
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	18	1,646,260	1,761,494	1,607,421	1,881,553
<b>Total funds</b>		23,983,828	23,977,094	22,831,382	22,814,596

As permitted by s408 Companies Act 2006, the charity has not presented its own profit and loss account and related notes as it prepares group accounts. The results of the unconsolidated charity are net income of £1,162,498 (2024: £485,289 net income) and net movement in funds of £1,162,498 (2024: £437,702).

The financial statements on pages 38 to 67 were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 03 December 2025 and are signed on their behalf by:



.....  
M McHugh  
Chair

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Net cash provided by operating activities	23		1,199,127		1,398,788
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		637		624	
Capital grants from DfE Group		61,070		38,021	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(831,758)		(1,250,900)	
Proceeds from sale of tangible fixed assets		-		3,375	
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>			(770,051)		(1,208,880)
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>			429,076		189,908
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			5,700,537		5,510,629
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year</b>			6,129,613		5,700,537



# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

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### 1 Accounting policies

#### General information

Trinity Academy Newcastle is a charitable company. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the trustees' report.

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

#### Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the academy trust 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 DfE, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. The academy trust is a public benefit entity under FRS 102 and has therefore applied the relevant public benefit requirements of FRS 102.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is also the functional currency of the academy trust.

Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest whole £1, except where otherwise indicated.

#### Reduced disclosures

The academy is a qualifying entity for the purposes of FRS 102, being a member of a group where the parent of that group prepares publicly available consolidated financial statements, including this academy, which are intended to give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the group. The academy has therefore taken advantage of exemptions from the following disclosure requirements:

- Section 7 'Statement of Cash Flows' - Presentation of a Statement of Cash Flow and reduced notes and disclosures;
- Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instrument Issues': Interest income/expense and net gains/losses for financial instruments not measured at fair value.

The Academy Trust is exempt from the requirement to present its own Statement of Financial Activities.

#### Going concern

The group had total funds of £23,984k as at 31 August 2025, of which £5,941k was held in unrestricted and restricted general funds. Cash balances were £6,130k and net current assets £5,941k.

The group has prepared five-year forecasts which confirm that, based on the expected outturns, the trust has sufficient cash and funds for the Trust to continue in operation for at least 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements.

#### Basis of consolidation

The group financial statements consolidate, on a line by line basis, those of the company and its subsidiary undertaking, Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited, over which it exercises control. The financial statements of Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited are drawn up to 31 July 2025. Profit or losses on intra-group transactions are eliminated in full.

#### Income

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

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

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### 1 Accounting policies (Continued)

#### 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 unconditional entitlement and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended. Unspent amounts of capital grant are reflected in the balance in the restricted fixed asset fund.

#### 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 cost for recharge of services, is recognised in the period it is receivable and to the extent the academy trust has provided the goods or services.

#### Interest receivable

Interest receivable is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis, and is stated inclusive of related tax credits.

#### **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.

#### Charitable activities

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

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

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### 1 Accounting policies (Continued)

#### **Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Assets costing £1,000 or more (machinery, equipment and vehicles) and £10,000 or more (land, buildings and improvements) are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, so as to write off the cost of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Land and buildings	Straight line over 50 years
Computer equipment	Straight line over 3 years
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Straight line over 5 years
Motor vehicles	Straight line over 5 years

Residual value is calculated on prices prevailing at the reporting date, after estimated costs of disposal, for the asset as if it were at the age and in the condition expected at the end of its useful life.

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.

#### **Liabilities**

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

#### **Leased assets**

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

#### **Financial instruments**

The academy trust has chosen to adopt Sections 11 and 12 of FRS 102 in full in respect of financial instruments.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

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### 1 Accounting policies (Continued)

#### Financial assets and liabilities

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the academy trust becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities are classified according to the substance of the financial instrument's contractual obligations, rather than the financial instrument's legal form.

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets measured at fair value through the profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. A financial asset or financial liability that is payable or receivable in one year is measured at the undiscounted amount expected to be received or paid net of impairment, unless it is a financing transaction. If an agreement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset only when there is a current legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the intention to either settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### Derecognition of financial assets and liabilities

A financial asset is derecognised only when the contractual rights to cash flow expire or are settled, or substantially all the risks and the rewards of ownership are transferred to another party, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party. A financial liability (or part thereof) is derecognised when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

#### **Taxation**

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

#### **Pensions benefits**

Retirement benefits to employees of the academy trust are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ('TPS') and the Local Government Pension Scheme ('LGPS'), which are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a projected unit method. The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently there is insufficient information to use defined benefit accounting, it is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate. Differences between contributions payable in the year and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

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### 1 Accounting policies (Continued)

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately. 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 reporting date. The amounts charged to net income are 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 as other comprehensive income. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately as other comprehensive income.

The LGPS assets are managed by the scheme trustees at scheme level, and the determination/allocation of assets to each individual employer in the scheme is managed by the scheme actuary. The assets are allocated to each employer for accounting purposes based on the valuation of the assets at the latest triennial valuation as adjusted for subsequent contributions received from the employer, asset returns and benefit payments made (either on a cash basis or actuarial basis).

The retirement benefit obligation recognised represents the deficit or surplus in the defined benefit plans. Any surplus resulting from this calculation is limited to the present value of any economic benefits available in the form of refunds from the plans or reductions in future contributions to the plans.

#### Fund accounting

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

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

Restricted income funds are resources subject to specific restrictions imposed by funders or donors, and include grants from the Department for Education Group.

#### Agency arrangements

The academy trust acts as an agent in distributing funds from the Department for Education (DfE) and other bodies. These include 16–19 Bursary Funds, National Tutoring Programme Funds, Recovery Premium Funds, Student Financial Support, and PE Premium Funds. Payments received from DfE and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. With regards to the 16-19 Bursary Funding, the trust can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the statement of financial activities. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in note 28.

#### Termination benefits

Termination benefits are recognised when employees accept the Academy Trust's offer to those benefits. Termination benefits provided as a result of the Academy terminating employment are recognised when the Academy Trust has communicated its plan of termination to the affected employees.

### 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.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

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### 2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement (Continued)

#### Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 26, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2025. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

#### Critical areas of judgement

Determining the existence of a minimum funding requirement for the Local Government Pension Scheme to be included in the asset ceiling in measuring and recognising a surplus in the scheme. This judgement is based on an assessment of the nature of the scheme as a statutory scheme and its inherent implied continuance as well as the operation of the primary and secondary contributions.

### 3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Capital grants	-	61,070	61,070	38,021
	=====	=====	=====	=====

The income from donations and capital grants was £61,070 (2024: £38,021) of which £61,070 was restricted fixed assets (2024: £38,021).

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

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

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>DfE grants</b>				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	3,630,844	3,630,844	3,556,211
Other DfE grants:				
- 16-19 core education funding	-	841,253	841,253	351,323
- Pupil premium	-	282,872	282,872	269,316
- Teachers pension contribution grant	-	306,303	306,303	210,924
- Teachers pay grant	-	143,154	143,154	204,238
- Recovery premium	-	-	-	214,617
- Core schools budget grant	-	876,456	876,456	-
- Others	-	510,339	510,339	403,948
	-	6,591,221	6,591,221	5,210,577
<b>Other government grants</b>				
Local authority grants	-	4,097,152	4,097,152	3,928,438
	-	10,688,373	10,688,373	9,139,015

The income from funding for educational operations was £10,688,373 (2024: £9,139,015) of which £10,688,373 was restricted (2024: £9,139,015).

Other DfE grants are made up of 16 - 19 core education funding, pupil premium, teachers pension contribution grant, teachers pay grant, recovery premium and core schools budget grant. Local Authority grants are in relation to top up funding, SEN funding and Looking after Children, music service grants, G Plus, Annex 1 and Intervention. There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies for grants recognised in the period.

### 5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Catering income	3,622	-	3,622	4,461
Other income	83,180	-	83,180	136,042
	86,802	-	86,802	140,503

The income from other trading activities was £86,802 (2024: £140,503) of which £86,802 was unrestricted (2024: £140,503).

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Interest from short term deposits	637	-	637	624

The income from funding for investment income was £637 (2024: £624) of which £637 was unrestricted (2024: £624).

### 7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Non-pay expenditure Premises £	Other £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	5,614,503	897,898	495,461	7,007,862	5,018,266
- Allocated support costs	1,292,724	647,040	660,810	2,600,574	3,792,409
	6,907,227	1,544,938	1,156,271	9,608,436	8,810,675

The Trust has moved the costs for Direct Educational Support from allocated support costs to direct costs in the current year.

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Operating lease rentals	23,393	28,731
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	(42,000)	(24,000)
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	897,904	725,006
Loss/(gain) on disposal of fixed assets	331	(1,098)
Fees payable to RSM UK Audit LLP and its associates in respect of both audit and non-audit services are as follows:		
- Audit	35,425	28,000
- Other services	9,400	13,525



# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 8 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Direct costs</b>				
Educational operations	-	7,007,862	7,007,862	5,018,266
<b>Support costs</b>				
Educational operations	48,600	2,551,974	2,600,574	3,792,409
	<u>48,600</u>	<u>9,559,836</u>	<u>9,608,436</u>	<u>8,810,675</u>

The expenditure on charitable activities was £9,608,436 (2024: £8,810,675) of which £48,600 was unrestricted (2024: £38,725), £8,661,601 was restricted (2024: £8,048,042) and £898,235 was restricted fixed assets (2024: £723,908).

### Analysis of support costs

	2025 £	2024 £
Support staff costs	1,292,724	2,486,468
Depreciation	337	-
Technology costs	146,322	107,772
Premises costs	646,703	833,815
Legal costs	9,700	5,024
Other support costs	456,188	320,605
Governance costs	48,600	38,725
	<u>2,600,574</u>	<u>3,792,409</u>

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 9 Staff

#### Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	4,608,784	3,949,315
Social security costs	517,359	399,806
Pension costs	857,065	724,846
Other employee benefits	660	600
Staff costs - employees	5,983,868	5,074,567
Agency staff costs	923,359	972,220
Staff restructuring costs	-	57,403
Total staff expenditure	6,907,227	6,104,190

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

Severance payments (including special severance payments)	-	57,403
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#### Staff numbers

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

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Teachers	58	28
Administration and support	35	32
Management	6	16
Direct Educational Support	41	50
	140	126

The number of persons employed, expressed as a full time equivalent, was as follows:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Teachers	56	27
Administration and support	27	26
Management	6	16
Direct educational support	40	49
	129	118

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

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### 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	4	-
£70,001 - £80,000	3	4
£80,001 - £90,000	1	1
£90,001 - £100,000	1	-
£100,001 - £110,000	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>

We have reassessed the reallocation of staff between teachers, direct educational support, administration and support and management. As a consequence we have revisited the allocation of direct costs and support costs.

#### Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and national insurance) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £1,006,255 (2024: £718,131).

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 10 Central services

The Academy Trust has provided the following Central Services to its Academies during the year:-

- Human Resources
- Financial Services
- School Improvement Services
- Health and Safety Services
- Estate Management
- Governance Services
- Safeguarding Services
- Marketing and PR services
- Data and Exams Management

Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust will retain 6% of GAG for top slicing from all its academies and SPI. Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust will also recharge its academies/ SPI alongside top slicing to offset central services. Recharges are calculated on a learner number basis, as per the allocation statements.

The amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Trinity Academy Newcastle	565,427	392,852
Trinity Solutions Academy	302,971	109,160
Trinity Academy New Bridge	388,550	269,960
Trinity Post 16 Solutions	52,300	16,410
	<u>1,309,248</u>	<u>788,382</u>

### 11 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more of the Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the academy trust. The principal and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their services as Trustees. Other trustees were not paid any remuneration nor received any other benefits from employment with the Academy Trust.

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

L McNally (Accounting Officer) received a salary of £109,275 (2024: £101,067) and employer pension contributions of £31,340 (2024: £26,038).

During the year ended 31 August 2025 travel and subsistence expenses totalling £nil (2024: £139) were reimbursed to the trustees.

Related party transactions are set out in note 27.

### 12 Trustees and officers' insurance

The Academy Trust has opted into the Department of Education's Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where the UK Government funds cover losses that arise. The scheme protects trustee 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 trustee and officer's indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 13 Tangible fixed assets

Group	Land and buildings	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 September 2024	19,570,004	820,086	1,716,334	128,715	22,235,139
Additions	-	99,074	697,224	35,460	831,758
Disposals	-	(131,304)	-	-	(131,304)
At 31 August 2025	19,570,004	787,856	2,413,558	164,175	22,935,593
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 September 2024	3,086,037	691,827	302,904	44,674	4,125,442
On disposals	-	(130,973)	-	-	(130,973)
Charge for the year	391,398	99,631	379,997	26,878	897,904
At 31 August 2025	3,477,435	660,485	682,901	71,552	4,892,373
<b>Net book value</b>					
At 31 August 2025	16,092,569	127,371	1,730,657	92,623	18,043,220
At 31 August 2024	16,483,967	128,259	1,413,430	84,041	18,109,697
<b>Company</b>					
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 September 2024	19,570,004	815,512	1,716,334	128,715	22,230,565
Additions	-	89,679	697,224	35,460	822,363
Disposals	-	(131,304)	-	-	(131,304)
<b>At 31 August 2025</b>	19,570,004	773,887	2,413,558	164,175	22,921,624
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 September 2024	3,086,037	689,415	302,904	44,674	4,123,030
On disposals	-	(130,973)	-	-	(130,973)
Charge for the year	391,398	94,337	381,320	26,878	893,933
At 31 August 2025	3,477,435	652,779	684,224	71,552	4,885,990
<b>Net book value</b>					
At 31 August 2025	16,092,569	121,108	1,729,334	92,623	18,035,634
At 31 August 2024	16,483,967	126,097	1,413,430	84,041	18,107,535

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 14 Investment in subsidiary

The Academy has a wholly owned subsidiary, Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited, a company limited by guarantee and incorporated and registered in England (company number 09922889). The company provides post 16 LLDD education and pays all of its profits to the Academy by gift aid. A summary of the trading results as at 31 July 2025 is shown below.

	2025 £	2024 £
Turnover and other income	288,830	286,822
Cost of sales and administration costs	(249,094)	(181,908)
Operating profit	39,736	104,914
Profit before tax	39,736	104,914
Gift aid distributable to parent	(44,615)	(86,700)
Retained profit	(4,879)	18,214

#### The assets and liabilities were:

Total assets	41,262	21,650
Total liabilities	(27,927)	(3,436)
Net assets	13,335	18,214

15 Debtors	Group 2025 £	Company 2025 £	Group 2024 £	Company 2024 £
Trade debtors	4,206	4,206	16,901	16,909
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	12,081	-	-
Other debtors	304,908	298,932	301,644	301,644
Prepayments and accrued income	94,200	92,500	101,023	100,969
	403,314	407,719	419,568	419,522

### 16 Deferred income

	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	592	200,457
Deferred income at 1 September 2024	200,457	27,608
Released from previous years	(200,457)	(27,608)
Resources deferred in the year	592	200,457
Deferred income at 31 August 2025	592	200,457

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 16 Deferred income (Continued)

At the reporting date the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for Teachers pension grant of £nil (2024: £114,190), Teachers pay grant of £nil (2024: £85,595) and £592 (2024: £672) of other revenue grants.

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

	Group 2025 £	Company 2025 £	Group 2024 £	Company 2024 £
Trade creditors	29,549	29,549	363,303	363,303
Other taxation and social security	131,747	121,200	97,565	96,058
Other creditors	371,838	369,989	264,236	265,835
Accruals and deferred income (see note 16)	59,185	57,271	673,316	671,092
	<u>592,319</u>	<u>578,009</u>	<u>1,398,420</u>	<u>1,396,288</u>

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 18 Funds

Consolidated	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)	3,114,264	3,630,844	(1,680,072)	(770,688)	4,294,348
Other DfE grants	-	2,774,785	(2,774,785)	-	-
Other government grants	-	4,282,744	(4,282,744)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	76,000	(76,000)	-
	<u>3,114,264</u>	<u>10,688,373</u>	<u>(8,661,601)</u>	<u>(846,688)</u>	<u>4,294,348</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Inherited on conversion/ transfer	15,327,948	-	(368,310)	-	14,959,638
DfE group capital grants	119,319	61,070	(355,949)	175,560	-
Capital expenditure from GAG	2,624,358	-	(141,496)	595,128	3,077,990
Donation of fixed assets	38,072	-	(32,480)	-	5,592
	<u>18,109,697</u>	<u>61,070</u>	<u>(898,235)</u>	<u>770,688</u>	<u>18,043,220</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>21,223,961</u>	<u>10,749,443</u>	<u>(9,559,836)</u>	<u>(76,000)</u>	<u>22,337,568</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	1,600,042	87,439	(48,600)	-	1,638,881
Designated business enterprise	7,379	-	-	-	7,379
	<u>1,607,421</u>	<u>87,439</u>	<u>(48,600)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,646,260</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>22,831,382</u>	<u>10,836,882</u>	<u>(9,608,436)</u>	<u>(76,000)</u>	<u>23,983,828</u>



# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 18 Funds (Continued)

Company	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)	2,825,508	3,920,136	(1,794,990)	(770,688)	4,179,966
Other DfE grants	-	2,656,383	(2,656,383)	-	-
Other government grants	-	4,213,551	(4,213,551)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	76,000	(76,000)	-
	<u>2,825,508</u>	<u>10,790,070</u>	<u>(8,588,924)</u>	<u>(846,688)</u>	<u>4,179,966</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Inherited on conversion/ transfer	15,327,948	-	(368,310)	-	14,959,638
DfE group capital grants	93,580	61,070	(361,710)	207,060	-
Capital expenditure from GAG	2,647,935	-	(141,159)	563,628	3,070,404
Donation of fixed assets	38,072	-	(32,480)	-	5,592
	<u>18,107,535</u>	<u>61,070</u>	<u>(903,659)</u>	<u>770,688</u>	<u>18,035,634</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>20,933,043</u>	<u>10,851,140</u>	<u>(9,492,583)</u>	<u>(76,000)</u>	<u>22,215,600</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	1,874,174	87,439	(207,498)	-	1,754,115
Designated business enterprise	7,379	-	-	-	7,379
	<u>1,881,553</u>	<u>87,439</u>	<u>(207,498)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,761,494</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>22,814,596</u>	<u>10,938,579</u>	<u>(9,700,081)</u>	<u>(76,000)</u>	<u>23,977,094</u>

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

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### 18 Funds (Continued)

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

#### **General Annual Grant**

General Annual Grant must be used for the normal running costs of the Trust. The Academy Trust is not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2025. During the year a transfer has been made from GAG to the restricted fixed asset reserve to cover the additions made during the year.

#### **Other DfE grants**

Other DfE grants are made up of pupil premium, year 7 catch up, universal free school meals, post 16 income, PE grants, MDIF, Teachers Pay Grant, Student financial support.

#### **Other government grants**

Other government grants include SEN funding and top up funding which was spent in the year.

#### **Pension reserve**

The costs and income associated with the defined benefit pension schemes have been recorded in the restricted fund. Staff costs are paid from this fund including contributions to the LGPS, hence the pension liability has been aligned with these funds.

#### **Inherited funds**

The balance represents the transfer of land and buildings on conversion. Depreciation is charged to the fund over the life of the related assets.

#### **Capital expenditure from GAG**

The balance represents the total expenditure from GAG. Depreciation is charged to the fund over the life of the related assets.

#### **DfE group capital grants**

Capital funding has been received from the DfE for utilisation on building improvements and refurbishments. Where expenditure is capitalised, depreciation will be charged to the fund over the life of the related assets.

#### **Donations of fixed assets**

The balance represents donated IT equipment. Depreciation is charged to the fund over the life of the related assets.

#### **Unrestricted funds**

General funds can be used for any purpose, at the discretion of the trustees, within the objects of the Academy.

#### **Transfer between funds**

Transfers between funds have been made when capital items have been acquired using GAG monies.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 18 Funds (Continued)

#### Funds prior year

Consolidated	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)	3,285,795	3,556,211	(2,518,238)	(1,209,504)	3,114,264
Other DfE grants	-	1,582,417	(1,582,417)	-	-
Other government grants	-	4,000,387	(4,000,387)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	53,000	(53,000)	-
	<u>3,285,795</u>	<u>9,139,015</u>	<u>(8,048,042)</u>	<u>(1,262,504)</u>	<u>3,114,264</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Transfer on conversion	15,702,165	-	(374,217)	-	15,327,948
DfE group capital grants	316,334	38,021	(235,036)	-	119,319
Capital expenditure from GAG	1,508,062	-	(93,208)	1,209,504	2,624,358
Donation of fixed assets	59,519	-	(21,447)	-	38,072
	<u>17,586,080</u>	<u>38,021</u>	<u>(723,908)</u>	<u>1,209,504</u>	<u>18,109,697</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>20,871,875</u>	<u>9,177,036</u>	<u>(8,771,950)</u>	<u>(53,000)</u>	<u>21,223,961</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	1,497,640	141,127	(38,725)	-	1,600,042
Designated business enterprise	7,379	-	-	-	7,379
	<u>1,505,019</u>	<u>141,127</u>	<u>(38,725)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,607,421</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>22,376,894</u>	<u>9,318,163</u>	<u>(8,810,675)</u>	<u>(53,000)</u>	<u>22,831,382</u>

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 18 Funds (Continued)

#### Funds prior year

Company	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)	2,997,039	3,556,211	(2,518,238)	(1,209,504)	2,825,508
Other DfE grants	-	1,582,417	(1,582,417)	-	-
Other government grants	-	4,000,387	(4,000,387)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	53,000	(53,000)	-
	<u>2,997,039</u>	<u>9,139,015</u>	<u>(8,048,042)</u>	<u>(1,262,504)</u>	<u>2,825,508</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Transfer on conversion	15,702,165	-	(374,217)	-	15,327,948
DfE group capital grants	290,596	38,020	(235,036)	-	93,580
Capital expenditure from GAG	1,530,648	-	(92,217)	1,209,504	2,647,935
Donation of fixed assets	59,519	-	(21,447)	-	38,072
	<u>17,582,928</u>	<u>38,020</u>	<u>(722,917)</u>	<u>1,209,504</u>	<u>18,107,535</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>20,579,967</u>	<u>9,177,035</u>	<u>(8,770,959)</u>	<u>(53,000)</u>	<u>20,933,043</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	1,789,548	141,127	(56,501)	-	1,874,174
Designated business enterprise	7,379	-	-	-	7,379
	<u>1,796,927</u>	<u>141,127</u>	<u>(56,501)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,881,553</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>22,376,894</u>	<u>9,318,162</u>	<u>(8,827,460)</u>	<u>(53,000)</u>	<u>22,814,596</u>

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 18 Funds (Continued)

<b>Total funds analysis by academy</b>	<b>Group 2025 £</b>	<b>Company 2025 £</b>	<b>Group 2024 £</b>	<b>Company 2024 £</b>
Fund balances at 31 August 2025 were allocated as follows:				
Trinity Academy Newcastle	-	-	2,593,029	2,593,029
Trinity Solutions Academy	-	-	1,285,020	1,285,020
Trinity Academy New Bridge	-	-	829,012	829,012
Trinity Post 16 Solutions Ltd	-	-	14,624	-
Central services	5,940,608	5,941,460	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total before fixed assets fund and pension reserve	5,940,608	5,941,460	4,721,685	4,707,061
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Restricted fixed asset fund	18,043,220	18,035,634	18,109,697	18,107,535
Pension reserve	-	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total funds	23,983,828	23,977,094	22,831,382	22,814,596
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Fund balances for each academy as at 31 August 2025 were consolidated into reserves at the Trust level rather than being held at the individual academy level.

### Total cost analysis by academy

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

	<b>Teaching and educational support staff £</b>	<b>Other support staff costs £</b>	<b>Educational supplies £</b>	<b>Other costs excluding depreciation and LGPS charges £</b>	<b>Total 2025 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>
Trinity Academy Newcastle	3,067,313	390,000	122,036	698,579	4,277,928	3,984,861
Trinity Solutions Academy	329,083	97,215	123,125	53,832	603,255	482,633
Trinity Academy New Bridge	1,637,774	196,438	184,604	356,893	2,375,709	2,155,632
Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited	146,999	6,060	38,132	6,112	197,303	115,260
Central services	433,334	603,011	27,564	192,428	1,256,337	1,389,142
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,614,503	1,292,724	495,461	1,307,844	8,710,532	8,127,528
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 19 Analysis of net assets between funds

Group	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2025 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	18,043,220	18,043,220
Current assets	1,646,260	4,886,667	-	6,532,927
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(592,319)	-	(592,319)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>1,646,260</b>	<b>4,294,348</b>	<b>18,043,220</b>	<b>23,983,828</b>
<b>Company</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted funds: General £</b>	<b>Fixed asset £</b>	<b>Total Funds £</b>
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2025 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	18,035,633	18,035,633
Fixed asset investments	-	-	1	1
Current assets	1,761,494	4,757,975	-	6,519,469
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(578,009)	-	(578,009)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>1,761,494</b>	<b>4,179,966</b>	<b>18,035,634</b>	<b>23,977,094</b>

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 19 Analysis of net assets between funds (Continued)

#### Analysis of net assets between funds

Group	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted General Funds	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	18,109,697	18,109,697
Current assets	1,607,421	4,512,684		6,120,105
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(1,398,420)	-	(1,398,420)
Total net assets	1,607,421	3,114,264	18,109,697	22,831,382

Company	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted General Funds	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	18,107,458	18,107,458
Fixed asset investments	-	-	1	1
Current assets	1,881,553	4,221,796		6,103,349
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(1,396,288)	-	(1,396,288)
Total net assets	1,881,553	2,825,508	18,107,459	22,814,520

### 20 Contingent liabilities

In the event that during the period of the funding agreement, the Academy sells or disposes of any asset for which a capital grant was received, the Academy shall repay the same proportion of the proceeds of sale or disposal as equates with the proportion of the original cost met by the Secretary of State, unless the Secretary of State agrees to some or all of the proceeds being retained by the Academy for its charitable purposes.

### 21 Capital commitments

	2025 £	2024 £
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the financial statements	-	19,585

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 22 Long-term commitments

#### Operating leases

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts due within one year	22,760	22,736
Amounts due between one and five years	33,409	21,604
	<u>56,169</u>	<u>44,340</u>

Operating leases relate to the rental of vehicles and office equipment.

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

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		1,228,446	507,488
Adjusted for:			
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	3	(61,070)	(38,021)
Interest receivable	6	(637)	(624)
Pension costs less contributions payable	26	(34,000)	(29,000)
Pension scheme finance income	26	(42,000)	(24,000)
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		897,904	725,006
(Loss)/profit on disposal of fixed assets		331	(1,098)
<b>Movements in working capital:</b>			
Decrease/(increase) in debtors		16,254	(205,214)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors		(806,101)	464,251
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>		<u>1,199,127</u>	<u>1,398,788</u>

### 24 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2024 £	Cash flows £	31 August 2025 £
Cash	<u>5,700,537</u>	<u>429,076</u>	<u>6,129,613</u>

### 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 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he or she ceases to be a member.



# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

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### 26 Pension and similar obligations

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

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

Contributions amounting to £107,656 (2024: £92,470) were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2025 and are included within creditors.

#### Teachers' Pension Scheme

##### Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions 2014. Membership is automatic for teachers in academies. All teachers have the option to opt-out of the TPS following enrolment. The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis – these contributions along with those made by employers are credited to the Exchequer. The academy trust has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The academy trust has set out below the information available on the scheme.

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

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

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020 in accordance with The Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 and the Employer Contribution Rate was assessed using agreed assumptions in line with the Directions and was accepted at the original assessed rate as there was no cost control mechanism breach.

The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 26 October 2023. The key elements of the valuation are:

- Total scheme liabilities for service (the capital sum needed at 31 March 2020 to meet the stream of future cash flows in respect of benefits earned) of £262 billion
- Value of notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the proceeds from the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222 billion
- Notional past service deficit of £39.8 billion (2016 £22 billion)
- Discount rate is 1.7% in excess of CPI (2016 2.4% in excess of CPI) (this change has had the greatest financial significance)

As a result of the valuation, new employer contribution rates have been set at 28.6% of pensionable pay from 1 April 2024 until 1 April 2027 (compared to 23.68% under the previous valuation including a 0.08% administration levy).

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £495,597 (2024: £422,846).

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 26 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

#### Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 15.5% for employers and 5.5-11.4% 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](https://www.gov.uk).

Total contributions made	2025 £	2024 £
Employer's contributions	355,000	331,000
Employees' contributions	140,000	132,000
Total contributions	495,000	463,000

#### Principal actuarial assumptions

The following information is based upon a full actuarial valuation of the fund at 31 March 2022 updated to 31 August 2023 by a qualified independent actuary.

	2025 %	2024 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4	4
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.5	2.5
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	6.1	4.9

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	21.2	20.8
- Females	24.2	24
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.1	21.7
- Females	25.3	25.1

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 26 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2025 Fair value £	2024 Fair value £
Equities	3,766,000	3,525,000
Government bonds	78,000	84,000
Corporate bonds	1,412,000	1,309,000
Cash	94,000	56,000
Property	866,000	732,000
Other assets	1,583,000	1,330,000
Total fair value of assets	7,799,000	7,036,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £461,000 (2024: £545,000).

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2025 £	2024 £
Current service cost	321,000	302,000
Net interest cost	(42,000)	(24,000)
Total operating charge	279,000	278,000

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2025 £
At 1 September 2024	6,351,000
Current service cost	321,000
Interest cost	310,000
Employee contributions	140,000
Actuarial gain	(1,494,000)
Benefits paid	(193,000)
At 31 August 2025	5,435,000

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

### 26 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

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

	2025 £
At 1 September 2024	7,036,000
Interest income	352,000
Return on plan assets (excluding net interest on the net defined pension liability)	109,000
Employer contributions	355,000
Employee contributions	140,000
Benefits paid	(193,000)
At 31 August 2025	7,799,000

The Academy Trust is aware that the Court of Appeal has recently upheld the decision in the Virgin Media vs NTL Pension Trustees II Limited case. The decision puts into question the validity of any amendments made in respect of the rules of a contracted-out pension scheme between 6 April 1997 and 5 April 2016. The judgment means that some historic amendments affecting s.9(2B) rights could be void if the necessary actuarial confirmation under s.37 of the Pension Schemes Act 1993 was not obtained.

On the 5 June 2025, the Government announced its intention to introduce legislation to give affected pension schemes the ability to retrospectively obtain written confirmation that historical benefit changes met the necessary standards. However, details of the legislation have not been announced and it's not clear how this interacts with the investigations made by the UK Government's Actuary's Department therefore the potential impact if any, on the valuation of scheme liabilities remains unknown.

	£
Present value of defined benefit obligations	5,435,000
Fair value of plan assets	(7,799,000)
Net asset	(2,364,000)
Restriction to level of asset ceiling	2,364,000
Net liability recognised in the balance sheet	-

The value of the Trust's share of net assets for Tyne & Wear Pension Fund has been restricted due to the effect of the asset ceiling being the maximum value of the present of the economic benefits available in the form of the unconditional right to reduced contributions from the plan. A corresponding charge has been made to other comprehensive income in the period.

# TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

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

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### 27 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Handbook, including notifying the DfE of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2020 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions. The following related party transactions took place in the financial period.

Key management personnel compensation disclosure is included in note 9.

At 31 August 2025, Trinity Academy Newcastle was owed £12,081 (2024: £4,272 owed to) by its wholly owned subsidiary Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited.

During the year Trinity Academy Newcastle charged Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited £52,300 (2024: £16,410) for use of the central services. Gift Aid distributions of £44,615 (2024: £86,700) were received by Trinity Academy Newcastle from Trinity Post 16 Solutions during the year.

### 28 Agency arrangements

The Academy distributes 16-19 Bursary Funds to students as an agent for the DfE. In the year the Academy received £nil, disbursed £nil and returned £13 to DfE from the fund. An amount of £1,240 (2024: £1,253) is included in other creditors relating to distributable funds that is repayable to the DfE.

The Academy distributes National Tutoring Programme Funds to students as an agent for the DfE. In the year the Academy received £nil, disbursed £nil and returned £5,664 to DfE from the fund. An amount of £49,360 (2024: £55,024) is included in other creditors relating to distributable funds that is repayable to the DfE.

The Academy distributes Recovery Premium Funds to students as an agent for the DfE. In the year the Academy received £nil and disbursed £nil from the fund. An amount of £nil (2024: £nil) is included in other creditors relating to distributable funds that is repayable to the DfE.

The Academy distributes Student Financial Support to students as an agent for the DfE. In the year the Academy received £38,161 and disbursed £365 and returned £56,778 to DfE from the fund. An amount of £5,629 (2024: £51,118) is included in other creditors relating to distributable funds that is repayable to the DfE.

The Academy distributes PE Premium Funds to students as an agent for the DfE. In the year the Academy received £16,540, disbursed £15,773 and returned £nil to DfE from the fund. An amount of £767 (2024: £968) is included in other creditors relating to distributable funds that is repayable to the DfE.

# INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON REGULARITY TO TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION

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## Conclusion

We have carried out an engagement in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 26 November 2025 and further to the requirements of the Department for Education ('DfE') as included in the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts issued by the DfE, 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 Trinity Academy Newcastle during the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 have not been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament or the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

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.

## Basis for conclusion

The framework that has been applied is set out in the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts.

We have complied with the independence and other ethical requirements of the FRC's Ethical Standard and the ethical pronouncements of the ICAEW. We also apply International Standard on Quality Management (UK) 1 Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Statements, or Other Assurance and Related Services Engagements and accordingly maintain comprehensive systems of continuing quality management. We believe the assurance evidence we have obtained is sufficient to provide a basis for our conclusion.

## Responsibilities of the accounting officer of Trinity Academy Newcastle and Trustees

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Trinity Academy Newcastle's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education and the Academy Trust Handbook, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received are applied for the purposes intended by Parliament, and that the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them. The accounting officer is also responsible for preparing the Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance. The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the proper conduct and financial operation of Trinity Academy Newcastle and appointment of the accounting officer.

## Responsibilities of the reporting accountant

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 Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts.

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 the procedures vary in nature and timing from, and are less in extent than for a reasonable assurance engagement; consequently a limited assurance engagement 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.

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.

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# INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON REGULARITY TO TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

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Our work included identification and assessment of the design and operational effectiveness of the controls, policies and procedures that have been implemented to ensure compliance with the framework of authorities including the specific requirements of the funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education, the Academy Trust Handbook and high level financial control areas where we identified a material risk of irregularity is likely to arise. It also included areas assessed as presenting a higher risk of impropriety. We undertook detailed testing, on a sample basis, based on the identified areas where a material irregularity is likely to arise, or potential impropriety where such areas are in respect of controls, policies and procedures that apply to classes of transactions. Our work was undertaken with due regard to the 'Evidence to support conclusion on regularity' guidance in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts.

This work was integrated with our audit on the financial statements and evidence was also derived from the conduct of that audit to the extent it supports the regularity conclusion.

## Use of our report

This report is made solely to Trinity Academy Newcastle and the Secretary of State for Education in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 26 November 2025. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Trinity Academy Newcastle 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 Trinity Academy Newcastle and the Secretary of State for Education, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

*RSM UK Audit LLP*

## RSM UK Audit LLP

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08/12/25

Dated: .....

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