



Academy Trust Financial Arrangements – Summary Statement for the financial year ended 31 August 2025

1. Trust overview

Central Schools Trust is a multi-academy trust comprising Damson Wood Nursery and Infant School and Balsall Common Primary School. The trust's registered company number is 08148546. This statement summarises the trust's financial arrangements for the financial year ended 31 August 2025 and should be read alongside the trust's audited annual report and financial statements for that period.

2. Financial operating model

The trust operates a pooled financial model to support the effective and equitable use of resources across its academies. Income received by the trust is pooled centrally, subject to any legal or funding conditions that require money to be used for a specified academy or purpose. Central-service costs are met from the pooled funds. The remaining resources are allocated through agreed academy budgets, taking account of pupil numbers, the specific needs and priorities of each academy, and the trust's strategic objectives.

The trust also pools its reserves. It does not maintain separate unrestricted reserves for individual academies, except where funds are restricted by law, a funding agreement, a donor condition or another specific requirement. The Trust Board determines the use of pooled reserves in line with the trust's reserves policy, assessed needs and long-term financial plans.

3. Income sources

The trust's income is primarily made up of:

- General Annual Grant (GAG) from the Department for Education;
- other government grants, including pupil premium and special educational needs and disabilities funding;
- capital grants and other restricted funding, where applicable; and
- income from trading activities, lettings and donations, including the trust's swim school, before- and after-school care, and holiday clubs.

Restricted income is used only for the academy or purpose specified by the relevant funding conditions.

4. Funding allocation and academy expenditure

All revenue income is collected centrally and incorporated into the trust-wide budget. The headteachers work with executive leaders and the Chief Financial Officer to prepare academy budgets. Proposed allocations reflect pupil numbers, identified needs, educational priorities, statutory obligations and the trust's overall financial position. The Trust Board approves the trust-wide budget and any material subsequent changes.

Income and expenditure attributable to each academy for the financial year ended 31 August 2025	
Academy	Total income and expenditure attributable to the academy
Damson Wood Nursery and Infant School	Income: £1,126,811
Balsall Common Primary School	Income: £4,238,773

The figures above are taken from, and are reconcilable to, the trust's audited annual report and financial statements. They include directly attributable academy expenditure and each academy's appropriate share of central-service expenditure. The trust retains a clear reconciliation showing how these academy-level amounts relate to the expenditure reported in the audited accounts.

5. Central services

The trust provides the following central services to its academies:

- finance and payroll;
- human resources and recruitment;
- IT infrastructure and support;
- estates management and compliance;
- staff training and development; and
- school improvement.

The cost of these services is funded from pooled trust income before the remaining resources are allocated through academy budgets. Central costs are monitored through the trust-wide budget and apportioned to academies on a consistent and reasonable basis for reporting purposes.