The British Academy

Annual Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements

2025 - 2026

Trustees and Principal Advisers

Contents

Foreword

Professor Susan J Smith, President

This is my first year as President, and I feel privileged to hold that role in an institution advocating so powerfully for disciplines spanning the humanities and social sciences. In a world shot through with unease and uncertainty, these subjects are all about improving lives and catalysing positive, sustainable, change. They hold the key to economic resilience, good governance, and thriving communities.

Nevertheless, with Higher Education funding under pressure, research capacity under stress, and colleagues across the sector facing uncertainty and precarity, these disciplines are feeling the strain. Of course, it is concerning that young people are losing the opportunity to study archaeology, anthropology, classics, modern languages, music and more. The critical risk, however, is that we will lose skills and capabilities that are vital to the economy, underplay the role of human ingenuity in the face of technology, and erode our capacity to shape the future.

At the same time, building on the sterling efforts of my predecessor, Professor Dame Julia Black, together with nine energetic Vice Presidents, a fully-engaged board of Trustees (the Council), an outstanding Senior Management Team and our tireless professional staff, the British Academy is on the front foot.

Our policy teams are busy, at home and abroad, building social and cultural infrastructure, engaging with digital societies, grappling with governance and (dis)order, and shaping sustainable futures. The Academy is also convening stakeholders and conducting research to find ways forward for the higher education sector across the UK. That work sits directly alongside the ever-pressing challenge of making the case for the value of our subjects, many of which are strategically vital to the UK.

We are also thriving as an agile discovery research funder, supporting cutting-edge projects by some of our finest scholars at every career stage. Additionally, improvements to the accessibility and functioning of our buildings have expanded our capacity to convene stakeholders and welcome in a curious public, encouraging solutions-oriented debate around a range of pressing questions.

If the British Academy has a USP for all this, it is the expertise of its Fellowship – an accumulation of knowledge, ideas and inspiration that underpins, indeed quality-assures, all our activities. Creating opportunities for successive generations of scholars is therefore high on the agenda, as exemplified in a thriving Early Career Researcher Network. Thanks to funding from the Department for Science Innovation and Technology, Wellcome and the Wolfson Foundation, we can mentor and support a new generation whose professional lives, within and beyond the academy, will bring important humanities and social sciences skills and perspectives to bear on the future.

During the current year, the Council has embarked on a new round of strategic planning ahead of the 125th anniversary of our Foundation in 2027. Expect us to be more visible, speaking with a bolder and more confident voice about the character and impact of our disciplines. In the face of unprecedented geo-political, technological and socio-economic uncertainty, expect too to see a more financially independent Academy, forging new relationships with philanthropists and others who share our values. This ambitious plan will thus set a course that balances continuity with change in a precarious world. Without revealing too many spoilers, I have already been President long enough to know that, as its 125th anniversary gets underway in 2027, the British Academy will rise to that challenge.

Professor Susan J Smith,
President of the British Academy

Introduction

Hetan Shah, Chief Executive

One of the wonderful things about the British Academy is the range of work that we do, but it also creates a challenge for drafting an introduction to the annual report! There is no way I can cover everything, and this document provides a much richer picture, but let me pick out three important functions of the Academy.

We support scholars in the humanities and social sciences. This year we have provided over £45million for fantastic research. This was a significant drop from last year when we had an unusual amount of additional international funding from the Government. We continue to innovate as a funder, including through the partial randomisation of our small grants programme, and through our 'additional needs' funding – a flexible fund to support grantees and potential grantees. In the current pressured higher education context, our grant funding is important, but we recognise we have a wider role to play. This year our Early Career Researcher Network went fully UK-wide, with over 9,000 members, enabling us to support the next generation of researchers at a precarious point in their careers. We also held a major conference bringing together different parts of our community to collectively consider the future, and to hear from senior policymakers such as the Science Minister Lord Vallance.

The Academy also plays a vital role in public engagement with the humanities and social sciences. This year we held a varied programme of public events, attracting an increasingly younger audience. Our Summer Showcase (soon to become our 'Ideas Festival') was a wonderful programme of exhibits, workshops and talks bringing research to a wider public. And at a time when there is a concern about public appetite for reading, our Book Prize goes from strength to strength in showcasing research led non-fiction. The winner this year – Professor Sunil Amrith's 'The Burning Earth' is a tour de force environmental history spanning the last 500 years. All of this and more continues to show the relevance of the humanities and social sciences to the questions of our time.

Finally, I am continually inspired by the wide ranging policy work of the Academy. We have established ourselves as a significant voice on higher education and research matters, with our Observatory providing a strong evidence base for the social science, humanities and arts (SHAPE) disciplines. In particular our work on emerging regional 'cold spots' for studying subjects at university level has been picked up by the media and policymakers including most recently, the Education Select Committee. Alongside this core policy work on higher education and research, the Academy also brings insights from our Fellows and our disciplines to major topics of the day. In the past year that has included a major programme of work on economic strategy, working closely with UK Government departments, and a timely review of public service media internationally to coincide with the BBC Charter review. And given unstable geopolitics, our programme on Global (Dis)Order in partnership with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace is bringing academic insight to perhaps the most urgent issues of the day.

This is merely to scratch the surface of the work of the Academy. Our broad range of work across research, policy and public engagement benefits from generous support from philanthropic donors including trusts and foundations and individuals. This year we secured £6.1 million from our supporters. Thank you, and thanks to our Fellows and staff who are central to making our work happen. Looking ahead, I am hugely excited by our upcoming 125th anniversary in 2027 which provides an opportunity to showcase the value of the humanities and social sciences.

Hetan Shah
Chief Executive

Our Strategic Objectives

All our work is guided by the objectives in our Strategic Plan 2023 - 2027:

1. To invest in the very best researchers and research
2. To celebrate and promote the humanities and social sciences
3. To inform and enrich debate around society's greatest questions
4. To ensure sustained international engagement and collaboration
5. To make the most of our people, partnerships and resources to secure the Academy for the future

The Fellowship

In 2025 we elected 92 new Fellows of the British Academy, including 30 International and 4 Honorary Fellows, all in recognition of their outstanding contributions to our subjects. This is a higher number than we have elected in previous years due to the creation of new places for candidates whose research spans more than one discipline.

Our Fellowship now stands at over 1,800 of the world's leading scholars across the humanities and social sciences. Current Fellows include Professor Dame Mary Beard, Professor Rana Mitter and Baroness Onora O'Neill. We count Professor David Olusoga, Baroness Brenda Hale, Mary Robinson and Professor Gary Younge amongst our Honorary Fellows

> "This great honour of election to the British Academy is a tribute to all those who have been part of my intellectual journey from around the world, and especially from Britain, where it all began for me."
>
> **Professor Lily Kong BBM, PPA, President and Lee Kong Chian Chair Professor of Social Sciences, Singapore Management University**

Newly elected Fellows at the British Academy

Fellowship Weeks took part in March and October, where Fellows met in their sections and took part in an events programme put together for Fellows, by Fellows.

The generous support we receive from our Fellowship, both in terms of their valuable time, and from gifts, ensures that we can function and grow by funding outstanding research, influencing policy that shapes our world and growing our engagement through public reach and impact.

Fellows' achievements were recognised in a variety of ways in 2025 – 2026, including:

- **Professor Julia Black**, a UK Fellow, was awarded a Damehood in recognition of her exceptional contribution to research in the arts, humanities and social sciences. The honour was bestowed as part of the 2025 King's Birthday Honours, and coincided with the end of Professor Black's tenure as President.
- **Professor Dr Lisbet Rausing and Pat Barker**, both Honorary Fellows, were awarded Damehoods in the 2025 King's Birthday Honours: Dr Lisbet Rausing for outstanding services to the arts, and Pat Barker for her distinguished contribution to literature.
- **Professor Philippe Aghion and Professor Joel Mokyr**, International Fellows, were awarded the 2025 Nobel Prize for Economics alongside Peter Howitt.
- **Professor Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak**, an International Fellow, was awarded the 2025 Holberg Prize for her groundbreaking work in the fields of literary theory and philosophy.
- **Professor Wendy Carlin**, a UK Fellow, was awarded a Damehood for services to economics in the 2026 King's New Year's Honours.
- **Professor Andrew Steptoe**, a UK Fellow, was awarded an OBE (Order of the British Empire) for his distinguished contributions to behavioural science in the 2026 King's New Year's Honours.

Objective 1

To invest in the very best researchers and research

Investing in humanities and social science researchers at all stages of their careers is central to our mission.

Fellowships and research grants

We administered over £24million for core research funding programmes such as Postdoctoral Fellowships, Mid-Career Fellowships and Small Research Grants. In 2025 – 2026 we awarded:

- **30 Mid Career Fellowships** with new award-holders spanning research areas such as artificial intelligence and sustainability, cultural participation and digital experience design.
- **456 Small Research Grants** for topics focussing on social and behavioural change; artificial intelligence, digital technologies and society; politics, global affairs and security; and health, wellbeing and lived experience.
- **39 Postdoctoral Fellowships**, supporting outstanding early career scholars as they establish independent research agendas.
- **11 Innovation Fellowships**, some in partnership with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) and the Government Office for Science (GO Science).
- **7 awards under a new Innovation Fellowships Activities Fund** to enable existing and recently completed Fellows to work alongside the Academy's Public Policy team.
- **25 Talent Development Awards** to develop the skills of researchers in fields including statistical methods, spatial network methods and language skills.
- **11 new Senior Research Fellowships** in partnership with the Leverhulme Trust and with funding from a legacy from a Fellow of the Academy, the late Professor Donald Winch.
- **55 Academy Research Projects in the Excellence Kitemark programme**, including a tool to promote research, educational assessment and clinical intervention in lesser resourced languages.

Strengthening Research Cultures

We strive to make our assessment processes and access to our funding fairer and more equitable.

Our experiment using a partial randomisation method to allocate our Small Research Grants was extended for another three years so that we can analyse any changes in the outcomes of the research supported. Our monitoring shows an average of 2.5 publications per award; 6 dissemination activities and over £17 in total leveraged funding for every £1 invested. By extending the trial for another three years, the Academy will oversee the largest ever international experiment examining the impact of randomisation in grant funding on researchers' careers. We continue to share our learnings with the sector, including through the Research on Research Institute's AFIRE (Accelerator For Innovation & Research Funding Experimentation) project. We presented at their recent Metascience Conference at UCL.

This year, we trialled the use of augmented intelligence tools to help reduce the administrative burden of identifying suitable assessors for grant applications.

The Academy is also a participant in the Research Integrity Concordat Signatories Group. A refreshed Concordat was launched in 2025.

Our Additional Needs fund makes extra funding available to grant applicants who incur costs such as childcare or support for a disability, so that these costs do not come from their research grant. This year it supported 27 award holders, totalling £63,000.

The first award given under the British Academy / Daphne Jackson Trust Fellowship went to a researcher returning to academia after a career break. We also appointed a second Fellow to this scheme.

We are also active supporters of the developing Black Researcher Consortium (BRC), who this year held a strategy day at the Academy.

Early Career Researcher Network (ECRN)

The ECRN completed its nationwide expansion, establishing itself as a vital cross sector resource for researchers at the start of their careers. By March 2026, the Network had:

- **Grown to 9,315 members** across nine regional Clusters.
- **Launched Elevate**, a three-year pilot leadership development programme funded by Wellcome, with 62 researchers joining its first cohort.
- **Expanded the Seed Fund** to 45 awards, following 232 applications.
- **Made five awards under a new Policy Convening Fund**, enabling early career researchers to apply for up to £4,000 to deliver policy focused convenings aligned with the British Academy's Sustainable Futures Programme.
- **Launched the 2025–26 Mentoring Programme**, with significantly increased participation, with a total of 62 individuals (31 pairs). This year's focus will be on providing advice and guidance on navigating academic and research careers across the sector.
- **Released** a new video featuring members sharing their experiences and the benefits of being part of the ECRN community.

Engagement levels remained high, with more than 6,000 attendees at Network events this year.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Impact (M&E)

Our M&E team undertake a programme of rigorous evaluation to strengthen the evidence base for our research funding. Work this year included:

- **An evaluation of our Mid-Career Fellowships** to understand how the programme has evolved since its last evaluation in 2019. It showed that the Fellowships enable high quality, often interdisciplinary outputs; strengthen engagement with policy, practice and public audiences and support career development and progression.
- **A baseline study of the Innovation Fellowships**, which was recognised by the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) for sector leading approaches for robust impact capture.
- **Finalising the National Academy Impact Framework**, in collaboration with other UK academies.
- **Continued development of large language model methodology** for thematic impact analysis.
- **Commissioning of a Research Career Tracker** to capture long-term impacts of Writing Workshops schemes.
- **A set of new case studies** marking the 40th Anniversary of the Post-Doctoral Fellowship scheme.

Objective 2

To celebrate and promote the humanities and social sciences

In a challenging and rapidly changing landscape for UK higher education (HE), our focus is to promote the value of the humanities and social sciences and support their long term sustainability.

Higher Education (HE) and Research Policy

Our in house HE and Research Policy unit works to monitor the health of the SHAPE disciplines and engage with policy developments affecting HE and research in the UK. We work closely with government departments, regulators, funders, academics and sector bodies to ensure that SHAPE perspectives are reflected in key policy debates.

This year we:

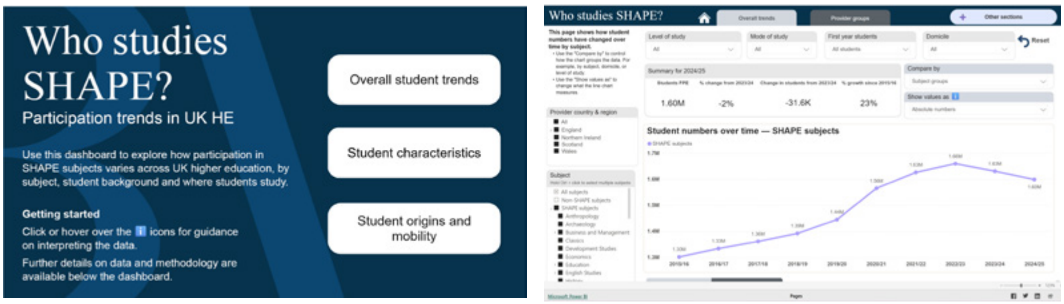
- Engaged with discussions on the **Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2029**.
- Undertook targeted work on **research funding, assessment and impact within the wider R&D system.**
- **Responded to numerous government and regulatory consultations**, including proposed changes to the Office for Students' quality framework, reforms to tertiary education in Wales, and proposals for a levy on international students' fees. Our emphasis was on the need for sustainable funding models, proportionate regulation, and protection of subject breadth and our responses were amplified via sector and national media.
- **Worked closely with the Department for Education's Languages Team**, including workshops with senior languages stakeholders and officials to explore options for strengthening language take up in schools.
- Focused on policy developments affecting **the pipeline between schools, further and higher education**.
- **Convened through our standing policy and disciplinary networks**, including the Advisory Committee on Languages, Strategic Forums for the Humanities and for the Social Sciences, and Learned Societies and Subject Associations.

SHAPE Observatory: new resources and greater influence

Our SHAPE Observatory platform provides authoritative, accessible data and analysis on the health of the humanities, social sciences and arts disciplines across the education and research pipeline.

This year we published:

- **Cold Spots: Mapping inequality in SHAPE provision in UK Higher Education**. This report synthesizes data from a series of maps we released last year to analyse degree-level provision for these subjects across the UK. It reveals stark regional inequalities and large swathes of the country which are becoming "cold spots" for students wishing to study these subjects at university. The research received widespread national coverage.
- **Understanding SHAPE Graduates**, a toolkit looking at the different ways graduates from the humanities, social sciences and arts contribute to the UK economy and society.
- **An updated School Indicators dashboard**, now offering more than a decade of subject uptake data across GCSEs, A levels and Scottish qualifications.



Updated School Indicators dashboard on our SHAPE Observatory.

SHAPE Conference

Our second annual SHAPE Conference took place in March 2026. The day brings together Academy Fellows, University Vice Chancellors, funders, subject associations and early career researchers for debate and insights on the future of HE and research.

> "SHAPE disciplines place people at the heart of research innovation and ultimately will help deliver better benefits for citizens" **– Lord Vallance of Balham, Minister of State at the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology speaking at the Conference.**

The conference:

- **Convened 110 guests and 37** speakers and panel chairs.
- **Saw a 20% increase in attendance** compared with the previous year.
- **Explored sector issues**, from a debate on the responsible use of artificial intelligence in research to lessons from previous government reviews, and a workshop examining how the sector could respond to changing political priorities.
- **Generated highly positive feedback** from attendees, with 94% of those surveyed saying they would be likely to attend again.
- **Garnered national media attention**, with comments on the sustainability of the higher education funding model and the case for a sector wide review picked up by three national newspapers.

> "A fascinating retrospective and prospective discussion on the role played by formal Higher Education reviews...Much to learn from previous practice as we look ahead to the current challenges in U.K. higher education" **- Anton Muscatelli, President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh**

Academic Publishing

This year we completed the transition to a new publishing partner, Liverpool University Press (LUP), migrating over 500 publications to their systems and warehouses across the US and UK.

Together we launched a new pathway for edited collections to transition to open access, increasing visibility and accessibility.

We continued with efforts to ensure all online publications are remediated in line with the European Accessibility Act 2025, with a long-term goal of bringing the entire backlist of publications into compliance. In parallel, we have initiated a programme to establish a digital presence for titles that currently lack an online platform, thereby enhancing access for all readers.

We published over 100 outputs during 2025-26, including:

- **26 book publications** of which 10 were published open access and five were by early career researchers
- **46 articles** in the Journal of the British Academy
- **33 memoirs** in the Biographical Memoirs of Fellows of the British Academy

Academic events

Our academic programming continues to showcase the breadth and excellence of SHAPE scholarship. These events foster intellectual exchange across disciplines and career stages, providing vital platforms for SHAPE researchers to disseminate and debate new work. This year:

- **2,263 people attended** across a total of 24 events.
- **We confirmed 21 lectures for 2025 – 2027**, to be delivered through a strong network of regional and national university partners. Planning also began for the 2027–29 lectures cycle.
- **We received a record 164 conference applications** for the 2027–28 British Academy Conferences.
- **We delivered away conferences in collaboration with partners across the UK**, including Queen's University Belfast, University of Liverpool, University of Essex and University of York.

Public engagement and events

2025 - 26 was a year of growth and innovation in our public engagement programme, which opens up SHAPE research to broad and diverse public audiences:

- Our Folklore Reimagined and Living with the Planet seasons attracted **2,213 in person and 508 live online attendees** across 17 events.
- **Audiences responded enthusiastically** to creative, interdisciplinary formats such as dance, zinemaking, art tours and film screenings.
- **We sold out every event** in our The Age of Self? season, which explores identity through themes such as masculinity, beauty, loneliness, social media, ageing, and language.
- **Feedback has been strong throughout the year**, with 93.2% of attendees rating event quality as Excellent/Good (up from 91.2% in the previous year). Attendances from under 35s remained consistent at around 34% as did non-academic attendees at around 65-68%.
- **There was a significant increase in online on-demand views** this year reaching 22,189 (as of April 2026) showing the appeal and longevity of event content after delivery. This is in comparison with 5,175 in 2024/25.

Ideas Festival (Formerly Summer Showcase)

Our annual flagship public festival took place in June 2025, making full use of the Academy's newly refurbished lower ground floor event spaces for the first time. The three-day event brings together exhibitions, workshops, performances, screenings and talks reinforcing the Academy's role as a cultural destination in London and a connector between the public and SHAPE research.

1,160 people attended across three days and the festival attracted a young, diverse, public audience, with the below audience demographics all percentage increases from the 2024 Showcase:

- 42% of attendees were under 35
- 56% were non-academics
- 45% of respondents were from global majority ethnic groups

Audience response was very positive. 97% of attendees rated the Showcase as Excellent or Good, and 95% said they would attend another Academy event in future, our highest score to date. Visitors particularly valued the variety of formats, accessibility of content, and opportunities to interact directly with researchers. 66% were first-time attendees at a British Academy event, demonstrating the Showcase's effectiveness as a gateway to wider engagement with our disciplines. The Net Promoter Score of 51.1 places the event firmly in the "excellent" category.

SHAPE Involve & Engage grants

Following a successful pilot, we awarded 13 new SHAPE Involve & Engage grants, partnering researchers and universities with galleries, libraries, archives and museums across the UK to increase public participation and access to research.

Projects are tailored to the needs of local communities and in 2026 will be delivered in towns and cities across the UK including Aberystwyth, Belfast, Carbeth, Leicester, Norwich, Nottingham and Sunderland.

We continued our founding partnership with the Being Human Festival, which ran from 6–15 November 2025 with the theme Between the Lines, delivering 230 events across 39 towns and cities.

British Academy Book Prize

Our Book Prize awards and helps widen access to excellent SHAPE scholarship. The 2025 Prize went to Sunil Amrith for his work The Burning Earth: An Environmental History of the last 500 years.

In 2025 we started work to engage more people with the ideas within the shortlisted books, beginning with investing in digital content and partnerships. Videos featuring authors explaining key concepts from their books received over 100,000 views. We partnered with thought leaders on social media platforms to promote the prize, collectively reaching 85,000 views.

Other Prizes and Medals

Our prizes and medals highlight excellence, creativity and public impact in the humanities and social sciences.

The President's Medal, annually awarded to a public champion for the SHAPE disciplines who has successfully engaged broad audiences with scholarship and research, was given to the BBC Radio 4 programme In our Time in 2025.

We awarded several other disciplinary awards and medals to recognise excellence and exemplary contributions across the disciplines.

Media and Public Affairs

We expanded the Academy's visibility and influence through proactive media outreach, both for our own work and the research we fund, and through engagement with Parliamentarians:

- **The Academy achieved over 500 media mentions**, covering funded research, policy reports, public event seasons and commentary and analysis on higher education, research and cultural issues.
- **We issued statements** in response to the Post-16 Education and Skills White Paper, the Curriculum and Assessment Review and developments regarding the REF2029, ensuring expert SHAPE perspectives were represented in sector reactions.
- **Coverage across national media** included features, interviews and expert commentary from Fellows and funded researchers across print, broadcast and online platforms.
- **We held an annual reception in Parliament**, where Professor Dame Mary Beard FBA addressed MPs and Peers on the topic of "why humans need the humanities".
- **We welcomed Lord Vallance** as the keynote speaker for our SHAPE conference.
- **We provided oral and written submissions** to Committee evidence sessions.

Our website

We completed a refresh of our visual brand identity in 2025, introducing new colours and font usage. This was a screen-first, accessibility led change which has revitalised the look and feel of our website, social media, publications and marketing materials, and improved the user experience across all content.

Sections of our website on funding, Fellows, "about us" and the SHAPE Observatory sections were improved based on user testing to more clearly explain what the British Academy does.

Objective 3

To inform and enrich debate around society's greatest questions

Our public policy team brings insights from the humanities and social sciences to bear on some of the most complex and pressing challenges facing the UK. Through evidence based research, convening and partnerships across government and non-profit organisations, our aim is to harness the SHAPE disciplines to improve understanding and drive policy solutions across a diverse set of issues.

Social and Cultural Infrastructure

Our longstanding social and cultural infrastructure policy programme made strides forward this year, with outputs examining the places and spaces that strengthen communities, enhance wellbeing and support participation in civic life. This year we:

- **Published research into young people's views** and experiences of social and cultural infrastructure across England, Scotland and Wales, engaging 107 young people across seven sites, in partnership with the London Development Trust.
- **Engaged with museums, theatres and creative venues** to explore how the Social and Cultural Infrastructure Measurement Framework could be applied in cultural settings. Workshops with The Exhibitions Group created opportunities for venues to understand and articulate their wider social value.
- **Commissioned a research team led** by the University of the West of England to examine how universities could use the framework to support civic and community engagement.
- **Launched publications** on the role of social and cultural infrastructure in reducing crime, tackling disadvantage, and on the role of the Creative and Cultural Industries in supporting and enhancing social and cultural infrastructure.

Sustainable Futures

This wide-ranging programme explores environmental governance, climate resilience and community led approaches to sustainability. This year we:

- **Concluded our Where We Live Next programme**, with a final report setting out a new framework for place sensitive policymaking in environmental policy.
- **Held events** with government departments, combined authorities, local government networks and public bodies reaching at least 415 participants across the UK.
- **Published the final report in our Net Zero Governance programme**, providing policymakers with six 'accelerators' for action on Net Zero, with insights from the programme embedded in the UK Government's new public participation plan for clean energy.
- **Released discussion papers on Place Sensitive Understandings of Nature Recovery in the UK** supporting policymakers in developing locally responsive approaches to environmental restoration.
- **Convened interdisciplinary teams** of researchers and students to explore place based sustainability challenges. Projects were supported by mentors from the ECRN and included participation from universities across Wales, Scotland and England.

Digital Society

This programme explores the implications of digital technologies, artificial intelligence and data-driven innovation on people across society. This year we:

- **Identified a set of principles for "good" digital policymaking**, including AI governance, drawing on evidence from academics, civil society, government and industry.
- **Formed a new advisory group looking at AI in HE and the research sector**, providing the Academy with expert guidance and positioning the Academy to respond to consultations and inquiries relating to AI in the universities sector.
- **Provided a 'Digital and AI explainer'** to a selection of influential policymakers and political stakeholders.
- **Developed a series of 'policy labs'** bringing together high-level policymakers, industry representatives and academics to explore key policy challenges related to digital technologies.

Governance, Trust and Voice

This programme explores how public institutions can function well to strengthen trust and participation. This year we:

- **Finished Phase 1 of our economic strategy programme** and published a synthesis report and five Working Group papers setting out the critical pillars of an integrated, holistic and sustainable approach to the UK economy across the areas of international trade and geopolitics, R&D and innovation, skills and sustainability and social value. This programme was conducted together with senior civil servants and in 2026 we are launching Phase 2.
- **Embarked on a new phase of our long-running The Covid Decade programme,** which examines societal recovery, institutional resilience and draws lessons for future pandemic preparedness.
- **Published a new report on public service media** offering insights from the UK and ten other countries. Coinciding with the BBC Charter Renewal Green Paper, the report offered recommendations aroundgovernance and funding models.
- **Hosted breakfast briefings on childhood policy** together with GO-Science, exploring children's online lives and health.

Policy Histories

This programme of work connects policymakers with the history of their policy area. It gathers insights on what has worked, what hasn't and how thinking has evolved over time across a range of areas, spanning governments past and present. This year we:

- **Began work on a new report on the history of energy policy**, which will explore renewable energy, nuclear power, North Sea oil, and household gas heating.
- **Hosted a seminar on the history of the UK School Meals Service**, drawing on research funded by the Economic and Social Research Council.

Objective 4

To ensure sustained international engagement and collaboration

We are committed to strengthening international research collaboration, ensuring that our disciplines play a central role towards understanding of global challenges. Our international programmes and activities harness SHAPE insights to catalyse new thinking, advise on and influence policy. We also deliver opportunities for researchers to attract and facilitate international collaboration and mobility.

Global Research & Innovation

We continue to deliver a portfolio of global research and innovation programmes and activities. Highlights this year included:

- **The Second Conference on Equitable Partnerships** in Pretoria, held in partnership with South Africa's National Research Foundation and the Royal Society, bringing together 250 delegates from multiple continents.
- **12 International Fellowships** for early career researchers to undertake two-year projects in the UK and develop an independent research career with experience across international borders.
- **The latest rounds of the International Interdisciplinary Research Projects and International Writing Workshops** attracted global interest. 11 awards were made for major interdisciplinary projects, while up to 24 awards are expected for the Writing Workshops, with expanded eligibility across the Global South.
- **With the London Diplomatic Science Club, we hosted science attachés** for discussions on research opportunities, international collaboration and shared challenges.

European Research & Innovation and International Mobility

Since the UK's association to Horizon Europe, we have been working to boost participation and influence the development of the next Framework Programme, alongside delivering our role as an Endorsing Body of the Global Talent Visa.

This year we:

- **Led multiple visits to Brussels** with sector colleagues to engage and discuss the proposals for Framework Programme 10 with the European Commission, Council of the EU, the European Parliament and wider stakeholders.
- **Made 61 awards under the Horizon Europe Pump Priming scheme**, supporting collaborations between UK and European institutions.
- **Ran a series of webinars** supporting applicants to prepare for European Research Council Starting, Consolidator, Advanced and Synergy Grants, with guidance from Fellows and technical experts.
- **Grew in our role as an Endorsing Body of the Global Talent Visa**, processing 1,692 applications.
- **Responded to the Government's Immigration White Paper**, voicing the Academy's strong opposition to the uncertainty it has created on the rules for indefinite leave to remain and the introduction of an international student fee income levy.

Global (Dis)Order

This ambitious, multiyear partnership with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace explores transformations in the international system by bringing together researchers and experts across disciplines and countries around a set of core themes and working groups. In addition to working group meetings, we:

- **Convened workshops in Berlin** on the historical foundations of world order and Europe's role in a changing geopolitical landscape.
- **Organised an international policy forum in Brazil** on The Global South and the Transformations of World Order, examining climate governance, transnational crime and the future of emerging geopolitical alliances.
- **Delivered a workshop on the topic of global governance** including discussions on the future of planetary governance, the privatisation of global governance, and alternative visions of international order.
- **Launched our series of discussion papers** including topics on de-dollarisation, peace and security, transnational and planetary challenges, and grassroots diplomacy.

Humanity, Climate & Nature

Our work around sustainability cuts across our international programmes as well as our UK public policy work. This year we:

- **Co hosted a panel on accelerating the circular economy** with the European Union Delegation to the UK and the Institute for European Environmental Policy, including the EU Commissioner Jessica Roswall and UK Minister Mary Creagh.
- **Convened the authors of the IPCC Special Report on Cities and Climate Change**, focusing on sustainable development in urban systems.
- **Worked with the Global Environment Facility's (GEF) Sustainable Cities Programme** to explore how climate, nature, and sustainable development can be better addressed in a more integrated way.

British International Research Institutes (BIRI)

We support nine British International Research Institutes located around the world. They remain cornerstone partners in delivering international research, training and heritage engagement. This year was a highly productive year for the BIRI, which collectively they have supported nearly 400 collaborative activities, given out 99 grants and 23 fellowships, produced 349 research outputs (including 110 journal articles), ran 433 events or other outreach activities (In person, online, or hybrid), and leveraged funding of c.£3m.

Also this year:

- **We worked closely with BIRI directors** to develop reporting to strengthen evidence on impact and activities.
- **The British Institute of Eastern Africa's collaboration with the Refugee-Led Research Hub (RLRH) secured significant funding** from the Mastercard foundation to support 1,000 African Refugees and Displaced Persons to access and succeed in graduate-level education and transition to meaningful employment.
- **The British School at Rome led the BIRI Digital Coordination and Strategy Project** in partnership with seven other institutes. Together, they maintain extensive archival collections of global significance. The project strengthens the digital capabilities of each institute, enhancing archive management, digitization, and accessibility, and fostering collaboration across the institutes.

Objective 5

To make the most of our people, partnerships and resources

In addition to our external activities and impact, we continuously strive to strengthen our organisational foundations. We work hard to ensure that our people, partnerships and resources are performing at their best to deliver long term impact.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

A year on from the publication of the Academy's EDI Strategy, our ten workstreams have been working to implement initiatives and progress their action plans. Workstreams represent all areas from HR to Research Funding and Leadership. The majority of EDI work is embedded through teams, rather than delivered centrally. Across the year:

- **We developed our monitoring and evaluation systems** by implementing new EDI Data Guidelines and developing EDI insights within our contact management system.
- **We held an away day for EDI workstream leads to share best-practice** across the organisation.
- **Our Staff EDI Group organised a range of events** to celebrate awareness moments including Black History Month and International Women's Day.
- **New external members were appointed to the EDI Advisory Subcommittee**, including a member of our ECRN, bringing specialist expertise and ensuring we have a diversity of voices to guide our work.

Our home: 10-11 Carlton House Terrace

We work year round to uphold the quality, accessibility and sustainability of our Grade I listed home at 10–11 Carlton House Terrace. This year, we:

- **Continued to implement a rigorous programme of planned maintenance and statutory inspections**, supported by annual independent health and safety audits.
- **Achieved re certification** of our ISO management system accreditations.
- **Made significant improvements to accessibility** through major works to an external accessible lift, the entrance to No. 11, upgrades to passenger lifts, the installation of a new accessible lift serving Ground to Lower Floor spaces, and recent improvements to accessible toilet facilities on the lower floors.
- **Supported more sustainable energy use** by investing in securing and optimising our electricity and gas supplies, and working closely with the Crown Estate on the energy rating of the building.
- **Introduced new waste, recycling and stationery services** in partnership with Recorra. Our recycling and waste facilities were upgraded, helping us achieve recycling rates above the London average.

Our people

The Academy's People Strategy 2025 – 2028 – "enabling staff to be and do their best" – provides the framework for the development of our people and workplace. Key achievements this year included:

- **Managing ongoing staffing growth** and structural change. Staff numbers increased to an average of 179 employees over the period.
- **Improving staff EDI data recording**, providing a more accurate baseline to underpin our EDI action planning.
- **Continuing to invest in essential skills and knowledge**, including leadership training for deputy heads, psychological safety training for managers, and raising awareness in preventing sexual harassment.
- **Improving core systems and processes**, with greater HR self-service, implementing a more efficient payroll service and introducing a new staff engagement platform.

Commercial hire (Clio Enterprises)

Our commercial arm seeks to strengthen the Academy's income generation in support of our long-term financial sustainability. External bookings continued to recover following the completion of the building transformation projected, and the team delivered a successful year of weddings, corporate events, conferences and private hires. Highlights included:

- **17 weddings and private events** and 16 Christmas parties for clients such as the University of Strathclyde, Mill Hill School, EY and Mediobanca.

- **External clients spanned higher education, government, and the charity sector**, including Alzheimer's Research UK, HEPI, the Chartered Institute for Taxation, IPPR and the Department for Business and Trade.
- **Filming demand remained high**, including large-scale shoots for the forthcoming Sam Mendes Beatles biopic, use as a unit and crowd base for the next series of Slow Horses, and filming for the next season of Apple TV's Down Cemetery Road.
- **Exclusive hires** included the UK brand launch for Perrier and charity events linked to the London Marathon.
- **Client feedback has been consistently strong**, with commendation for the quality of service and equipment in the spaces. This is especially significant given that repeat business now accounts for approximately 35% of activity and continues to grow. Proactive marketing and industry engagement have contributed to growth throughout the year.
- **The appointment of a Business Development and Sales Officer focused on lead generation**. These roles are already contributing to improved performance and will continue to support future pipeline growth and income targets.

IT operations, infrastructure and security

We continue to invest in our core technology, infrastructure and digital capability. A key priority this year was the continued strengthening of cyber security and resilience. We delivered:

- **Enhancements to network monitoring, threat detection and incident response capabilities** to improve visibility across our systems and enable a more proactive approach to identifying and managing potential risks. These developments have been supported by ongoing improvements to security controls, including identity and access management, device configuration, patching and system monitoring.
- **Successful retention of the Academy's Cyber Essentials Plus certification**, providing independent validation that appropriate technical safeguards are in place to protect systems and data.
- **Investment in modernising and standardising core infrastructure** including improvements to end-user device management, enabling more consistent performance, streamlined support and improved security across a diverse and increasingly hybrid workforce. Enhancements to network reliability and performance supported both internal operations and the growing demands of digitally enabled events and hybrid working.
- **IT support for several major organisational initiatives**, including the rollout and embedding of new digital platforms and the operation of a significantly expanded AV and event technology environment.

Contact Relationship Management (CRM) system and digital platforms

This year we continued our transition to a more integrated approach to managing stakeholder engagement, events and organisational data through the adoption of a new centralised CRM platform, provided by Salesforce.

All directorates across the Academy are now using the CRM in their day to day work, supporting more consistent management of relationships, improved coordination of event activity and better visibility of stakeholder interactions. This has enabled a reduction in duplicated effort and manual processes, while improving the quality and accessibility of data across the organisation.

An integrated online portal has provided a more streamlined and user-friendly experience for key stakeholder groups, enabling greater self-service and more direct engagement with the Academy. This has reduced administrative overhead while improving the timeliness and accuracy of information.

Digital platforms have also been extended to support application and event registration processes, including those used by large cohorts of researchers engaging with Academy programmes. Improvements to submission and workflow processes have simplified user journeys and reduced friction for both applicants and internal teams.

Audiovisual (AV) services and public programme delivery

Over the past year, our AV team has played a central role in enabling the Academy's public-facing events, supporting the smooth delivery of lectures, panel discussions, hybrid events and broadcasts to a high technical standard for both in-person and online viewers.

The completion of our new event spaces in the lower ground floors has introduced a more complex and flexible AV environment. The AV team led the transition to a pre-programmed delivery model, enabling tight turnaround times between events while maintaining reliability and production quality. Events are optimised for multiple platforms, helping the Academy to reach wider and more diverse audiences beyond those attending in person.

Looking ahead

2026 – 2027 is the final year in the period covered by the Academy's current Strategic Plan. Our President and Senior Leadership Team will work to wrap up and evaluate our progress whilst developing the next Strategic Plan to steer the Academy through the coming years.

Other priorities for the coming year include:

- Continuing our core work as a research funder, assessing and administering grants with funding from the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology and others.
- Mobilising our Fellows to showcase how our disciplines have shaped, and will shape, the world around us, as part of a co-ordinated programme of activities to mark the Academy's 125th anniversary in 2027.
- Celebrating the 40th anniversary of our long-running Post-Doctoral Fellowship scheme, which has supported over 1,500 researchers since its inception, including 31 now Fellows of the Academy.
- Developing strategies to diversify our financial supporter base.
- The ongoing implementation of our EDI Strategy and team action plans – including increased resource to support the EDI Manager.
- The launch of a new HE policy programme responding to the current challenges facing the sector.
- Strengthening knowledge and research systems globally via our work on equitable partnerships, our international funding and mobility opportunities, as well as continuing our Global (Dis)Order policy programme.
- Building on early-stage work towards the development of a long-term technology strategy.
- Based on audience feedback and to increase engagement with the event, from 2026, our annual Summer Showcase will change its name to the British Academy Ideas Festival. As part of this, there will be a greater emphasis on two-way interaction with the public and a broader range of interactive activities.
- Continuing to place expertise from our disciplines into the heart of government through our Innovation Fellowships programme, our policy programmes on communities and social infrastructure and a new report reflecting on crisis preparedness, response and recovery.
- Relaunching our Book Prize in 2027, with new Chair of judging panel Gary Younge Hon FBA.

Financial review

Financial overview

The consolidated financial statements for 2025/26, report a positive net movement in funds of £3.99m (2025: £1.05m), including a healthy gain on investments of £2.17m (2025: £0.42m). Excluding this gain, the Academy, as a group, delivered net income of £0.28m on unrestricted funds (2025: net expenditure of £0.77m) and net income of £1.54m on restricted/ endowment funds (2025: £1.40m).

Income

Charitable Activities
Income from charitable activities comprises grants received from various sources. Total grants of £62.49m were received in the year to 31 March 2026 (2025: £101.41m) representing 92% of total income (2025: 96%). The principal grant funder remains the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT), providing grants of £55.74m (2025: £95.23m). This decrease is as a result of decreased funding through the Global Research Challenges Fund (£0m in 2026 compared with £9.24m in 2025), and through the International Science Partnership Fund (ISPF), launched in 2024, supporting collaborations between UK researchers and innovators and their international peers which provided grants of £2.85m (2025: £33.46m).

Trading Funds Generated
Total income from the Academy's trading activities in total rose by £0.55m to £2.61m (2025: £2.06m). This increase is attributable to the re-establishment of 10-11 Carlton House Terrace as a marketable venue post completion of the building transformation project in Autumn 2024.

Other Income
Other income largely comprises income generated through the administration of the Global Talent Visa scheme. Increasing levels of applications under this scheme generated an increase in income of £0.76m to £1.98m (2025: £1.22m).

Expenditure

Expenditure on Raising Funds
Expenditure on raising funds increased by £0.09m to £3.70m (2025: £3.61m). This increase is primarily attributable to increased venue hire activity by Clio Enterprises Ltd as the building transformation project was completed in Autumn 2024, allowing for an increase in activity.

Expenditure on raising funds also includes £0.85m costs of the Development fundraising team, which works to secure donations and grants to support the work of the Academy. Notable achievements during the year include securing a grant of £5.00m over three years from The Wellcome Trust in support of the Academy's Early Careers Researcher Network, and a grant of £2.30m from The Aurelius Charitable Trust in support of the wider work of the Academy.

Expenditure on Charitable Activities
Expenditure on charitable activities covers the Academy's utilisation of grants received to invest in UK and overseas research and scholarship across the humanities and social sciences fields. Investment supports the most talented people at key stages in their careers through fellowship and small-scale innovation funding as well as challenge led research and policy projects addressing key UK and global issues.

In the year to 31 March 2026, total expenditure of £62.58m was incurred (2025: £101.91m). This included £45.79m (2025: £85.26m) in direct awards to institutions and individual researchers. Total expenditure on fellowships decreased by £6.95m to £30.19m (2025: £37.14m), with expenditure on small grant awards remaining stable at £5.64m (2025: £5.67m). Investment in the British International Research Institutes remained at £5.36m. Expenditure on challenge led research and policy engagement fell by £34.67m to £12.52m reflecting the reduced funding from the International Science Partnership Fund.

Clio Enterprises Limited
Clio Enterprises Limited (Clio) is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Academy, through which all trading activity relating to the hiring of event spaces within the Academy's building, 10-11 Carlton House Terrace, operates. Such trading activity provides an essential income source underpinning the Academy's financial and corporate strategy, with Clio gifting all profits to the Academy.

In the year to 31 March 2026, Clio generated a net loss of £0.24m (2025: net loss of £0.50m) on turnover of £2.95m (2025: £2.34m). This improvement in financial performance was as a result of the events space being available throughout the year, following the building transformation project which was completed in Autumn 2024.

Funds and Reserves

Total Funds
The total group funds of the Academy increased by £3.99m to £52.40m in the financial year to 31 March 2026.

Restricted Funds

Permanent Endowment Funds
There are three permanent endowment capital funds (the Webster Fund, the Ullendorf Fund and the Rose Mary Crawshay Prize for English Literature), the capital totalling £0.87m as at 31 March 2026 (2025: £0.79m). The capital of permanent endowment funds may not be spent.

Expendable Endowment & Income Funds
These capital funds generate income for various prizes, lectures, grants and conferences. The capital value as at 31 March 2026 was £11.24m (2025: £10.18m) with associated (unspent) income funds of £1.26m (2025: £1.38m).

(Non-Investment) Restricted Income Funds
These funds comprise (unspent) restricted income funds of £4.39m (2025: £2.57m) arising from donations given for specific purposes (including prizes, lectures, grants and conferences) together with the income fund of £7.89m (2025: £8.04m) relating to capital donations and grants received to part-fund the building transformation programme of the Academy's building at 10-11 Carlton House Terrace. As at 31 March 2026 these non-investment restricted income funds totalled £12.28m (2025: £10.62m). This increase is primarily attributable to a grant of £2.3m received from The Aurelius Trust in March 2026.

Unrestricted Funds
Unrestricted funds comprise the Academy and its trading subsidiary's general funds together with funds designated for a specific purpose.

General Funds
These funds are set aside to ensure financial resilience and sustainability in the event of a significant shortfall in income. The balance has been accumulated through unrestricted philanthropic donations, trading profits and gains on investment assets. As at 31 March 2026, the Academy's group general funds stood at £12.88m (2025: £11.88m).

Designated Funds

The BEIS Carlton House Terrace Fund
This fund was created following a receipt of a £14.0m grant from BEIS in 2017/18 which secured the Academy's long-term future at 10-11 Carlton House Terrace. As at 31 March 2026 the fund stood at £13.10m (2025: £13.22m) and is being written down over the life of the 125-year lease, which has 117 years remaining.

Other Designated Funds
Other designated funds include funds set aside for operational expenditure such as building repairs, decorations and IT systems, and to support the Academy's 125th Anniversary project. As at 31 March 2026 these funds stood at £0.77m (2025: £0.34m).

Reserves Policy
The Academy's intention is to retain sufficient reserves to ensure financial resilience and sustainability, including those risks identified in the risk register. Total Unrestricted Funds less Fixed Assets and Designated Funds are considered to be the reserves the Academy is free to spend – its free reserves. These amount to £8.34m as of 31 March 2026 (2025: £7.04m). The Academy Trustees consider that a minimum level of free reserves should be maintained to provide resilience against economics shocks. This minimum level has been set at £7.5m, which is broadly equivalent to operational expenditure for 6 months (£6.9m) with a further reserve of £0.6m to mitigate the risk of a downturn in investment markets. The Academy continues to develop longer-term strategies to increase its charitable activities which will reduce the level of free reserves, while ensuring that it has adequate resources to enable it to respond to emerging risks and opportunities.

Investment Policy
The Academy's assets are invested in line with its aims.

The Academy seeks to produce a consistent financial return within an acceptable level of risk. The investment objective is to generate a return of inflation plus three per cent per annum over the long term after expenses. This should allow the Academy to maintain the real value of the assets, while funding annual expenditure in the region of three per cent per annum.

To achieve this, the Academy applies a proportion of its funds to equity and/or equity related investments balanced by an element of fixed income generating investments.

As asset valuations are constantly affected by factors such as changing discount rates, liquidity and confidence levels, the achievement of the Academy's investment objectives is assessed over the longer term. Council is advised on investment matters by the Resources Committee, chaired by the Treasurer. The investment portfolio was transferred from BlackRock Advisors (UK) Ltd to Legal & General in June 2025. At 31st March 2026, £21.45m is held in tracker funds managed by Legal & General.

£1.9m was drawn down from the general portfolio in December 2025 to cover planned future Academy investments; the remaining general portfolio delivered a total return of 12.5% to 31 March 2026, as did the Endowment portfolio.

Future outlook and going concern

Following the recent Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR), the Academy has received notification of funding levels from the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) for its main grant through to 31 March 2030. A flat cash settlement has been confirmed by a formal grant letter for the financial year 2026-27, with notification received that inflation of 4% will be applied in the financial year 2027-28 and inflation of 2% will be applied in the financial years 2028-29 and 2029-30.

The building transformation undertaken by the British Academy at its premises of 10-11 Carlton House Terrace while significantly expanding the events space available for the Academy's venue hire trading activity, operated through its trading subsidiary Clio, did mean that Clio's venue hire trading activities were significant constrained during the two-year building period. This, following the disruption to trading caused by the pandemic, has meant Clio has had to work hard to re-engage with previous clients and to develop new clients to hire out the significantly expanded events space. While progress has been made this has been more challenging than anticipated. This has led to a slower than expected growth in income resulting in a reported loss of £244k in the financial year to 31 March 2026 and total cumulative losses of £1.127m. Given Clio has historically transferred all its profits to the Academy, Clio is reporting a shareholder's deficit of £1,127m at 31 March 2026.

In view of this Clio is reliant on financial support from the Academy to continue operating and as at 31 March 2026 owed the Academy £1,145m via its intercompany account. As such, The Academy has entered into a formal credit agreement with Clio, guaranteeing a cash facility of £1.2m to ensure Clio can continue to operate as a going concern. This support is regarded as justifiable on the basis that the Trustees are confident that Clio will return to profit in 2026-27 with the recently increased sales and marketing resources already accelerating income growth. The British Academy also receives a significant contribution to its operating and premises running costs from Clio (£931k in 2025-26), which given these costs are largely fixed in nature, should Clio cease trading would have to be funded from British Academy reserves. Based on current financial projections the Trustees expect that the cash facility will be needed on a reducing basis up to 31 March 2028.

On the basis that DSIT funding is guaranteed until at least 31 March 2027, and given the strength of the Academy's balance sheet, the Trustees do not consider there to be a material uncertainty in relation to the going concern basis applied to the preparation of these financial Statements. After making appropriate enquiries, which include the review of financial forecasts for the financial years to 31 March 2030, a sensitivity analysis and the consideration of the nature and extent of the matters identified above, the Academy's Council, as Trustees, considers that the Academy has adequate resources to justify preparing the financial statements on a going concern basis.

Governance and management

The British Academy is a charity, registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales (number 233176). Its principal place of business is its registered office at 10-11 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH, and its professional advisers are listed on page 2.

The Academy was established by Royal Charter in 1902. It is a private, independent, self- governing corporation, composed of approximately 1,800 Fellows located in both the UK and overseas Fellows elected in recognition of their distinction as scholars and researchers. Its objectives, powers and framework of governance are set out in the Charter and its supporting Bye-Laws, as approved by the Privy Council.

The Academy receives public funding from the Science and Research budget allocated by a grant from the Department for Science, Innovation & Technology (DSIT). It also receives support from private sources and draws on its own funds. It endeavors to conduct its business in accordance with the seven principles identified by the Committee on Standards in Public Life and with the Guidance on Codes of Practice for Board Members of Public Bodies, issued by the Cabinet Office.

Following the delivery of the Bayes CCE Review of Council Effectiveness to Council in November 2023, Council established a permanent Governance & Nominations Committee to carry forward the findings of the review. This includes reviewing the nomination and induction/training processes for all trustee roles within the Academy, improving transparency between the Fellowship and the Academy's governance structures and reviewing cross membership of its various committees.

Public Benefit Reporting

The Council, as formal Trustees of the Academy, operates in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and this Annual Report meets the requirement in the Act to set out the public benefits of the Academy's work. The Council is also satisfied that it has complied with the duties set out in Section 17 of the Act to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

The objects of the Academy as set out in its Charter are "the promotion of the study of the humanities and social sciences".

The purpose of the Academy is to deepen understanding of people, societies and cultures, enabling everyone to learn, progress and prosper by inspiring, supporting and promoting outstanding achievement and global advances in the humanities and social sciences.

As a registered charity, the Academy undertakes a range of activities that provide public benefit:

- providing financial support to academics at various stages of their careers in the UK and internationally;
- funding programmes that advance understanding of the humanities and social sciences;
- providing expert advice to policy makers regarding our subjects;
- promoting the importance of the humanities and social sciences internationally; and
- staging programmes to engage the public with the humanities and social sciences.

The public benefit of the work of the Academy is delivered both directly through its own activities and indirectly through the research and capacity building it funds. This research covers a very broad field, including all 17 of the UN Sustainable Development goals.

Trustees

The Academy's Trustees are the members of its Council. Nominations for vacancies are sought and received by the Nominations Committee and new members are elected by the Fellowship. Following election, new members of Council are provided with an information pack comprising the Charter, Statutes, Bye-laws and Regulations of the Academy, a Charity Commission publication on the responsibilities of charity Trustees and the Strategic Plan. A thorough induction is provided and members are also encouraged to attend recommended external training courses for charity Trustees.

Council and Committees

Council is responsible for the governance of the Academy, making decisions on strategy, policy and finance. To aid this it is supported by a number of committees who discuss and advise on matters including finance, audit and risk, membership and nominations. Memberships of the committees include Fellows, other researchers and others with relevant expertise. Committees that report directly to Council include:

- Standing Committee of Council: Council's principal executive advisory committee comprising the Officers of the Academy.
- Audit Committee: A committee examining the Academy's arrangements for governance, risk management, internal control, and value for money, and which advises Council on their adequacy and effectiveness.
- Nominations Committee: A committee advising Council on the strongest candidates for election as members of Council.

The day to day management of the affairs of the Academy is delegated to the Chief Executive and the Senior Management Team.

Remuneration of Trustees and Senior Management Personnel
None of the Officers or Council members receives any payment apart from the reimbursement of expenses for their work for the Academy. The Academy has a Remuneration Committee, which meets annually and whose terms of reference include the setting of pay for its senior management personnel. The committee takes into account performance reviews, relevant sectoral pay awards and pay benchmarking exercises conducted by independent professional consultants.

Fundraising Statement
Section 162a of the Charities Act 2011 requires charities to make a statement regarding fundraising activities. Although we do not undertake widespread fundraising from the general public, the legislation defines fundraising as "soliciting or otherwise procuring money or other property for charitable purposes". Such amounts receivable are presented in our accounts as "voluntary income" and include legacies and donations. The Academy regularly reviews its fundraising objectives and targets and investing in its fundraising activities accordingly.

In relation to the above we confirm that all solicitations are managed internally without involvement of commercial participators or professional fund-raisers, or third parties. The day to day management of all income generation is delegated to the Senior Management Team, who are accountable to the Trustees.

The charity is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and follows its guidance and standards in order that our fundraising activity adheres to their code of conduct whilst following best practice. No complaints were received during the year in relation to our fundraising. The appropriateness of our fundraising activity continues to form a natural part of our risk management framework and our scheme of delegation.

Grant Making Policy
The Academy's grant making policy and procedures are set out in its Code of Practice for Consideration of Research Proposals, published on its website. Guidelines are issued on the information to be supplied by applicants, details of the criteria against which applications are assessed, and the process and timescale for assessing them.

Applications are judged on their academic merit through a stringent process of peer review by appropriately qualified experts, normally drawn from the Academy's Fellowship, then passed to the relevant awarding committee for the final decision. Appeals may not be made against the academic judgement of the Academy's assessors, panels, or committees, but may be made on the sole ground of improper procedure.

Assessors are required to declare actual or potential conflicts of interest. Fellows of the Academy who wish to apply for a grant during the period in which they are serving in any capacity as an assessor must abstain from any involvement in the competition to which they are applying. The Code of Practice is reviewed annually.

Risk Management
Council has overall responsibility for the Academy's risk management and internal control systems. The Audit Committee's remit includes reviewing the development and effectiveness of the risk management arrangements and keeping them under review. The Audit Committee reviewed the risk register at its meetings and advises on policy and process.

A Strategic Risk Register is maintained by the Senior Management Team on behalf of the Trustees. The risks are linked to the Academy's Strategic objectives and the register also detailed evaluations and mitigating actions for each risk.

The principal risks identified in the corporate risk register include the following.

- Public funding
- Non-public funding income from Clio
- Shifting Higher Education and Research landscape
- Business continuity
- Public profile and reputation of the Academy
- Fellowship engagement
- Reporting and regulatory requirements
- Resources and people

- Data
- Building transformation project

A range of controls and mitigations are in place with further actions planned to reduce the likelihood of risks occurring and the impact if they do occur. In addition to operational controls, these actions include preparation of a range of scenarios for the forthcoming government spending review, appropriate committee oversight of programmes and communications and the review of delegated authorities.

Volunteers
The Academy is critically dependent on the voluntary services of its Fellows who, whether as Officers, Chairs or members of the Sections, Committees and Sub-committees, or as referees and assessors, perform a wide and crucial range of tasks for which they are wholly unremunerated outside the recovery of their direct expenses. The Academy also consults external academic experts and relies extensively on the services and goodwill of numerous referees and assessors outside its Fellowship and external members of the Investment Management and Audit Committees. All this constitutes an unquantifiable voluntary contribution without which the Academy would be unable to fulfil its objectives.

Auditors
A resolution for the appointment of BDO LLP for the ensuing year will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

Approved by Council on 11 July 2026

Professor April McMahon
Treasurer

Statement of Council's responsibilities

The Council (as Trustee body of the Charity) is responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity Law requires the Council to prepare for each financial year financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and parent charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the group for the year. In preparing those 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
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, including FRS 102, 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 charity will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the group and parent charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with Charities Act 2011 and regulations made there under. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the group and parent charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Council has taken steps to:

- Ensure that funds from DSIT are used only for the purposes for which they have been given and in accordance with the DSIT grant terms and conditions and any other conditions which DSIT may from time to time prescribe
- Ensure that there are appropriate financial and management controls in place to safeguard public funds and funds from other sources
- Safeguard the assets of the Academy and prevent and detect fraud
- Secure the economical, efficient and effective management of the Academy's resources and expenditure

Independent auditor's report to trustees of the British Academy

Opinion on the financial statements

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and of the Parent Charity's affairs as at 31 March 2026 and of the Group's incoming resources and application of resources, and the Parent Charity's incoming resources and application of resources, and the Group's cash flows for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

We have audited the financial statements of The British Academy ("the Parent Charity") and its subsidiary ("the Group") for the year ended 31 March 2026 which comprise the following: Consolidated statement of financial activities; Statement of financial activities of the Academy; Consolidated and Academy balance sheets; Consolidated cashflows and notes 1 to 23 to the Consolidated 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 Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence
We remain independent of the Group and the Parent Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements 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.

Conclusions related 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 and the Parent Charity'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. However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the Group and the Parent Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

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 Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion;

- the information given in the Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the Parent Charity; or
- the Parent Charity financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; 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 the Council's responsibilities, the Trustees 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 the Parent Charity'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 Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements
We have been appointed as auditor under section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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.

However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the Charity and management.

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

Non-compliance with laws and regulations
Based on:

- Our understanding of the Group's and the sector in which it operates;
- Discussion with management and those charged with governance; and
- Obtaining and understanding of the Group's policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations.

We considered the significant laws and regulations to be the applicable accounting framework and UK tax legislation.

The Group is also subject to laws and regulations where the consequence of non-compliance could have a material effect on the amount or disclosures in the financial statements, for example through the imposition of fines or litigations. We identified such laws and regulations to be relevant tax legislation, employment law, data protection and the health and safety legislation. We also considered the risk of non- compliance with other requirements imposed by the Charity Commission and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the Group financial statements.

Our procedures in respect of the above included:

- Enquires of management whether there were any litigations and claims;

- Review of minutes of meetings of those charged with governance for any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Review of correspondence with regulatory and tax authorities for any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Review of financial statement disclosures and agreeing to supporting documentation; and
- Review of legal expenditure accounts to understand the nature of expenditure incurred.

Fraud
We assessed the susceptibility of the financial statements to material misstatement, including fraud. Our risk assessment procedures included:

- Enquiry with management and those charged with governance and Audit Committee, regarding any known or suspected instances of fraud;
- Obtaining an understanding of the Group's policies and procedures relating to:
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud; and
  - Internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud.
- Review of minutes of meetings of those charged with governance for any known or suspected instances of fraud;
- Discussion amongst the engagement team as to how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements; and
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

Based on our risk assessment, we considered the areas most susceptible to fraud to be management override of controls and grant income.

Our procedures in respect of the above included:

- Testing a sample of journal entries throughout the year, which met a defined risk criteria, and a random sample by agreeing to supporting documentation;
- Testing a sample of grant income by agreeing to supporting documentations to verify income recognition is correct; and
- Assessing significant estimates made by management for bias, including allocation of costs, grant commitments, grant income and going concern assumptions.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members who were all deemed to have appropriate competence and capabilities and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to risks of material misstatement in the financial statements, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery, misrepresentations or through collusion. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures performed and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we are to become aware of it.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the Financial Reporting Council's ("FRC'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 Charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's trustees 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 Charity and the Charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

DocuSigned by:
Laurence Elliott
C9A7C7386A35456...

Laurence Elliott
BDO LLP, statutory auditor
London, UK
29 July 2026

BDO LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

BDO LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales (with registered number OC305127).

Financial statements 2026

Consolidated statement of financial activities

Year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	2026 Funds (£)	2025 Funds (£)
Income and endowments from						
Donations and legacies	3	171,639	240,801	-	412,440	567,264
Charitable activities						
Grants receivable	4	73,871	62,417,466	-	62,491,337	101,409,417
Other trading activities						
Trading funds generated	5	2,613,323	1,517	-	2,614,840	2,063,002
Investment income	6	358,769	237,635	-	596,404	893,162
Other income	7	1,988,028	900	-	1,988,928	1,221,050
Total income		**5,205,630**	**62,898,319**	**-**	**68,103,949**	**106,153,895**
Expenditure on						
Cost of raising funds	8	3,695,524	-	-	3,695,524	3,583,718
Investment management fees	8	-	-	-	-	28,431
Charitable activities						
Grants and awards	9	1,230,431	61,353,692	-	62,584,123	101,913,852
Total expenditure		**4,925,955**	**61,353,692**	**-**	**66,279,647**	**105,526,001**
Transfers between funds	18	**(372)**	**372**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Net income before gain on investments		**279,303**	**1,544,999**	**-**	**1,824,302**	**627,894**
Net gain on investments		1,036,376	-	1,133,295	2,169,671	418,553
Net movement in funds		**1,315,679**	**1,544,999**	**1,133,295**	**3,993,973**	**1,046,447**
Fund balances brought forward at 1 April 2025		25,432,564	11,997,976	10,972,624	48,403,164	47,356,717
Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2026		**26,748,243**	**13,542,975**	**12,105,919**	**52,397,137**	**48,403,164**

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There are no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

The consolidated statement of financial activities includes the results of the charity's wholly owned subsidiary, Clio Enterprises Ltd.

The notes, on pages 43-76 form part of these accounts.

Statement of financial activities of the Academy

Year ended 31 March 2026

	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	2026 Funds (£)	2025 Funds (£)
Income and endowments from					
Donations and legacies	171,639	240,801	-	412,440	567,264
Charitable activities					
Grants receivable	73,871	62,417,466	-	62,491,337	101,409,417
Other trading activities					
Trading funds generated	392,723	1,517	-	394,240	285,730
Investment income	354,413	237,635	-	592,048	874,050
Other income	1,988,028	900	-	1,988,928	1,221,050
Total income	**2,980,674**	**62,898,319**	**-**	**65,878,993**	**104,357,511**
Expenditure on					
Cost of raising funds	1,226,239	-	-	1,226,239	1,283,498
Investment management fees	-	-	-	-	28,431
Charitable activities					
Grants and awards	1,230,431	61,353,692	-	62,584,123	101,913,852
Total expenditure	**2,456,670**	**61,353,692**	**-**	**63,810,362**	**103,225,781**
Transfer between funds	**(372)**	**372**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Net income before gain on investments	**523,632**	**1,544,999**	**-**	**2,068,631**	**1,131,730**
Net gain on investments	1,036,376	-	1,133,295	2,169,671	418,553
Net movement in funds	**1,560,008**	**1,544,999**	**1,133,295**	**4,238,302**	**1,550,283**
Fund balances brought forward at 1 April 2025	26,315,025	11,997,976	10,972,624	49,285,625	47,735,342
Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2026	**27,875,033**	**13,542,975**	**12,105,919**	**53,523,927**	**49,285,625**

Consolidated and Academy balance sheets

As at 31 March 2026

	Notes	Group 2026 (£)	Group 2025 (£)	Academy 2026 (£)	Academy 2025 (£)
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13	25,622,281	26,656,848	25,622,281	26,656,848
Investments	14	21,449,015	21,272,394	21,449,025	21,272,404
		47,071,296	**47,929,242**	**47,071,306**	**47,929,252**
Current assets					
Debtors	16	4,040,340	4,549,318	4,894,272	5,697,835
Cash at bank and in hand		7,472,296	19,314,362	7,173,787	18,705,107
		11,512,636	**23,863,680**	**12,068,059**	**24,402,942**
Creditors					
Amount falling due within one year	17	(6,186,795)	(23,389,758)	(5,615,438)	(23,046,569)
Net current assets		**5,325,841**	**473,922**	**6,452,621**	**1,356,373**
Creditors					
Amounts falling due after more than one year		-	-	-	-
Net assets		**52,397,137**	**48,403,164**	**53,523,927**	**49,285,625**
Represented by:					
Endowment funds	18	12,105,919	10,972,624	12,105,919	10,972,624
Restricted funds	18	13,542,975	11,997,976	13,542,975	11,997,976
Unrestricted Funds	18	26,748,243	25,432,564	27,875,033	26,315,025
Total funds		**52,397,137**	**48,403,164**	**53,523,927**	**49,285,625**

The notes, on pages 43-76 form part of these accounts.

The Financial Statements on pages 38-76 were approved and authorised for issue on 16 July 2026 and signed by:

Professor April McMahon
Treasurer

Hetan Shah
Chief Executive and Secretary

Consolidated statement of cash flows

Year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	2026 Funds (£)	2025 Funds (£)
Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities			
Net income for the reporting period		3,993,973	1,046,447
Depreciation charges		1,034,567	671,083
Gains on investments		(2,169,671)	(418,553)
Investment Income		(596,404)	(893,162)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors		508,978	(2,014,247)
(Decrease) / increase in creditors		(17,202,963)	10,719,021
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities		**(14,431,520)**	**9,110,589**
Statement of Cash Flows			
Net cash (outflow) / inflow from operating activities		**(14,431,520)**	**9,110,589**
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends and interest from investments		596,404	893,162
Purchase of property, plant & equipment		-	(3,035,424)
Proceeds from sale of investments		23,469,981	-
Purchase of investments		(21,569,981)	-
Net cash inflow / (outflow) from investing activities		**2,496,404**	**(2,142,262)**
Cash flows from financing activities			
Finance lease payments		-	(11,147)
Net cash generated from/(used) in financing activities		**-**	**(11,147)**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	**Note (i)**	**(11,935,116)**	**6,957,180**
Cash and liquid resources at 1 April 2025		19,407,412	12,450,232
Cash and liquid resources at 31 March 2026		**7,472,296**	**19,407,412**

Notes to Cash flow statement

Note (i) Analysis of change in net funds

	At 1 April 2025(£)	Cash flows (£)	At 31 March 2026 (£)
Cash in hand, at bank	19,314,362	(11,842,066)	**7,472,296**
Cash held with investment managers	93,050	(93,050)	**-**
Total	19,407,412	(11,935,116)	**7,472,296**

The notes on pages 43-76, form part of these accounts.

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation of the accounts
The Annual Report, incorporating the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026, has been prepared in accordance with the Academy's Royal Charter, and in compliance with the Charities Act 2011, the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to the charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (The FRS 102 Charities SORP).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified for the inclusion of investment assets.

Following the recent Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR), the Academy has received notification of funding levels from the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) for its Main grant through to 31 March 2030. A flat cash settlement has been confirmed by a formal grant letter for the financial year 2026-27, with notification received that inflation of 4% will be applied in the financial year 2027-28 and inflation of 2% will be applied in the financial years 2028-29 and 2029-30.

The building transformation undertaken by the British Academy at its premises of 10-11 Carlton House Terrace while significantly expanding the events space available for the Academy's venue hire trading activity, operated through its trading subsidiary Clio, did mean that Clio's venue hire trading activities were significant constrained during the two-year building period. This, following the disruption to trading caused by the pandemic, has meant Clio has had to work hard to re-engage with previous clients and to develop new clients to hire out the significantly expanded events space. While progress has been made this has been more challenging than anticipated. This has led to a slower than expected growth in income resulting in a reported loss of £244,330 in the financial year to 31 March 2026 and total cumulative losses of £1,126,790. Given Clio has historically transferred all its profits to the Academy, Clio is reporting a shareholder's deficit of £1,126,780 at 31 March 2026.

In view of this Clio is reliant on financial support from the Academy to continue operating and as at 31 March 2026 owed the Academy £1,144,557 via its intercompany account. As such, The Academy has entered into a formal credit agreement with Clio, guaranteeing a cash facility of £1.2m to ensure Clio can continue to operate as a going concern. This support is regarded as justifiable on the basis that the Trustees are confident that Clio will return to profit in 2026-27 with the recently increased sales and marketing resources already accelerating income growth. The British Academy also receives a significant contribution to its operating and premises running costs from Clio (£931,378 in 2025-26), which given these costs are largely fixed in nature, should Clio cease trading would have to be funded from British Academy reserves. Based on current financial projections the Trustees expect that the cash facility will be needed on a reducing basis up to 31 March 2028.

On the basis that DSIT funding is guaranteed until at least 31 March 2027, and given the strength of the Academy's balance sheet, the Trustees do not consider there to be a material uncertainty in relation to the going concern basis applied to the preparation of these financial Statements.

After making appropriate enquiries, which include the review of financial forecasts for the financial years to 31 March 2030, a sensitivity analysis and the consideration of the nature and extent of the matters identified above, the Academy's Council, as Trustees, considers that the Academy has adequate resources to justify preparing the financial statements on a going concern basis.

b) Group and charity financial statements
Group financial statements consolidate the results of the charity and its wholly owned subsidiary Clio Enterprises Ltd on a line-by-line basis. A separate statement of financial activities for the charity itself is also presented. Notes to the accounts for the parent alone are not prepared, as the notes to consolidated financial statements identify the charity results.

c. Income
The specific bases for accounting for income are described below. In general terms, income is accounted for on a receivable basis, gross of related expenditure. Income is only recognised where there is evidence of entitlement, its receipt is probable and there is reasonable certainty of the amount.

- Donations and legacies include donations which are accounted for in the year in which they are received, subscriptions and gift aid.
- Grants receivable are recognised when entitlement to the grant is confirmed. Grant income received for expenditure in future accounting periods is deferred. Grants that contain performance conditions are deferred until each relevant performance condition is met.
- Venue hire income includes income receivable from the rent and hire of rooms. Income received in advance is deferred until entitlement to the income has arisen at which time it is credited to income in the statement of financial activities.
- Publishing income includes royalties which are recognised on an accruals basis in relation to the date of sale.
- Investment income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which it is receivable and is recognised on delivery of the relevant service.

- Other income consists of conference, service provision and recharges income and is recognised on the delivery of the relevant service.
- Capital grants are recognised in the year in which they are received and are accounted for in a separate fund.

d. Expenditure
Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis, gross of any related income. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular categories they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

- Costs of raising funds include expenditure incurred in generating unrestricted and restricted income through fundraising.
- Charitable activities include grants, awards, prizes and other activities supporting the Academy's aims and objectives. Grants are charged to the statement of financial activities when a constructive obligation exists not withstanding that they may be paid in future periods. Returned grants are accounted for on receipt and deducted from expenditure.
- Other expenditure includes expenditure directly incurred in generating income from the subsidiary activity, publications programme and investments.
- Direct Staff and support costs are directly allocated to individual activities where possible using full-time staff equivalents, floor space and activity specific weightings. Indirect staff and support costs are allocated using area the full time staff equivalents and proportional spend. Governance costs include those associated with the management of the Academy's assets and with constitutional and statutory requirements. They are allocated to activities on a full-time staff equivalent basis where appropriate.

e. Operating Leases
Rental costs under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities, as the charges are incurred, over the lease period.

f. Tangible Fixed Assets
Furniture and equipment at a cost of up to £25,000 is treated as revenue expenditure.

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

- Furniture and equipment - over five years
- Leasehold Improvements depreciation is calculated on their major components and is charged on a straight-line basis over their expected useful economic lives as shown below:
    - Structure – 50 years
    - Bathrooms – 30 years
    - Kitchens – 20 years
    - Windows and Doors – 30 years
    - Mechanical Systems – 30 years
- Long leasehold – over the lease term
- Assets under construction – no charge until asset is complete and in use
- Items which are fully depreciated are treated as disposals
- Items under finance leases are capitalised and written off over the term of the lease.

g. Investments
Listed investments are included in the financial statements at market value which is measured at bid price.

Gains/losses on disposal of investments and revaluation of investments are recognised in the year of gain or loss and are allocated to the funds to which the investments relate in accordance with their percentage share of the investments.

h. Stocks of Publications
Costs of publications are written off in the Statement of Financial Activities when incurred. Stocks of books donated to the Academy for its library are not valued within the accounts.

At 31 March 2026, the estimated value of stocks of publications not included in the balance sheet, due to being deemed immaterial, was £37,168 (2025: £69,435), being the lower of cost and net realisable value.

i. Pensions
The Academy is a Participating Employer in Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London (SAUL). The actuarial valuation applies to SAUL as a whole and does not identify surpluses or deficits applicable to individual employers. As at the last valuation date of 31 March 2023, SAUL's funding level was 105% with a funding surplus of £134m.

It is not possible to identify an individual Employer's share of the underlying assets and liabilities of SAUL. The Academy accounts for its participation in SAUL as if it were a defined contribution scheme and pension costs are based on the amounts actually paid (i.e. cash amounts) in accordance with paragraph 28.11 of FRS 102.

The scheme's actuary has approved that the employer's contribution to SAUL Defined Benefit plan is reduced from 21% to 19% from 1 September 2024.

j. Funds

Endowment Funds represent capital funds which must be held permanently or which may be expended by the Academy. Income arising from Endowment funds is allocated to the correspondingly named individual restricted income funds in accordance with their percentage share of the investments and applied for the purposes for which they were originally given.

Restricted Funds are funds that are subject to restrictions imposed by donors and are applied in accordance with these restrictions. Details of the nature and purpose of certain restricted funds are set out in note 18.

Unrestricted Funds are those which are available for use at the Council's discretion, primarily to provide liquidity and a contingency in the event of a funding shortfall but can also be used in the furtherance of the Academy's objects.

Designated Funds are unrestricted funds set aside for unrestricted purposes and which would otherwise form part of the General Fund. Details of the nature and purpose of each designated fund are set out in note 18.

k. Tax

The Academy is a charity within the meaning of Para 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains within categories covered by Chapter 3 of 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. No tax charge arose in the period.

The subsidiary, Clio Enterprises Limited, has sustained trading losses in recent years so no corporation tax liability arises in the accounts.

l. Heritage Assets

In accordance with section 34 of FRS 102 heritage assets acquired have not been capitalised, since reliable estimates of cost or value are not available on a basis that would justify the costs of establishing them. Heritage assets are not depreciated since their long economic life and high residual value mean that any depreciation would not be material. Additions to heritage assets are made by purchase or donation. Purchases are initially recorded at cost and donations are recorded at a fair value where practicable.

2. Accounting estimates and judgements

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees have made the following judgements:

- Determine whether there are indicators of impairment of the charity's tangible assets. Factors taken into consideration in reaching such a decision include the economic viability and expected future financial performance of the asset and where it is a component of a larger cash-generating unit, the viability and expected future performance of that unit.
- Whether leases entered into by the charity as a lessee are operating or finance leases. These decisions depend on an assessment of whether the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred from the lessor to the lessee on a lease by lease basis.
- Whether the trading subsidiary, Clio Enterprises Limited, will makes sufficient profits to be able to repay the amount owing to the Academy of £1,144,557. The decision has been based upon its expected return to profit and financial forecasts for 2026/27 onward.

Other key sources of estimation uncertainty:

Tangible Fixed Assets
Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In re-assessing asset lives, factors such as technological innovation, product life cycles and maintenance programmes are taken into account. Residual value assessments consider issues such as future market conditions, the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values.

An accounting policy for component accounting within leasehold improvements has been established (see note 1 (f)).

Investments
Listed investments are valued at the quoted bid price at the reporting date.

3. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Endowment (£)	2026 Total (£)	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Endowment (£)	2025 Total (£)
Donations	46,596	181,956	-	**228,552**	35,338	253,596	-	288,934
Legacies	-	58,845	-	**58,845**	31,000	125,000	-	**156,000**
Subscriptions	125,043	-	-	**125,043**	122,330	-	-	**122,330**
Total	**171,639**	**240,801**	**-**	**412,440**	**188,668**	**378,596**	**-**	**567,264**

4. Grants receivable Income

	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Department for Science, Innovation & Technology (DSIT): Main Grant	51,886,713	51,374,999
DSIT: Pump Prime Funding	1,000,000	1,149,070
DSIT: Global Challenges Research Fund	-	9,240,866
DSIT: International Science Partnership Fund	2,853,871	33,461,779
Innovation Fellowships	43,961	258,849
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office: Education Research in Conflict & Crisis	611,193	1,209,994
Leverhulme Trust	1,333,241	1,469,655
Wolfson Foundation	470,569	1,669,411
Wellcome Trust	1,536,249	697,948
The Maurice Wohl Charitable Trust	-	433,000
Garfield Weston Trust	-	85,000
The Aurelius Trust	2,300,000	-
Other grants	455,540	358,846
	62,491,337	**101,409,417**

£73,871 of Grants receivable relate to unrestricted funds (2025: £nil) while £62,417,466 are atrributable to restricted funds (2025: £101,409,417) of which £178,001 are capital grants to fund the building transformation project at 10-11 Carlton House Terrace (2025: £1,217,927).

5. Trading funds generated

	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	2026 Total (£)	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	2025 Total (£)
Venue hire	2,220,600	-	**2,220,600**	1,777,272	-	**1,777,272**
Publishing	392,723	1,517	**394,240**	285,403	327	**285,730**
Total generated income	**2,613,323**	**1,517**	**2,614,840**	**2,062,675**	**327**	**2,063,002**
Cost of raising funds						
Operating cost of venue hire activity	2,469,285	-	**2,469,285**	2,300,220	-	**2,300,220**
Publishing	381,171	-	**381,171**	372,137	-	**372,137**
Total cost of raising funds	2,850,456	**-**	**2,850,456**	2,672,357	**-**	**2,672,357**

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Endowment (£)	2026 Total (£)	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Endowment (£)	2025 Total (£)
Investment income	275,338	237,635	-	**512,973**	298,876	316,384	471	615,731
Bank interest	83,431	-	-	**83,431**	277,431	-	-	277,431
	358,769	**237,635**	**-**	**596,404**	**576,307**	**316,384**	**471**	**893,162**
UK								
Bonds	57,966	32,591	-	**90,557**	80,749	85,605	-	166,354
Equities	27,316	28,958	-	**56,274**	96,724	102,071	471	199,266
Bank and deposit interest	83,431	-	-	**83,431**	277,431	-	-	277,431
	168,713	61,549	-	**230,262**	454,904	187,676	471	643,051
Overseas								
Equities	190,056	176,086	-	**366,142**	121,403	128,708	-	250,111
	358,769	**237,635**	**-**	**596,404**	**576,307**	**316,384**	**471**	**893,162**

7. Other income

	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	2026 Total (£)	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	2025 Total (£)
Global Talent Visa	1,985,100	-	1,985,100	1,211,250	-	**1,211,250**
Sundry Income	2,928	900	3,828	9,800	-	**9,800**
	1,988,028	**900**	**1,988,928**	**1,221,050**	**-**	**1,221,050**

8. Expenditure on raising funds

	Direct Costs - Grants & Awards (£)	Direct Costs - Other (£)	Staff Costs (£)	Support Costs (£)	2026 Total (£)
Fundraising	-	117,839	558,582	168,647	**845,068**
Operating cost of venue hire activity	-	1,117,574	420,332	931,379	**2,469,285**
Publishing	-	94,784	206,380	80,007	**381,171**
Total	-	1,330,197	1,185,294	1,180,033	**3,695,524**

8. Comparative expenditure on raising funds

	Direct Costs - Grants & Awards (£)	Direct Costs - Other (£)	Staff Costs (£)	Support Costs (£)	2025 Total (£)
Fundraising	-	135,070	541,408	234,883	**911,361**
Operating cost of venue hire activity	-	1,158,823	396,008	745,389	**2,300,220**
Publishing	-	30,775	213,466	127,896	**372,137**
Investment Manager Fees	-	28,431	-	-	**28,431**
Total	-	1,353,099	1,150,882	1,108,168	**3,612,149**

9. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Direct costs - Grants & Awards (£)	Direct Costs - Other (£)	Staff Costs (£)	Dep'n (£)	Support costs (£)	Total 2026 (£)
Charitable Activities						
Fellowships						
Early career fellowships	14,681,477	147,902	381,142	-	114,716	15,325,237
Global Professorships	3,602,668	-	170,856	-	31,864	3,805,388
Mid career fellowships	4,690,888	-	207,866	-	41,436	4,940,190
Innovation fellowships	900,513	218	45,167	-	9,754	955,652
Senior research fellowships	813,746	4,101	-	-	30,138	847,985
Newton International fellowships	3,556,862	3,695	234,174	-	43,153	3,837,884
Global Innovation fellowships (ISPF)	-	118	-	-	-	118
Education Research in Conflict & Crisis	511,854	3,157	35,749	-	60,433	611,193
Visiting fellowships	(128,732)	84	-	-	-	(128,648)
	28,629,276	**159,275**	**1,074,954**	**-**	**331,494**	**30,194,999**
Small Grants						
Small research grants	3,698,514	37,728	284,378	-	139,009	4,159,629
Talent development grants	210,076	-	11,306	-	2,312	223,694
Excellence kitemark	242,077	1,285	11,306	-	2,313	256,981
Horizon Europe pump priming	897,970	35,141	-	-	66,889	1,000,000
	5,048,637	**74,154**	**306,990**	**-**	**210,523**	**5,640,304**
British International Research Institutes	**5,122,702**	**23,564**	**180,317**	**-**	**26,856**	**5,353,439**
Challenge Led Research & Policy Engagement						
Policy engagement	427,042	832,753	2,860,000	-	495,254	4,615,049
International chellenges	3,349,084	-	123,178	-	20,999	3,493,261
Global Convening Programme	1,089,405	335,475	7,192	-	-	1,432,072
Researchers at Risk	128,573	-	-	-	-	128,573
International Science Parternship fund	867,157	477,527	964,377	-	544,049	2,853,110
Global Challenges Research fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
	5,861,261	**1,645,755**	**3,954,747**	**-**	**1,060,302**	**12,522,065**

	Direct costs - Grants & Awards (£)	Direct Costs - Other (£)	Staff Costs (£)	Dep'n (£)	Support costs (£)	Total 2025 (£)
Other						
Early career researcher network	577,125	961,045	680,452	-	195,621	2,414,243
Communications & Public engagement	405,363	1,107,550	2,417,777	-	459,885	4,390,575
Other grants, prizes & lectures	149,788	76,997	25,415	-	6,786	258,986
Depreciation	-	-	-	1,034,570	-	1,034,570
Property, Equipment & Conservation etc	-	158,878	379,809	-	236,255	774,942
	1,132,276	**2,304,470**	**3,503,453**	**1,034,570**	**898,547**	**8,873,316**
Total	**45,794,152**	**4,207,218**	**9,020,461**	**1,034,570**	**2,527,722**	**62,584,123**

9. Comparative expenditure on charitable activities

	Direct costs - Grants & Awards (£)	Direct Costs - Other (£)	Staff Costs (£)	Dep'n (£)	Support costs (£)	Total 2025 (£)
Charitable Activities						
Fellowships						
Early career fellowships	15,914,603	143,361	360,986	-	30,348	16,449,298
Global Professorships	3,856,869	264	155,477	-	14,234	4,026,844
Mid career fellowships	5,548,041	-	199,773	-	17,408	5,765,222
Innovation fellowships	1,216,505	2,346	43,656	-	3,986	1,266,493
Senior research fellowships	674,652	4,617	-	-	76,645	755,914
Newton International fellowships	2,690,717	897	220,340	-	18,625	2,930,579
Global Innovation fellowships (ISPF)	3,698,225	391	12,924	-	-	3,711,540
Education Research in Conflict & Crisis	1,125,646	12,557	20,670	-	51,122	1,209,995
Visiting fellowships	1,020,651	801	-	-	-	1,021,452
Total	**35,745,909**	**165,234**	**1,013,826**	**-**	**212,368**	**37,137,337**
Small Grants						
Small research grants	3,434,561	114,498	374,890	-	103,445	4,027,394
Talent development grants	233,319	-	13,668	-	1,256	248,243
Excellence kitemark	225,392	1,330	13,668	-	1,256	241,646
Horizon Europe pump priming	1,149,070	-	-	-	-	1,149,070
Total	**5,042,342**	**115,828**	**402,226**	**-**	**105,957**	**5,666,353**
British International Research Institutes	**5,163,166**	**10,733**	**170,296**	**-**	**12,638**	**5,356,833**
Challenge Led Research & Policy Engagement						
Policy engagement	93,332	957,920	2,190,363	-	165,992	3,407,607
International chellenges	2,848,545	-	108,842	-	13,837	2,971,224
Global Convening Programme	1,114,095	368,851	122,614	-	8,133	1,613,693
Researchers at Risk	8,215,009	272,456	138,196	-	24,851	8,650,512
International Science Parternship fund	26,725,316	712,944	762,407	-	1,548,349	29,749,016
Global Challenges Research fund	-	15,423	392,581	-	393,996	802,000
Total	**38,996,297**	**2,327,594**	**3,715,003**	**-**	**2,155,158**	**47,194,052**

	Direct costs - Grants & Awards (£)	Direct Costs - Other (£)	Staff Costs (£)	Dep'n (£)	Support costs (£)	Total 2025 (£)
Other						
Early career researcher network	278,022	267,957	437,623	-	32,464	1,016,066
Communications & Public engagement	-	1,029,593	2,521,015	-	178,828	3,729,436
Other grants, prizes & lectures	32,103	232,497	6,812	-	506	271,918
Depreciation	-	-	-	671,083	-	671,083
Property, Equipment & Conservation etc	-	87,095	301,938	-	481,741	870,774
Total	**310,125**	**1,617,142**	**3,267,388**	**671,083**	**693,539**	**6,559,277**
Total	**85,257,839**	**4,236,531**	**8,568,739**	**671,083**	**3,179,660**	**101,913,852**

9.1. Expenditure on charitable activities Analysis of total grants payable

Total amount of grants payable included in total charitable activities for the year is £45,794,152 (2025: £85,257,839).

	Grants to institutions (£)	Grants to individuals (£)	2026 Total (£)	Grants to institutions (£)	Grants to individuals (£)	2025 Total (£)
Fellowships	28,560,793	68,483	**28,629,276**	35,711,815	34,094	**35,745,909**
Small Grants	4,747,248	301,389	**5,048,637**	4,940,876	101,466	**5,042,342**
Overseas Research facilitation	5,122,702	-	**5,122,702**	5,163,166	-	**5,163,166**
Challenge Led Research & Policy Engagement	5,727,881	133,380	**5,861,261**	38,925,990	70,307	**38,996,297**
Other	1,102,083	30,193	**1,132,276**	280,703	29,422	**310,125**
Total	**45,260,707**	**533,445**	**45,794,152**	**85,022,550**	**235,289**	**85,257,839**

9.2. Support costs

	Premises (£)	Support Services (£)	Governance (£)	2026 Total (£)
Raising Funds				
Total	**849,714**	**330,319**	**-**	**1,180,033**
Charitable Activities				
Fellowships	167,868	155,762	7,864	331,494
Small Grants	45,011	163,403	2,109	210,523
British International Research Institutes	22,906	2,877	1,073	26,856
Challenge Led Policy Research & Engagement	440,321	599,353	20,628	1,060,302
Other	502,615	374,630	21,302	898,547
Total	**1,178,721**	**1,296,025**	**52,976**	**2,527,722**
Total Support Costs	**2,028,435**	**1,626,344**	**52,976**	**3,707,755**

	Premises (£)	Support Services (£)	Governance (£)	2025 Total (£)
Raising Funds				
Total	**692,799**	**415,369**	**-**	**1,108,168**
Charitable Activities				
Fellowships	108,671	99,704	3,993	212,368
Small Grants	54,219	49,745	1,993	105,957
British International Research Institutes	6,467	5,933	238	12,638
Challenge Led Policy Research & Engagement	1,102,815	1,011,822	40,521	2,155,158
Other	354,891	325,608	13,040	693,539
Total	**1,627,063**	**1,492,812**	**59,785**	**3,179,660**
Total Support Costs	**2,319,862**	**1,908,181**	**59,785**	**4,287,828**

Premises costs comprises the rent and running costs (maintenance and utilities) of Carlton House Terrace. They are allocated across the directorates by floor space and the total area used.

Support services comprises finance, IT, HR, and other general administration overheads. They are allocated using area, full time equivalent staffing and direct cost proportionality.

9.3. Expenditure on charitable activities (Continued) Grants paid to institutions

The 50 largest total payments to single institutions in 2025-26 were as follows:

Institution	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
University of Cambridge	3,390,220	3,502,078
University of Oxford	2,663,964	4,861,989
University College London (UCL)	2,474,789	2,984,393
University of Edinburgh	1,655,925	2,644,981
British School at Rome	1,544,946	1,482,924
School of Oriental & African Studies	1,306,274	1,687,634
King's College London	1,268,763	2,789,178
University of Manchester	1,224,826	1,824,677
University of Glasgow	1,203,180	2,614,907
University of Birmingham	1,151,373	1,642,687
University of York	1,113,529	1,890,258
University of Warwick	997,700	1,149,333
Queen Mary University of London	948,728	975,588
British School at Athens	948,048	1,036,124
University of Exeter	939,795	1,093,432
Durham University	904,045	1,873,765
London School of Economics and Political Science	888,633	1,767,720
British Institute at Ankara	881,467	885,625
University of Nottingham	830,301	1,512,144
University of Bristol	798,975	2,026,592
Council for British Research in the Levant	737,305	634,831
University of Strathclyde	685,742	214,913
University of Leeds	662,831	1,305,674
Nottingham Trent University	650,696	329,769
British Institute in Eastern Africa	647,019	678,015
Northumbria University	610,325	336,737
University of East Anglia	566,530	760,239
University of Southampton	553,001	763,918
University of Kent	535,844	511,811
University of Sussex	501,500	1,676,188

Institution	**2026 (£)**	**2025 (£)**
Queen's University Belfast	494,231	392,455
University of Reading	489,439	780,580
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace	477,777	625,000
University of Liverpool	447,585	725,978
University of Greenwich	444,185	643,158
University of Aberdeen	428,331	489,774
University of Essex	412,584	592,986
Royal Holloway, University of London	402,725	744,124
School of Advanced Study, University of London	382,859	496,884
University of Sheffield	376,716	1,113,192
Newcastle University	362,225	1,014,008
University of St Andrews	345,561	408,019
Cardiff University	337,125	496,843
BRAC University, Bangladesh	336,186	318,717
University of Ulster	301,732	375,185
Loughborough University	278,096	729,192
University of Hull	276,853	429,131
University of Portsmouth	256,546	915,626
British Institute of Persian Studies	219,687	253,658
University of Lincoln	211,348	516,033

10. Staff costs

	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Salaries	7,667,825	7,130,069
Social security costs	1,045,512	762,452
Pension costs - SAUL	1,338,433	1,280,241
Other staff costs *	153,985	546,859
Total	**10,205,755**	**9,719,621**

* Other staff costs include severance payments of £nil (2025: £nil).

The average number of permanent employees (all administrative staff) during the year was 178 (2025: 164). Remuneration of higher paid staff greater than £60,000 is:

	2026	2025
£60,000 - £70,000	6	11
£70,001 - £80,000	11	4
£90,001 - £100,000	1	3
£100,001 - £110,000	2	1
£110,001 - £120,000	1	1
£180,001 - £190,000	1	1

Total employer pension contributions for the higher paid staff above were £327,533 compared with £332,086 in 2024/25.

Total remuneration received by key management personnel for services during the year is £676,898 (2025: £693,320).

No Officer or Ordinary Member of the Council received any remuneration from the Academy for the year ended 31 March 2026 (2025: £Nil). Such members are reimbursed in respect of travel and other expenses necessarily incurred by them in furtherance of the Academy's activities. During the year ended 31 March 2026 such reimbursement to 17 Council members (2025: 17) amounted to £16,949 (2025: £13,388).

11. Net income/net expenditure is after charging

	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Auditors – remuneration	**55,117**	53,370
– additional fees relating to prior year	**-**	31,200
– other services	**43,622**	3,554
Investment management fees	**-**	28,431
Operating leases		
– land and buildings	**784,965**	784,965
– IT equipment	**15,950**	15,600

12. Comparative statement of financial activity 2024/25

	Unrestricted funds (£)	Restricted funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	2025 Funds (£)
Income and endowments from				
Donations and legacies	188,668	378,596	-	567,264
Charitable activities				
Grants receivable	-	101,409,417	-	101,409,417
Other trading activities				
Trading funds generated	285,403	327	-	285,730
Investment income	557,195	316,384	471	874,050
Other income	1,221,050	-	-	1,221,050
Total income	**2,252,316**	**102,104,724**	**471**	**104,357,511**
Expenditure on				
Cost of raising funds	1,283,498	-	-	1,283,498
Investment management fees	13,802	14,629	-	28,431
Charitable activities				
Grants and awards	1,217,751	100,695,126	975	101,913,852
Total expenditure	**2,515,051**	**100,709,755**	**975**	**103,225,781**
Transfers between funds	**(1,473)**	**1,473**	**-**	**-**
Net (expenditure) / income before gain on investments	**(264,208)**	**1,396,442**	**(504)**	**1,131,730**
Net gain on investments	203,164	-	215,389	418,553
Net movement in funds	**(61,044)**	**1,396,442**	**214,885**	**1,550,283**
Fund balances brought forward at 1 April 2024	26,376,069	10,601,534	10,757,739	47,735,342
Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2025	**26,315,025**	**11,997,976**	**10,972,624**	**49,285,625**

13. Tangible fixed assets - Group and Academy

	Long Leasehold	Leasehold improvements (£)	Assets Under Course of Construction (£)	Furniture and equipment (£)	Leased assets (£)	Total (£)
Cost						
At 1 April 2025	14,000,000	16,401,408	-	1,404,659	39,773	**31,845,840**
Additions	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
At 31 March 2026	**14,000,000**	**16,401,408**	**-**	**1,404,659**	**39,773**	**31,845,840**
Depreciation						
At 1 April 2025	784,000	4,094,356	-	272,850	37,786	**5,188,992**
Charge for the year	112,000	694,171	-	226,409	1,987	**1,034,567**
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
At 31 March 2026	**896,000**	**4,788,527**	**-**	**499,259**	**39,773**	**6,223,559**
Net book value						
At 31 March 2026	**13,104,000**	**11,612,881**	**-**	**905,400**	**-**	**25,622,281**
At 31 March 2025	13,216,000	12,307,052	-	1,131,809	1,987	26,656,848

14. Investments - Groups and Academy

	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
At 1 April 2025	21,179,344	20,760,791
Additions	21,569,981	-
Disposals	(23,469,981)	-
Net gains on investments	2,169,671	418,553
	21,449,015	**21,179,344**
Cash at bank held within investments	-	93,050
At 31 March 2026	**21,449,015**	**21,272,394**

Fixed Interest and Equities at cost	**19,899,841**	**15,591,498**

Comprising	UK (£)	Overseas (£)	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
Bonds	4,646,861	-	4,646,861	4,076,049
Equities	-	16,802,154	16,802,154	17,103,295
Cash	-	-	-	93,050
Total	**4,646,861**	**16,802,154**	**21,449,015**	**21,272,394**

The Academy has invested £10 in the share capital of its wholly owned subsidiary.

15. Clio Enterprises Ltd: Venue hire

The wholly owned trading subsidiary Clio Enterprises Ltd was incorporated in the United Kingdom on 7 April 2011 (company registration number: 07595846) to undertake events and hospitality activities. Historically, it has donated all profits to the Academy by gift aid and as a result, no corporation tax is payable. The building transformation undertaken by the British Academy at its premises of 10-11 Carlton House Terrace while significantly expanding the events space available for the Academy's venue hire trading activity, operated through its trading subsidiary Clio, did mean that Clio's venue hire trading activities were significantly constrained during the two-year building period. This, following the disruption to trading caused by the pandemic, has meant Clio has had to work hard to re-engage with previous clients and to develop new clients to hire out the significantly expanded events space. While progress has been made this has been more challenging than anticipated. This has led to a slower than expected growth in income resulting in a reported loss of £244,330 in the financial year to 31 March 2026 and total cumulative losses of £1,126,790. Because of this the Academy has provided financial assistance to support Clio, cognisant that the trading impact is a direct consequence of planned building work and with a full expectation that Clio will return to trading surplus from 2026-27 onwards. A summary of the trading results of Clio is set out below.

The summary financial performance of the subsidiary alone is:

	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Turnover	2,946,127	2,336,750
Cost of sales and administration costs	(3,194,813)	(2,859,697)
Interest receivable	4,356	19,112
Net loss retained in subsidiary	**(244,330)**	**(503,835)**

The assets and liabilities of the subsidiary were:		
Current assets	597,913	930,964
Current liabilities	(1,724,693)	(1,813,414)
Shareholder's deficit / total net liabilities	**(1,126,780)**	**(882,450)**

The above results are shown in the consolidated statement of financial activities net of intra-group trading.

16. Debtors

	Group 2026 (£)	Group 2025 (£)	Academy 2026 (£)	Academy 2025 (£)
Trade debtors	2,512,871	2,903,395	2,288,779	2,623,155
Staff loans	27,051	9,300	27,051	9,300
Amounts due from subsidiary	-	-	1,144,557	1,130,219
Short term loan due from subsidiary	-	-	-	340,007
Prepayments and accrued income	1,500,418	1,563,531	1,425,106	1,552,576
Recoverable VAT	-	73,092	8,779	42,578
Total	**4,040,340**	**4,549,318**	**4,894,272**	**5,697,835**

The loan from the Academy, as parent undertaking, was a short-term loan provided to mitigate the adverse financial impact the pandemic and associated restrictions had upon the trading results of the subsidiary company, Clio. The loan was repaid in full during 2025-26 and replaced with a formal Revolving Credit Facility.

17. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2026 (£)	Group 2025 (£)	Academy 2026 (£)	Academy 2025 (£)
Other creditors	2,643,413	2,750,059	2,516,255	2,712,341
Grants and awards (see below)	1,851,629	18,968,741	1,851,629	18,968,741
Other taxes and social security	324,745	-	228,789	-
Accruals	1,100,869	1,438,434	951,208	1,285,929
Deferred income	266,139	232,524	67,557	79,558
Total	**6,186,795**	**23,389,758**	**5,615,438**	**23,046,569**

Grants and awards included within creditors

Grants and awards allocated, not yet paid comprise:	2026 (£)	2025 (£)
Global professorships	499,021	13,349
Early career fellowships	146,210	3,610,319
Mid career fellowships	53,772	40,128
Newton fellowships	-	1,728
Senior research fellowships	42,789	143,514
Small Research Grants	401,252	282,785
Researchers at Risk	615	1,510
Policy engagement	160,267	49,754
Communications and public engagement	100,060	-
Early career researcher network	72,135	-
International engagement	283,741	12,645,042
Education research in conflict and crisis	43,464	-
Global convening programme	36,282	
Innovation fellowships	19	1,967,911
Pump priming	12,002	212,701
	1,851,629	**18,968,741**

Deferred income	Group 2026 (£)	Group 2025 (£)	Academy 2026 (£)	Academy 2025 (£)
At 1 April 2025	232,524	315,184	79,558	197,946
Taken to income in the year	(164,967)	(244,551)	(11,001)	(128,388)
Taken to deferred income in the year	198,582	161,891	-	10,000
At 31 March 2026	**266,139**	**232,524**	**68,557**	**79,558**

All amounts fall due within one year.

18. Net movement in funds (Group and Academy)

	Balance 1 April 2025 (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Transfers (£)	Net realised / unrealised gains (£)	Balance 31 March 2026 (£)
Permanent Endowment Funds - Academy & Group						
Rose Mary Crawshay	45,001				4,572	49,573
Edward Ullendorff	129,974				15,324	145,298
Webster	616,708				59,127	675,835
Total Permanent Endowment Funds	**791,683**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**79,023**	**870,706**
Expendable Endowment Funds - Academy and Group						
Elisabeth Barker	608,962				63,059	672,021
Neil Ker	555,460				57,519	612,979
Leopold Schweich	313,585				32,473	346,058
Stenton	675,314				69,931	745,245
Albert Reckitt	2,812,573				291,249	3,103,822
Stein Arnold	311,944				32,303	344,247
Thank Offering to Britain	1,498,924				155,218	1,654,142
S T Lee	367,494				38,055	405,549
Marc Fitch	715,630				74,105	789,735
Other	2,321,055				240,360	2,561,415
Total Expendable Endowment Funds	**10,180,941**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**1,054,272**	**11,235,213**
Total Endowment Funds	**10,972,624**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**1,133,295**	**12,105,919**

	Balance 1 April 2025 (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Transfers (£)	Net realised / unrealised gains (£)	Balance 31 March 2026 (£)
Restricted Income Funds - Academy & Group						
Investment funds						
Elisabeth Barker	20,785	13,223	(27,241)	-	-	6,767
Neil Ker	98,343	12,211	(41,250)	-	-	69,304
Leopold Schweich	137,325	8,010	(9,252)	(6,410)	-	129,673
Stenton	106,527	14,980	(18,327)	-	-	103,180
Albert Reckitt	275,468	61,070	(56,131)	-	-	280,407
Stein Arnold	7,271	6,773	(12,757)	-	-	1,287
Thank Offering to Britain	245,168	32,547	(36,790)	-	-	240,925
S T Lee	45,437	7,979	(4,383)	-	-	49,033
Marc Fitch	34,582	15,540	(49,369)	-	-	753
Other	411,058	165,969	(204,767)	6,410	-	378,670
Total restricted investment funds	**1,381,964**	**338,302**	**(460,267)**	**-**	**-**	**1,259,999**

Non-investment funds						
DSIT Main Grant	-	51,887,613	(51,887,985)	372	-	-
DSIT International Science Partnership Grants	-	2,853,871	(2,853,227)	-	-	644
DSIT Global Challenges Research Fund	63,652	-	-	-	-	63,652
DSIT Global Research Talent	20	-	-	-	-	20
DSIT Pump Priming	-	1,000,000	(1,000,000)	-	-	-
FCDO Education Research into Conflict & Crisis Grant	-	611,193	(611,193)	-	-	-
Leverhulme Trust	587,720	1,090,286	(1,336,089)	-	-	341,917
Wolfson Foundation	1,044,506	470,569	(865,934)	-	-	649,141
Wellcome Trust	(4,395)	1,536,249	(1,489,482)	-	-	42,372
Nuffield Foundation	19,348	242,955	(128,573)	-	-	133,730
Capital Building Project	8,044,896	356,307	(510,379)	-	-	7,890,824
CHT Property	635,721	-	(107,446)	-	-	528,275
The Aurelius Trust	-	2,300,000	-	-	-	2,300,000
Other	224,544	210,974	(103,117)	-	-	332,401
Total restricted non-investment funds	**10,616,012**	**62,560,017**	**(60,893,425)**	**372**	**-**	**12,282,976**
Total restricted income funds	**11,997,976**	**62,898,319**	**(61,353,692)**	**372**	**-**	**13,542,975**

	Balance 1 April 2025 (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Transfers (£)	Net realised / unrealised gains (£)	Balance 31 March 2026 (£)
Unrestricted Funds						
General Funds - Academy	12,759,780	2,901,488	(2,292,839)	(396,872)	1,036,376	14,007,933
General Funds - Trading Subsidiary	(882,461)	2,224,956	(2,469,285)	-	-	(1,126,790)
Designated funds - Academy & Group						
Property - ADF	76,837	-	(14,094)	-	-	62,743
BEIS / DSIT Carlton House Terrace	13,216,000	-	(112,000)	-	-	13,104,000
Research Fund	12,408	5,315	(9,725)	-	-	7,998
Ford Foundation	-	73,871	(28,012)	-	-	45,859
125th Anniversary Campagin	-	-	-	396,500	-	396,500
External Redecoration, Repairs & Maintenance	250,000	-	-	-	-	250,000
Total designated funds	**13,555,245**	**79,186**	**(163,831)**	**396,500**	**-**	**13,867,100**
Total unrestricted funds - Academy	**26,315,025**	**2,980,674**	**(2,456,670)**	**(372)**	**1,036,376**	**27,875,033**
Total unrestricted funds - Group	**25,432,564**	**5,205,630**	**(4,925,955)**	**(372)**	**1,036,376**	**26,748,243**
Total funds - Academy	**49,285,625**	**65,878,993**	**(63,810,362)**	**-**	**2,169,671**	**53,523,927**
Total funds - Group	**48,403,164**	**68,103,949**	**(66,279,647)**	**-**	**2,169,671**	**52,397,137**

18. Net movement in funds (Prior year comparative)

	Balance 1 April 2024 (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Transfers (£)	Net realised / unrealised gains (£)	Balance 31 March 2025 (£)
Permanent Endowment Funds - Academy and Group						
Rose Mary Crawshay	44,605	27	(500)	-	869	45,001
Edward Ullendorff	126,971	91	-	-	2,912	129,974
Webster	605,395	353	(275)	-	11,235	616,708
Total Permanent Endowment Funds	**776,971**	**471**	**(775)**	**-**	**15,016**	**791,683**
Expendable Endowment Funds - Academy and Group						
Elisabeth Barker	596,977	-	-	-	11,985	608,962
Neil Ker	544,528	-	-	-	10,932	555,460
Leopold Schweich	307,413	-	-	-	6,172	313,585
Stenton	662,023	-	-	-	13,291	675,314
Albert Reckitt	2,757,219	-	-	-	55,354	2,812,573
Stein Arnold	305,805	-	-	-	6,139	311,944
Thank Offering to Britain	1,469,424	-	-	-	29,500	1,498,924
S T Lee	360,261	-	-	-	7,233	367,494
Marc Fitch	701,546	-	-	-	14,084	715,630
Other	2,275,572	-	(200)	-	45,683	2,321,055
Total Expendable Endowment Funds	**9,980,768**	**-**	**(200)**	**-**	**200,373**	**10,180,941**
Total Endowment Funds	**10,757,739**	**471**	**(975)**	**-**	**215,389**	**10,972,624**

	Balance 1 April 2024 (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Transfers (£)	Net realised / unrealised gains (£)	Balance 31 March 2025 (£)
Restricted Income Funds - Academy and group						
Investment funds						
Elisabeth Barker	26,248	17,631	(23,094)	-	-	20,785
Neil Ker	90,151	16,307	(8,115)	-	-	98,343
Leopold Schweich	129,894	9,315	(1,884)	-	-	137,325
Stenton	111,267	19,642	(24,382)	-	-	106,527
Albert Reckitt	216,808	81,430	(22,770)	-	-	275,468
Stein Arnold	5,467	9,031	(7,227)	-	-	7,271
Thank Offering to Britain	226,755	43,397	(24,984)	-	-	245,168
S T Lee	42,630	10,640	(7,833)	-	-	45,437
Marc Fitch	37,434	20,719	(23,571)	-	-	34,582
Other	383,721	187,824	(160,487)	-	-	411,058
Total Restricted Investment Funds	**1,270,375**	**415,936**	**(304,347)**	**-**	**-**	**1,381,964**

Non-investment funds						
DSIT Main Grant	-	51,374,999	(51,376,472)	1,473	-	-
DSIT International Science Partnership Grants	-	33,461,779	(33,461,779)	-	-	-
DSIT Global Challenges Research Fund	63,652	9,240,866	(9,240,866)	-	-	63,652
DSIT Global Research Talent	20	-	-	-	-	20
DSIT Pump Priming	-	1,149,070	(1,149,070)	-	-	-
FCDO Education Research into Conflict & Crisis Grant	-	1,209,994	(1,209,994)	-	-	-
Leverhulme Trust	391,892	1,242,289	(1,046,461)	-	-	587,720
Wolfson Foundation	1,199,695	1,147,485	(1,302,674)	-	-	1,044,506
Wellcome Trust	1,540	697,948	(703,883)	-	-	(4,395)
Nuffield Foundation	3,628	227,366	(211,646)	-	-	19,348
Capital Building Project	6,828,788	1,471,298	(255,190)	-	-	8,044,896
CHT Property	743,167	-	(107,446)	-	-	635,721
Other	98,777	465,694	(339,927)	-	-	224,544
Total Restricted Non-investment Funds	**9,331,159**	**101,688,788**	**(100,405,408)**	**1,473**	**-**	**10,616,012**
Total restricted income funds	**10,601,534**	**102,104,724**	**(100,709,755)**	**1,473**	**-**	**11,997,976**

	Balance 1 April 2024 (£)	Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Transfers (£)	Net realised / unrealised gains (£)	Balance 31 March 2025 (£)
Unrestricted Funds						
General Funds - Academy	11,295,453	2,240,239	(2,381,993)	1,402,917	203,164	12,759,780
General Funds - Trading Subsidiary	(378,625)	1,796,384	(2,300,220)	-	-	(882,461)
Designated funds - Academy and Group						
Academy Development Fund (ADF)	1,404,984	-	(594)	(1,404,390)	-	-
Property - ADF	90,931	-	(14,094)	-	-	76,837
BEIS / DSIT Carlton House Terrace	13,328,000	-	(112,000)	-	-	13,216,000
Research Fund	6,701	12,077	(6,370)	-	-	12,408
External Redecoration, Repairs & Maintenance	250,000	-	-	-	-	250,000
Total designated funds	**15,080,616**	**12,077**	**(133,058)**	**(1,404,390)**	**-**	**13,555,245**
Total unrestricted funds - Academy	**26,376,069**	**2,252,316**	**(2,515,051)**	**(1,473)**	**203,164**	**26,315,025**
Total unrestricted funds - Group	**25,997,444**	**4,048,700**	**(4,815,271)**	**(1,473)**	**203,164**	**25,432,564**
Total funds - Academy	**47,735,342**	**104,357,511**	**(103,225,781)**	**-**	**418,553**	**49,285,625**
Total funds - Group	**47,356,717**	**106,153,895**	**(105,526,001)**	**-**	**418,553**	**48,403,164**

18. Net movement in funds (Continued)

Endowment funds

Permanent endowment funds represent capital funds which must be held permanently by the Academy. The purposes for which the income generated by these assets is to be applied are shown below:

Rose Mary Crawshay Fund: For historical or critical work of sufficient value on any subject connected with English Literature.

Edward Ullendorff Fund: For awarding achievement in the field of Semitic and Ethiopian languages and culture.

Webster Fund: For entertaining and representation overseas, and the better administration of the Academy

Expendable endowment funds represent capital funds which Trustees have the power to convert into income funds if there is a requirement to spend or apply the capital. The purposes for which the income generated by these assets is to be applied are shown for the funds below:

Elisabeth Barker Fund: Supports studies in recent European history, particularly the history of central and eastern Europe.

Neil Ker Fund: Supports the promotion of the study of Western medieval manuscripts, in particular those of British interest.

Leopold Schweich Fund: Funds lectures, and their publication, on subjects relating to the archaeology, art, history, languages and literature of Ancient Civilisation with reference to Biblical Study.

Stenton Fund: Supports three undertakings: Syllogue of Coins of the British Isles, the Seldon Society, and the Pipe Roll Society.

Albert Reckitt Fund: Funds annual awards for the exploration and excavation of ancient sites and the preservation and exhibition of objects discovered, and the publication of results.

Stein Arnold Fund: Funds research on the antiquities, historical geography, early history or arts in parts of Asia.

Thank Offering to Britain Fund: Funds the equivalent of a Senior Research Fellowship.

S T Lee Fund: Funds a visiting fellowship on a topic related to the humanities or social sciences.

Marc Fitch Fund: To further research in any area of humanities or social sciences and also fund fellowship allowing postdoctoral scholars to have three years to work on a major programme of research and gain teaching experience.

Other restricted funds comprise monies received to fund separate restricted projects and activities such as research grants, lectures and prizes in line with our charitable activities and are held as separate individual funds in our accounts.

Restricted income funds

Investment funds are those funds arising from income generated through investment of endowment funds. These funds are applied for the intended restricted purposes.

Non-investment funds are those arising from grants made by government, research foundations, philanthropic societies and funds supporting other activities:

DSIT Grant: provides core funding for the Academy's main activities, including developing UK Research and Innovation talent at different career stages through various fellowships, professorships and other schemes; funding of research to help address the most pressing issues facing the UK and society; supporting the UK's R&D system through provision of networks and other opportunities for collaboration; supporting UK international strategic leadership and collaboration; using the Academy's expertise to provide advice and inform the shaping of public policy; supporting public engagement to inspire study in the Academy's disciplines; and supporting inclusivity through promotion of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion principles.

DSIT International Science Partnership: provides funding for international writing workshops, research grants and fellowships under the themes of 'Tomorrow's Talent', 'Resilient Plant', 'Transformative Technologies', and 'Healthy People, Animals and Plants'.

DSIT Global Challenges Research: provides funding for Researchers at Risk fellowships, including through cooperation with CARA (the Council for At-Risk Academics). It also provides funding to enable the delivery of programmes that have closed to new applications, including the Early Childhood Development programme to transform life chances of children in developing countries, the Heritage Dignity & Violence programme researching sustainable peace and the prevention of violence, and research into sustainable development in developing countries.

DSIT Global Research Talent Programme: provides awards to overseas researchers active at any career stage and in any discipline within the humanities and social sciences. These awards demonstrate the British Academy's profound commitment to international engagement and aim to strengthen the UK's research base in the humanities and social sciences.

DSIT Pump Priming: this funding enables the award of small grants to support organisations in preparing applications for funding to Horizon Europe.

FCDO Education Research into Conflict & Crisis: this programme is a knowledge system strengthening initiative in target regions that will support bilateral research chairs amongst other activities.

Leverhulme Trust: Funds ten awards which allow established scholars to undertake or complete programmes of sustained research for the duration of one year and supports small research grants in the humanities and social sciences.

Wolfson Foundation: Funds five Research Professorship awards over a three-year period and also up to six awards over a three year period to support early career researchers who show exceptional talent in both research and public engagements.

Wellcome: represents activity to support the Academy's small research grant scheme in the humanities and social sciences, conference grants and workshops.

Nuffield Foundation: represents funding to assist with the Researchers at Risk Fellowship programme.

Future of the Corporation Programme: represents activity funded by individuals and trusts to address the purpose of business and what its role in society should be.

Capital Building Project: represents the transformation of the basement and mezzanine floors of the Academy at 10-11 Carlton House Terrace into an intellectual hub, complete with auditorium, exhibition and networking space and media suite.

CHT property: The Academy received capital grants from BEIS and the Wolfson Foundation to fund the expansion and refurbishment of the Academy at 10-11 Carlton House Terrace.

The Aurelius Trust: The Academy received a grant from the Aurelius Trust to fund activities which advance the education of the public in the arts and humanities and preserve for the benefit of the public lands and buildings of beauty or historic interest and furniture, pictures and chattels of any description having national and historic or artistic interest.

Other non-investment funds: Funds to support a few small awards for research, publication and education related to the promotion of the humanities and social sciences.

Unrestricted funds

General Fund: A general purpose fund providing liquidity and contingency funds in the event of a significant shortfall in core funding.

Designated funds have been set aside for the following purposes:

Academy Development Fund: A fund to provide the delivery of new impactful charitable activities and funding of major projects, to strengthen the Academy for the longer term. This fund was designated to cover any shortfall in funding for the Building Transformation Project; following completion of the project in Autumn 2024 the remaining balance has been transferred back to general funds while the Academy considers future activities.

Academy Development Fund-Property: This fund reflects the contribution that the Academy Development Fund made towards the expansion and refurbishment of the Academy during the 10-11 Carlton House Terrace project in 2011.

BEIS / DSIT Carlton House Terrace: The balance represents the net book value of the lease premium paid in respect of the 125 year lease on the Academy's premises at 10-11 Carlton House Terrace. The grant for this fund was initially treated as restricted due to its sole purpose being to secure the new lease. It was then transferred to designated funds once the condition was fulfilled by committing to the new lease.

Research Fund: To assist the Academy's Small Research Grants scheme by providing one new award each year.

Ford Foundation: The donation received from the Ford Foundation has been designated to support the British Academy Book Prize for two years.

125th Anniversary Campaign: This fund has been established for the Academy's 125th Anniversary project. The work from the project will increase awareness and positive sentiment about and towards the Academy and its disciplines.

External redecoration, repairs and maintenance fund: To cover certain repairs and maintenance relating to the building, plus also sufficient funds to enable the Academy to comply with its obligation, under its lease with the Crown Estate, to redecorate the exterior of its building. Under the new lease this is to be carried out every five years beginning in 2019. The cost of this is now being treated as an accrual within the accounts as opposed to a transfer of reserves.

Transfers of Funds: £372 was transferred from unrestricted funds to restricted funds to cover the shortfall in DSIT funding for support costs not covered by the DSIT main grant.

19. Net asset funds

	Fixed assets (£)	Investments (£)	Net current assets (£)	Long term liabilities (£)	2026 Total assets (£)
Endowment	-	12,031,638	74,281	-	12,105,919
Restricted	7,984,173	-	5,558,802	-	13,542,975
Unrestricted	17,638,108	9,417,377	(307,242)	-	26,748,243
	25,622,281	**21,449,015**	**5,325,841**	**-**	**52,397,137**

The net liabilities within unrestricted funds are funded by investments, which could be realised to meet the net liabilities, should they fall due.

Net asset funds Prior year comparative

	Fixed assets (£)	Investments (£)	Net current assets (£)	Long term liabilities (£)	2025 Total assets (£)
Endowment	-	10,972,624	-	-	10,972,624
Restricted	8,601,997	-	3,395,979	-	11,997,976
Unrestricted	18,054,851	10,299,770	(2,957,828)	-	25,396,793
	26,656,848	**21,272,394**	**438,151**	**-**	**48,367,393**

20. Pension scheme

General description of the pension scheme

The Academy participates in the Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London (SAUL), which is a centralised defined benefit scheme within the United Kingdom and contracted out of the Second State Pension (prior to April 2016). SAUL is an independently managed pension scheme for the non-academic staff of over 50 colleges and institutions with links to higher education.

Pension benefits accrued within SAUL currently build up on a Career Average Revalued Earnings ("CARE") basis. Following a consultation with Members, the SAUL Final Salary section closed from 31 March 2016 and all members build up benefits on a CARE basis from 1 April 2016.

The Academy is not expected to be liable to SAUL for any other current participating employer's obligations under the Rules of SAUL, but in the event of an insolvency of any participating employer within SAUL, an amount of any pension shortfall (which cannot otherwise be recovered) in respect of that employer, may be spread across the remaining employers and reflected in the next actuarial valuation.

Funding policy

SAUL'S statutory funding objective is to have sufficient and appropriate assets to meet the costs incurred by the Trustee in paying SAUL's benefits as they fall due (the "Technical Provisions"). The Trustee adopts assumptions which, taken as a whole, are intended to be sufficiently prudent for pensions and benefits already in payment to continue to be paid and for the commitments which arise from Members' accrued pension rights to be met.

The Technical Provisions assumptions included appropriate margins to allow for the possibility of events turning out worse than expected. However, the funding method and assumptions do not completely remove the risk that the Technical Provisions could be insufficient to provide benefits in the future.

A formal actuarial valuation of SAUL is carried out every three years by a professionally qualified and independent actuary. The last actuarial valuation was carried out with an effective date of 31 March 2023. Informal reviews of SAUL's position, reflecting changes in market conditions, cash flow information and new accrual of benefits, are carried out between formal valuations.

The funding principles were agreed by the Trustee and employers in June 2024 and will be reviewed again at SAUL's next formal valuation in 2026.

At the 31 March 2023 valuation SAUL was 105% funded on its Technical Provisions basis. As SAUL was in surplus on its Technical Provisions basis, no deficit contributions were required. The Trustee and the Employers have agreed that the ongoing Employer's contributions will fall from a rate of 21% of CARE Salaries to 19% of CARE Salaries from 1 September 2024.

Accounting Policy

The Academy is a Participating Employer in SAUL. The actuarial valuation applies to SAUL as a whole and does not identify surpluses or deficits applicable to individual employers.

As a whole, the market value of SAUL's assets at 31 March 2023 was £3,096 million representing 105% of the liabilities.

It is not possible to identify an individual Employer's share of the underlying assets and liabilities of SAUL. The Academy accounts for its participation in SAUL as if it were a defined contribution scheme and pension costs are based on the amounts actually paid (i.e. cash amounts) in accordance with paragraphs 28.11 of FRS 102.

As there was a Technical Provisions surplus at 31 March 2023, no deficit contributions were required following the 2023 valuation and there is no defined benefit liability (i.e. the present value of any deficit contributions due to SAUL) to be recognised by the Academy.

21. Leases and other commitments

The Academy had the following operating lease commitments as at the balance sheet date:

	Land & buildings	Equipment	2026 Total (£)	Land & buildings	Equipment	2025 Total (£)
Not later than 1 year	784,965	15,950	**800,915**	784,965	15,600	**800,565**
Later than 1 year but not later than 5 years	3,139,860	23,925	**3,163,785**	3,139,860	38,999	**3,178,859**
Later than 5 years	87,916,080	-	**87,916,080**	88,701,045	-	**88,701,045**

The Academy is committed to a 125 year long leasehold, 117 years remaining, for its premises 10-11 Carlton House Terrace with an annual rent of £784,965 (rent revised 25 March 2023).

The lease premium paid at the completion date of the lease is being written down over the useful economic life of the lease.

The Academy has commitments totalling £100,189 (2025: £114,360) in respect of work in progress on publications.

22. Related party transactions

Other than payments to key management personnel and reimbursement of expenses to Council members elsewhere disclosed, there are no related party transactions requiring disclosure for the current financial year (2025: none).

Philanthropy

Our friends and supporters

In 2025-2026, the British Academy, raised £6.1m in philanthropic income (+24% versus 2024/25), which compliments funding provided by the UK Government and income generated by our trading company, Clio Enterprises.

We continue to work together with our largest private funders: the Wolfson Foundation, the Leverhulme Trust and Wellcome. Together, they generously support a range of programmes including research awards across career stages, the Early Career Researcher Network and the Academic Conference Programme. Together this expands the reach and impact of the humanities and social sciences.

Private funding (including endowed funds) this year has enabled the following new awards:

- 185 British Academy / Leverhulme Small Research Grants
- 29 British Academy / Cara / Leverhulme Researchers at Risk Research Support Grants
- 11 British Academy / Leverhulme Senior Research Fellowships
- 8 British Academy / Wellcome funded Conferences

The Academy would like to express its deepest gratitude to the organisations, individuals and Fellows who have donated or left legacies to the Academy over the past year. We would also like to recognise donors who wish to remain anonymous.

With particular thanks to:

Aurelius Charitable Trust

Arts and Humanities Alliance

British Accounting & Finance Association

Cambridge University Press

Ford Foundation

Hawthornden Foundation

Honor Frost Foundation

John Wiley & Sons

Journal of Moral Education Trust

Leverhulme Trust

Sino-British Fellowship Trust

S. T. Lee Foundation

Society for the Advancement of Management Studies

Wellcome

Wolfson Foundation

The British Academy
10–11 Carlton House Terrace,
London SW1Y 5AH

thebritishacademy.ac.uk
Registered charity no. 233176

Published 2026