



OLIVE ACADEMIES
FOUNDATION

STRATEGY
2025-2029

Welcome from our Chair



Olive Academies Foundation (OA Foundation) is an independent charity. Our vision for the OA Foundation is to enable the children and young people who

attend the academies within the Olive Academies (OA) Trust to thrive through participation in extra curricular projects and experiences that extend their engagement in learning.

The OA Foundation fundraises and works with partners, so Olive Academies' students can take part in enrichment programmes with the aim to inspire them and support their families. The impact on young people includes:

- ◆ increased resilience;
- ◆ improved employability;

- ◆ exposure to new experiences and the motivation to pursue opportunities; and
- ◆ increased cultural capital.

Our focus is on Venture Beyond: ambitious, extended activities for students with residential elements, that benefit their wellbeing and learning.

Academies receiving grants have developed:

- a student-led wellbeing garden,
- their own innovative Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award programme tailored for AP, and,
- a programme of skiing skills culminating in a week skiing in Europe.

The OA Foundation's core objective is to raise funds, that benefit marginalised young people, which can be redistributed, via successful grant applications, to OA academies.

As a charity, values are important and underpin the approach to fundraising and the programmes we support. Our values are determination, conviction, ambition, and reflection, in line with OA Trust.



These feed into the following underlying principles for how we carry out our charitable work:

- Each OA academy contributes to, as well as benefits from, the OA Foundation.
- **OA pupils contribute to Venture Beyond, including through their own small fundraising endeavours and volunteering.**
- Funds raised by the OA Foundation will directly improve the lives of disadvantaged young people attending OA academies and we will limit the administration overheads.
- **Our lasting impacts will be as a result of funding activities that enhance and extend the day-to-day work of OA academies.**



Glyn Clark, Chair of OA Foundation

About Olive Academies Trust

Olive Academies is a not-for-profit multi-academy trust established in 2013, specialising in alternative provision (AP). Its pioneering network of AP academies support children and young people aged between 7 and 16 who have experienced difficulty in learning at mainstream schools for a variety of reasons. The OA Trust also offers outreach support to pupils in mainstream schools who are at risk of exclusion. Olive Academies' mission is to provide pupils with creative, nurturing, and inspiring learning opportunities which re-engage them and transform their lives.



These photos showcase incredible projects our young people have been involved in, thanks to our generous funding. These opportunities have significantly enriched their life experiences.

Strategic priorities for our development

1. **Making a difference:** funding for impactful programmes designed and managed by OA academies, such as Venture Beyond residentials and enrichment activities open to any OA pupils.
2. **Growing partnerships:** building relationships with our donors and with partner organisations, including establishing a stronger presence in our academies' local areas.
3. **Sustainable governance and operations:** establishing our structures and Board with robust arrangements and operations as an independent partner of OA Trust.
4. **Fundraising for local growth:** Work within our local communities to increase awareness of the work of OA Foundation, building a group of supporters among local employers and companies that take part in fundraising activities and offer opportunities that benefit OA children and their families.

The Detail

1. Making a difference

- Promote ideas for ambitious and innovative residential enrichment projects from among OAT academies.
- Run successful annual rounds of grant applications for OAT academies for suitable and ambitious projects that benefit children and young people.
- Promote robust approaches to the evaluation of Venture Beyond programmes and thorough reporting of funded projects and activities, including the cross-fertilisation of ideas across OA Trust.
- Use our webpages, social media, and case studies to celebrate and highlight the successes of Venture Beyond activities, and their impact on children and young people.

2. Growing partnerships

- Seek to grow and/or join local partnerships with others in the children's charity sector for shared benefit.
- Further develop the partnership with OA academies, including through link staff, local events and celebrations.
- Improve outcomes and life opportunities for children and young people attending OA alternative provision.
- Communicate regularly with a core group of donors

3. Sustainable governance and operations

- Continue to develop the governance capabilities of the Board and recruit

trustees with three being the minimum and five being the maximum.

- Develop capacity within the OA Foundation to support operations and events, hand-in-hand with growth in funds raised.
- Ensure the OA Foundation develops in alignment with the growth strategy for OA Trust, which includes diversification into independent specialist provision, new geographical areas and commissioned services.

4. Fundraising for local growth

- Establish our annual calendar of fundraising events and activities, and have the Board review their effectiveness regularly.
- Regularly scrutinise the grant-making bodies and potential external funding opportunities, aiming to increase income from successful applications for the benefit of Olive Academies' pupils and their families.
- Closely partner with Olive AP Academies to increase the local awareness of the work of the OA Foundation. As a result, expand the options for local support, contributions and opportunities, such as in-kind donations and placements for students, in line with OA Foundation's aims.