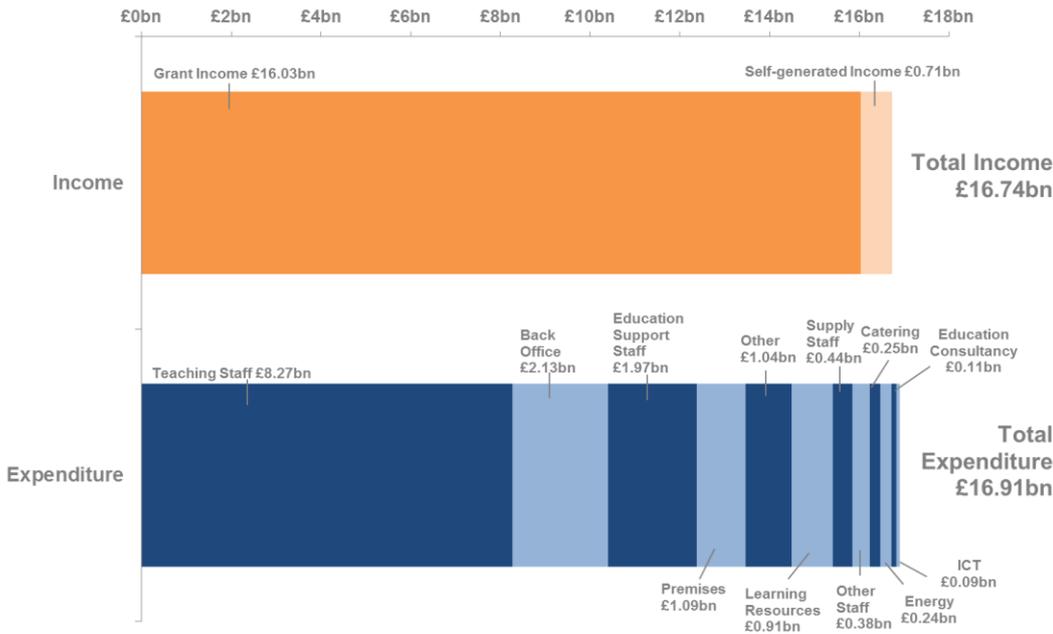




SFR 27/2016, 28 July 2016

Total expenditure marginally exceeded income in 2014/15

Total Income and expenditure by item, 2014/15



In the year ending August 2015, the total revenue expenditure in academies exceeded income by £171m. This represents 1.0% of income.

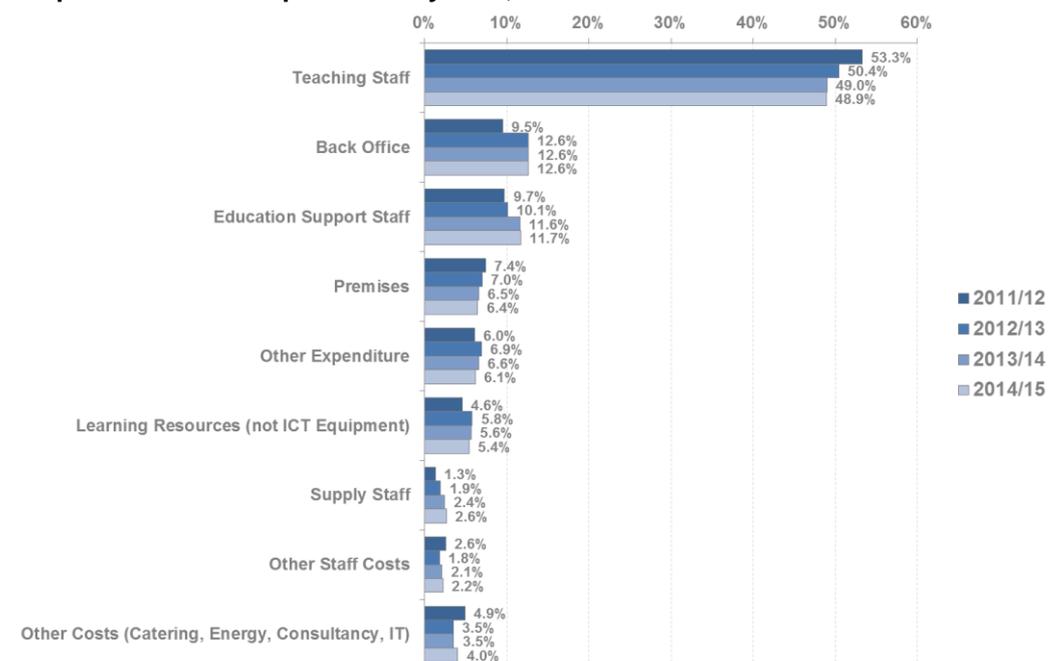
However, this does not mean that academies are in debt, as they may have had reserve funds from which these costs were able to be met.

Proportionally, expenditure on teaching staff has slightly fallen since 2011/12

Expenditure on teaching staff as a proportion of total expenditure has fallen by 4.4ppts since 2011/12 when the data were first collected. However, it fell only marginally (by 0.1ppts) since 2013/14.

This fall has been offset by increases in the proportion of expenditure on back office functions, education support staff and supply staff, although again much of this change occurred between 2011/12 and 2012/13.

Proportion of total expenditure by item, 2011/12 to 2014/15



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About this release

This SFR contains information on the income and expenditure in academies in England. We use data from the Benchmarking section of the 2014/15 Accounts Returns, completed by each academy trust for the period ending 31 August 2015 (generally the academic year September 2014 to August 2015).

Unless specifically stated, the term 'academies' is used in this release as a catch-all term for all types of academies, including Free Schools, Studio Schools, University Technical Colleges and alternative provision academies and free schools.

In this publication

This SFR includes a full breakdown of income and expenditure for each academy and academy trust in England which submitted an accounts return for the year ending 31 August 2015.

The accompanying quality and methodology information document, provides information on the data sources, their coverage and quality and explains the methodology used in producing the data.

Feedback

We are changing how our releases look and welcome feedback on any aspect of this document at afb.benchmarking@education.gsi.gov.uk

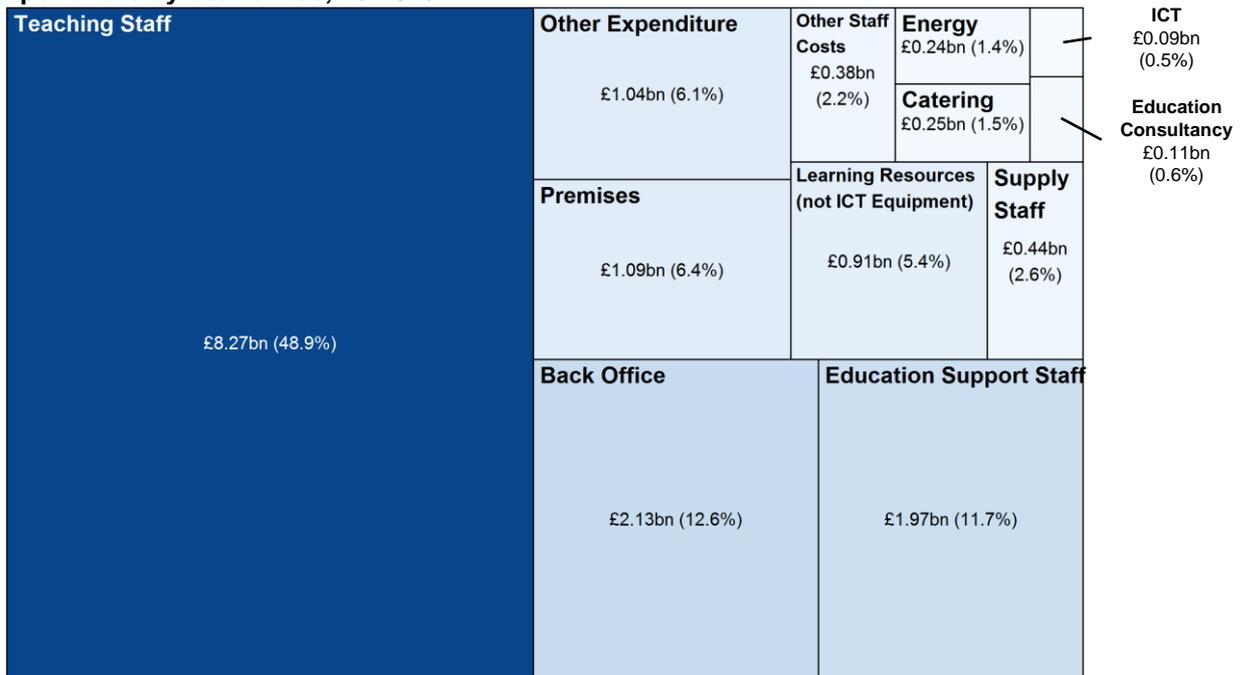
1. Income and expenditure in 2014/15

The total income for academies during 2014/15 was £16.74 billion. The vast majority (95.8%) was from grant funding, with the remainder being generated by academies themselves. Academies spent a total of £16.91 billion during 2014/15. Almost half of this (48.9%) was on teaching staff, with significant expenditures on back office functions (12.6%) and education support staff (11.7%).

Other significant but smaller expenditure components were those on premises (6.4%) and non-ICT learning resources (5.4%). Supply staff and other staff costs made up 2.6% and 2.2% of total expenditure respectively.

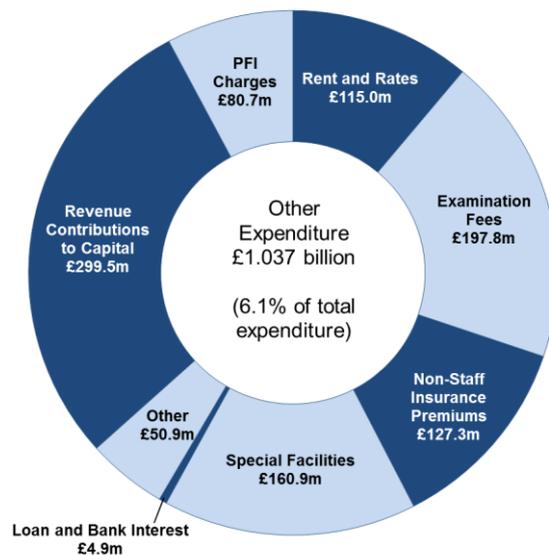
The full breakdown of academy expenditures is given in figure 1.1 below.

Figure 1.1: Expenditure by academies, 2014/15



'Other' expenditure accounted for 6.1% of total expenditure. A breakdown of how this is made up is given in figure 1.2 below.

Figure 1.2: 'Other' expenditure in academies, 2014/15



More than half of single academy trusts (1164 of 2195) are recorded as having spent more than their income in 2014/15, and similarly with multi academy trusts (363 of 691 trusts). This does not mean that these academies or trusts are in debt, as they may have reserve funds through which these costs were met.

2. Comparisons with previous years

Median income and expenditure

With the number of academies growing each year, and to avoid outliers skewing the figures, the fairest way to compare overall academy income and expenditure year on year is on a per pupil basis using median figures.

Table 2.1 shows that the median income and expenditure has been slowly increasing in primary academies, while slowly decreasing in secondary academies

Table 2.1: Median income and expenditure per pupil by school type

Single academy trusts open for the whole academic year, 2011/12-2014/2015. Figures are not adjusted for inflation.

Type of School	Year	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Primary Academies	Number of Schools	224	477	703	809
	Median income per pupil	£4,713	£4,609	£4,671	£4,789
	Median expenditure per pupil	£4,372	£4,643	£4,612	£4,773
Secondary Academies with KS4	Number of Schools	774	1,025	1,109	1,032
	Median income per pupil	£6,340	£5,855	£5,872	£5,735
	Median expenditure per pupil	£6,061	£5,807	£5,896	£5,833
Special Academies	Number of Schools	11	40	55	68
	Median income per pupil	£23,000	£23,371	£23,205	£22,187
	Median expenditure per pupil	£20,718	£22,854	£22,952	£21,932
All Through Academies	Number of Schools	-	-	42	52
	Median income per pupil	-	-	£6,955	£6,373
	Median expenditure per pupil	-	-	£7,015	£6,492

Why haven't Multi-academy trusts been included in table 2.1?

Multi academy trusts (MATs) supply their financial data to the department at a whole trust level. Although individual academies do provide breakdowns of their own income and expenditure there are certain items which are managed at trust level and cannot be split between individual academies. Because we cannot split these costs between individual schools, we cannot accurately compare schools within MATs either to single academy trusts or by school phase or type. We have therefore not included schools within MATs in the above table.

Changing patterns of expenditure

Expenditure on teaching staff has fallen by 4.4ppts since 2011/12 when the data were first collected. However, it fell only marginally (by 0.1ppts) between 2013/14 and 2014/15, and remains the largest expenditure at 48.9% of all expenditure by academies.

The longer term fall has been offset by increases in the proportion of expenditure on back office functions, education support staff and supply staff, although much of this change occurred between 2011/12 and 2012/13, where back office expenditure rose from 9.5% to 12.6% of all expenditure.

3. Further information is available

School level information is available in the main tables of this publication. For academies which were open for the whole of the 2014/15 academic year this is given both as raw income and expenditure and in per pupil terms.

Information for academies for years from 2010/11 to 2013/14 is available from the [local authority and school finance statistics page](#) on GOV.uk, in the 'Academy spending' section.

Comparisons between expenditure per pupil in the UK (at all types of schools) and other European countries can be found in the [OECD's 'Education at a glance'](#) reports.

4. Experimental Statistics

Experimental statistics are new official statistics that are undergoing evaluation. These statistics are being published as experimental statistics in order to involve users and stakeholders in their development and as a means to further improve the quality of the data in the future. This publication forms part of the Government's data transparency agenda.

These data have been marked as experimental statistics largely due to the rapid increase in the number of academies and free schools open. In January 2015 there were approximately 4,700 open academies, as opposed to approximately 3,800 in January 2014. This jump means there are many academies filling in the benchmarking return for the first time. We are reviewing the quality of this data to help improve future collections.

The Department has a set of [statistical policies](#) in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

5. Technical information

A quality and methodology information document accompanies this SFR. This provides further information on the data sources, their coverage and quality and explains the methodology used in producing the data, including how it is validated and processed.

6. Get in touch

Media enquiries

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Department for Education

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