

Ekota Academy Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report

Year Ended 31 January 2025

1. Reference and Administration

Name: Ekota Academy Ltd

Charity Number: 1196108

Company Number: 09940764

Registered Office: Aberdour Road, Goodmayes, Ilford, Essex IG3 9SP

Website: www.ekotaacademy.com

Contact Email / Telephone: contact@ekotaacademy.com, 020 8599 9383

Trustees / Directors: Shamima Akther CHOWDHURY, Sharmin BEGUM, Sayra RAHMAN, Sultana RAHMAN

Independent Examiner / Auditor: RK Accountants Ltd

2. Structure, Governance and Management

a. Governing Document & Objectives

Ekota Academy Ltd is a charitable company limited by guarantee. It is governed by its Articles of Association, which set out the purposes, powers, and the way the charity is to be administered.

The objects of Ekota Academy are to promote health, education, physical welfare, and community cohesion, particularly through sports, wellbeing, youth leadership, and community development, primarily in the local catchment area of London Borough of Redbridge & Barking & Dagenham, and surrounding communities.

b. Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The trustees are recruited through advertisement, nomination, and member vote. They receive induction and ongoing training.

Trustees meet quarterly to review strategy, governance, and oversight of operations.

c. Organisational Structure & Management

Day-to-day operations are carried out by a management team/staff/contractors/sessional staff and guided by the trustees. The Academy runs multiple programmes such as sports sessions, holiday camps, community/wellbeing initiatives, volunteer engagement, and partnership working.

Volunteers play a key role in delivering many activities; they are recruited, DBS-checked, and given training and support.

3. Charitable Purposes and Public Benefit

a. Charitable Objectives & Activities

During the year to 31 January 2025, Ekota Academy continued to deliver a range of programmes aligned with its mission:

- **Sports & Physical Activity Programmes:** Football, cricket, cycling, and multisport sessions aimed at children and youth.
- **Holiday Camps:** Multi-activity camps during school holidays, offering children a safe, active, and enriching environment.
- **Community & Wellbeing Initiatives:** Wellness sessions, community projects, mental health support through movement and social connection.
- **Youth Leadership & Empowerment:** Programs to build confidence, leadership, mentoring, and skills among local youth.
- **Partnerships:** Collaboration with local bodies, volunteers, and community stakeholders to extend reach and impact.

These activities benefit the public by providing accessible, structured, healthy opportunities for children, youth, and community members, promoting physical and mental wellbeing, social inclusion, education, and community cohesion.

b. Public Benefit

Ekota Academy ensures that benefits are delivered in a way that is accessible to all, regardless of background, and aims to reduce barriers to participation (e.g. cost, location). The trustees confirm that they have considered the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance, and that all activities are in furtherance of Ekota's charitable aims.

4. Achievements and Performance

Key Achievements During the Year

- Expanded and maintained **holiday camps**, delivered mayor of London's VRU programme over the summer with high uptake and positive feedback from participants and parents at Ekota Hub, Goodmayes Park. The summer programme was launched by a visit from Mayor of London himself Sadiq Khan, accompanied by sports celebrities and Tv personalities such as Professor Green etc.
- Renovated a new **youth and community space**, naming it **Ekota Hub at Goodmayes Park Pavillion**.

- and **sports programmes** at Goodmayes park, offering structured and inclusive sessions (e.g. football, cricket, cycling) that engaged children who otherwise might not have access. We hosted **Cricket One Hundred**, launching it at Goodmayes Park, working closely in partnership with Vision Redbridge and ECB attended by celebrities such as Katie Piper.
- Launched pilot **wellbeing/community projects**, learn to cycle, women-only yoga/fitness sessions, helping to address mental health, social isolation, and offering safe community spaces.
- Attracted new **volunteers and community support**, increasing capacity and engagement across programmes with 20 active volunteers.
- Sustained or improved partnerships, visibility, and reputation, being recognised for social impact, acknowledged by the Leader of the council, MP Atwal, and local councillors. Ekota is a proud **recipient of the King's Award** for Voluntary Service and **ECB Grassroots Awards**.

Monitoring & Impact

The trustees monitor performance via metrics such as participant numbers, feedback surveys, retention, volunteer hours, partnership outcomes, and community reach.

In year to 31 Jan 2025 we served

- 53670 beneficiaries through various programmes and activities:

Delivered the following sessions:

- **Cricket Sessions:** 590 sessions
- **Football Sessions:** 462 sessions
- **Badminton Sessions:** 90 sessions
- **Pilates Sessions:** 30 sessions
- **Wellbeing Sessions:** 1482 sessions
- **Kitchen Social:** 420 hot meals provided to the community
- **Education & Development Sessions:** 204 sessions
- **Summer Programme Sessions:** 589 sessions

The trustees regularly review performance in relation to objectives and adjust programmes accordingly.

5. Financial Review and Reserves Policy

a. Financial Summary

Income Overview

For the year ended 31 January 2025, the organisation received total incoming resources of **£295,279**, comprising **£258,825** in restricted grants and **£24,274** in unrestricted general funds and **£12,179** in other income.

The major funding sources were predominantly grant-based, reflecting strong support from a diverse range of institutions and foundations. Significant contributors included:

- **Compass Wellbeing** – £49,950
- **VRU Innovation Fund** – £42,314
- **Go London - GLA** – £24,270
- **Main Grant** – £21,319
- **Garfield Weston Foundation** – £15,000

Other notable grants came from **Five Rivers Child, The Hargreaves Foundation, EW Cricket Trust**, and **TNLCF - The Million ours Fund**, among others.

Unrestricted income was primarily from donations totalling **£24,274**, showing continued community support and general fundraising effectiveness.

Expenditure Overview

Total expenditure for the year amounted to **£224,884**, with the majority spent on core operational costs:

- **Wages, salaries, and NICs** – £24,300
- **Subcontracted services** – £103,430 where Free Launce Staff: £4200 and Youth worker: £27,137
- **Rent** – £32,465
- **Other legal and professional fees** – £13,375
- **Advertising and PR** – £12,707

Other expenditure categories included utilities, repairs and maintenance, travel, stationery, insurance, and miscellaneous operational costs.

The expenditure pattern demonstrates a strong focus on program delivery and staff support, with subcontracting representing the largest single cost, reflecting reliance on specialised services to achieve program objectives.

Income vs. Expenditure

For the year, the organisation achieved a surplus of **£70,395**, representing the excess of income over expenditure. When combined with the opening balances of **£55,381**, the total carried forward at 31 January 2025 was **£125,775**.

This indicates robust financial management and sustainability, ensuring that both restricted and unrestricted funds are effectively utilised while maintaining a healthy reserve for future activities.

Summary

Overall, the organisation maintained a strong financial position in 2024–25, supported by diverse grant income and community donations. Expenditures were carefully managed, emphasising program delivery and operational efficiency. The resulting surplus positions the organisation to continue its work with confidence into the next financial year.

b. Reserves Policy

The trustees believe it is prudent to maintain free reserves equivalent to **12 months** of operational expenditure, to provide a buffer against fluctuations in funding, ensure continuity of activities, cover unexpected costs and unexpected funding cuts. The policy is reviewed annually.

At the yearend (31 January 2025), the free reserves stood at £125,775, which is within the target level. The trustees have plans to build or maintain reserves through diversified funding, cost control, and prudent budgeting.

If there are restricted funds, the trustees ensure that they are used in accordance with donor/funder restrictions and clearly tracked in the Statement of Financial Activities and notes.

6. Risk Management

The trustees regularly review organizational risks and review operational, financial, reputational, and safeguarding risks. Key risks include funding uncertainty, volunteer retention, compliance (e.g. safeguarding, health & safety), and external changes (e.g. policy, venue). Mitigation strategies include diversified funding, regular reviews, training, strong governance, and contingency planning.

7. Plans for Future Periods

Plans include:

- Expanding outreach and youth programmes
- Developing wellbeing and mental health services
- Strengthening volunteer recruitment and training
- Improving data capture for impact measurement
- Securing new premises & long-term funding partnerships.

8. Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Trustees are responsible under the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 for preparing accounts, maintaining records, and safeguarding assets.

They ensure the accounts give a true and fair view of the charity's financial position.

9. Approval

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 16/05/2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Shamima Akther CHOWDHURY

Sayra RAHMAN

Sharmin BEGUM

Sultana RAHMAN

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA)- For the Year Ended 31 January 2025

	£ Restricted <u>Funds</u>	£ Unrestricted <u>Funds</u>	2025 £ <u>Total</u>	2024 £ <u>Total</u>
<u>Incoming Resources</u>				
Grants	258,824.50		258,824.50	78,609.50
Subscription		24,274.10	24,274.10	26,134.33
Misc Income		12,180.00	12,180.00	
Balance as at 31/01/2024	258,824.50	36,454.10	295,278.60	104,743.83
<u>Outgoing Resources</u>				
Staffing Costs	120,128.50	7,601.50	127,730.00	41,032.00
Management & Administration Costs	77,280.50	19,873.50	97,154.00	42,859.00
Direct Charitable Expenditure	-		-	-
Net Incoming/Outgoing Resources Before transfer	197,409.00	27,475.00	224,884.00	83,891.00
Gross Transfer Between Funds				
Net Incoming/Outgoing Resources after transfer	61,415.50	8,979.10	70,394.60	20,852.83
Balance Brought forward at 1st Feb 2024	41,536.00	13,845.00	55,380.00	34,529.00
Balance Carried forward at 31st March 2024	102,951.50	22,824.10	125,774.60	55,381.83

EKOTA ACADEMY LTD
 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

1.0' Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevance note(s) to these accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- . the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities and with preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by Charity Commission.

1.2 Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

2.0' Accounting policies

2.1 Income

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (soFA) when:

- . the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- . it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources;
- . the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.

Grants and Donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS 102 SORP).

In the case of performance related grants, income is only recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only c Page 1

performance related conditions are met (5.16 FRS 102 SORP).

2.2 Expenditures and Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

EKOTA ACADEMY LTD
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

2.3 Tangible assets

These are capitalised if they can be for more than one year, and cost at least.

They are valued at cost. The depreciation rates and methods used are disclosed below

Asset category

Fixtures and fittings

2.4 Debtors

Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

2.5 Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts.

3.0'	Independent examiner's fees	2025	2024
		£	£
	Accountancy	500.00	500.00
	Legal and professional	-	-
		<u>500.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>
4.0'	Staff costs	2025	2024
		£	£
	Salaries,wages and NICs	24,300.00	24,600.00
	Employer NIC	-	-
	Sessional Tutor's Fees	-	-
	Pensions	-	-
	Trainer's Fees	103,430.00	16,433.00
		<u>127,730.00</u>	<u>41,033.00</u>
5.0'	Average head count in the year		
	Charitable activities	5	5

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

EKOTA ACADEMY LTD
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

6.0'	Tangible Fixed Assets	2025 £	2024 £
	Cost		
	At 1 April 2023	11,102.00	11,102.00
	Additions	-	-
	At 31 March 2024	<u>11,102.00</u>	<u>11,102.00</u>
	Depreciation		
	At 1 April 2023	-	-
	Charge for the year	-	-
	At 31 March 2024	-	-
	Net book value	<u>11,102.00</u>	<u>11,102.00</u>
7.0'	Debtors	2025 £	2024 £
	Other debtors	4,384.00	1,089.00
		<u>4,384.00</u>	<u>1,089.00</u>
8.0'	Creditors	2025 £	2024 £
	Paye	869.00	367.00
	Accountancy	1,928.00	2,000.00
		<u>2,797.00</u>	<u>2,367.00</u>
9.0'	Reconciliation of funds:	2025 £	2024 £
	Total funds brought forward	55,380.00	34,529.00
	Net surplus/(deficit)	70,395.00	20,851.00
	Total funds carried forward	<u>125,775.00</u>	<u>55,380.00</u>

EKOTA ACADEMY LTD
DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

	£	£	2025 £	2024 £
INCOME	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
Grants:				
Barking and Dagenham	1,650.00	-	1,650.00	5,020.00
Bauer Radio's	2,160.00		2,160.00	-
CHARLES S FRENCH C	2,000.00		2,000.00	-
COMPASS WELLBEING ²	49,950.00		49,950.00	-
ECCC	3,870.00		3,870.00	-
EDUCATION ECOM	550.00		550.00	-
GARFIELD WESTON FO	15,000.00		15,000.00	-
GO LONDON - GLA	24,270.00		24,270.00	-
JACK PETCHEY FOUND ²	2,700.00		2,700.00	-
LIFELINE COMMUNITY	1,000.00		1,000.00	-
LONDON CATALYST	4,950.00		4,950.00	-
London Youth	11,300.00	-	11,300.00	7,750.00
EW Cricket Trust	10,000.00	-	10,000.00	8,700.00
LBTH Small Grants				
Groundwork London	1,996.00		1,996.00	7,919.00
MAYOR S F LONDON F	5,200.00		5,200.00	-
Vision Red Culture	4,387.00		4,387.00	6,771.00
VRU INNOVATION FUN ²	42,314.00		42,314.00	-
THE HARGREAVES FOU ²	15,100.00		15,100.00	-
Main Grant	21,319.35	-	21,319.35	16,062.00
ESC Lottery Fund	13,000.00		13,000.00	9,920.00
TNLCF - THE MILLIO BGC ²	15,438.15	-	15,438.15	4,467.00
SPORTED FOUNDATION ²	10,670.00		10,670.00	-
The London Marathon	-		-	10,000.00
The RCBS	-		-	2,000.00
Sub Toal : Income (Grants) Received:	258,824.50	-	258,824.50	78,609.00
General Funds - Other Income Received:				
Subscription	-	24,274.10	24,274.10	26,134.00
Wapping Youth Ltd	-	-	-	-
HMRC JRS Grant	-	-	-	-
Rental from premises		12,180.00	12,180.00	
Total Incoming Resources :	258,824.50	36,454.10	295,278.60	104,743.00

EXPENDITURES

Wages, salaries and NICs	21,870.00	2,430.00	24,300.00	24,600.00
Freelancer	98,258.50	5,171.50	103,430.00	16,433.00
Other Direct Cost	9,594.80	1,693.20	11,288.00	14,686.75
Travel & subsistence	481.10	84.90	566.00	402.75
Light & heat	6,843.20	1,710.80	8,554.00	7,049.25
Stationery and Printing	-	-	-	109.50
Insurance	330.00	110.00	440.00	432.00
Repair and maintenance	9,416.00	2,354.00	11,770.00	1,941.25
Bank Charge	23.25	7.75	31.00	-
Sundry expenses	5,185.10	272.90	5,458.00	1,309.50
Accountancy Fees	375.00	125.00	500.00	500.00
Rent	25,972.00	6,493.00	32,465.00	11,742.00
Bangla Youth Movement	-	-	-	-
Other Legal and professional fees	12,706.25	668.75	13,375.00	4,205.25
Advertising and PR	6,353.50	6,353.50	12,707.00	480.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	197,408.70	27,475.30	-	224,884.00
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025				
Excess of Income over Expenditure:	61,415.80	8,978.80	70,394.60	20,851.75
Balance Brought forward at 1st Feb 202	41,535.56	13,845.19	-	55,380.75
Balance Carried forward at 31st March :	102,951.36	22,823.99	-	125,775.35

EKOTA ACADEMY LTD
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 JANUARY 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	6	11,102.00	11,102.00
Intangible assets		11,200.00	11,200.00
Current assets			
Debtors	7	4,384.00	1,089.00
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>101,886.00</u>	<u>34,855.00</u>
		106,270.00	35,944.00
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>- 2,797.00</u>	<u>- 2,866.00</u>
		103,473.00	33,078.00
Net Assets		<u>125,775.00</u>	<u>55,380.00</u>
		2025 £	2024 £
Movement of funds			
Total funds brought forward	9	55,380.00	34,529.00
Net surplus/(deficit)		70,395.00	20,851.00
Net funds		<u>125,775.00</u>	<u>55,380.00</u>

We confirm that we have made available all relevant records, bills, vouchers, information and explanation for the preparation of the above balance sheet and the annexed Income and Expenditure Account of Ekota Academy Ltd and approve the financial statements as accurate account of the surplus of the income and also the correct state of the affairs of the charity as at 31st January 2025.

Approved by the Management Committee and signed on its behalf:

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Sultana Rahman
Trustee, Company Chair

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Sayra Rahman
Trustee, Company Secretary

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Sharmin Begum
Trustee, Treasurer

Shamima Akhtar Chowdhury
Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Management Committee of the
Ekota Academy Ltd for the Year Ended 31 January 2025**

We report to the Management Committee on our examination of the accounts of the above charity ("The Trust") for the year ended 31st January 2025 set out above.

Respective responsibilities of the Management Committee and Examiner

As the charity's Management Committee, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). They Consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

We report in respect of our examination of the trustee's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out our examination. We have followed all the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

We have completed our examination. We have confirmed that no material matters have come to our attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which gives us cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- * the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- * the accounts did not comply with applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair" view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

We have no concerns and have come across on other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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Prepared by
RK Accountants Ltd
Hall 3, The Whitechapel Centre
85 Myrdle Street
London, E1 1HQ