

## GENDER PAY GAP REPORTING 2026

### 1 INTRODUCTION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The Academy is required to publish its gender pay gap under the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017 in line with criteria set by the UK Government.

The six reportable metrics are:

- i. mean gender pay gap (average value)
- ii. median gender pay gap (middle value)
- iii. mean bonus payment gender pay gap
- iv. median bonus payment gender pay gap
- v. proportion of males and females receiving a bonus payment
- vi. proportion of males and females in each pay quartile band

### 2 WHAT IS THE GENDER PAY GAP

The gender pay gap looks at the difference in the mean and median pay, as an hourly rate, between male and female staff. It is not the same as equal pay. Equal pay comparisons look at the pay difference between male and female staff when performing work of equal value in the same or largely similar roles.

### 3 SCOPE OF THE REPORT

- The data for this exercise is taken from the Academy payroll covering the snapshot date of 31 March 2025.
- For staff working irregular hours, a twelve-week period preceding the snapshot date is used to identify average working hours.
- The data includes basic pay, London allowance, and other allowances where applicable.
- For the purposes of the calculations, a pay period of one month equates to 30.44 days.

### 4 RESULTS

The reported results are listed below for all full-pay relevant employees.

A percentage value of 0 indicates no gap, a positive percentage value favours male employees and a negative percentage value favours female employees.

#### i. Mean gender pay gap

Mean hourly rates of pay	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025
Male	£40.90	£37.88	£40.77	£42.80	£42.32	£43.96
Female	£33.94	£33.64	£34.28	£37.54	£37.10	£37.46
Mean gender pay gap	16%	11%	16%	12%	12%	14%

#### ii. Median gender pay gap

Median hourly rates of pay	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025
Male	£44.96	£40.25	£46.80	£47	£44	£52.66
Female	£40.24	£40.25	£40.04	£42.23	£40	£45.29
Median gender pay gap	10%	0%	14%	11%	9%	14%

iii. Mean bonus payment gender pay gap

Mean bonus payment	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025
Male	£214.29	£333.33	£0	£0	£0	£0
Female	£1,059.03	£0	£0	£0	£500	£0
Mean bonus payment gender pay gap	-394%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%

iv. Median bonus payment gender pay gap

Median bonus payment	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025
Male	£110	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Female	£937.50	£0	£0	£0	£500	£0
Median bonus payment gender pay gap*	-752%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

\* Bonus payments continue to be used infrequently, usually where a need exists to reward staff in recognition of one-off accomplishments over and above role requirements. The small number of payments may produce large statistical fluctuations.

v. Proportion receiving a bonus payment

Proportion receiving a bonus payment	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025
Male	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Female	1%	0%	0%	0%	0.6%	0%

vi. Proportion of males and females in each pay quartile

As at the snapshot date there were 600 Academy employees of whom 57% were male and 43% female.

Pay quartile	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025
Upper quartile						
Total	139	148	200	160	157	150
Male	98 (71%)	93 (63%)	132 (66%)	99 (62%)	103 (65%)	104 (69%)
Female	41 (29%)	55 (37%)	68 (34%)	61 (38%)	54 (35%)	46 (31%)
Upper middle quartile						
Total	140	127	180	159	157	150
Male	75 (54%)	63 (50%)	102 (57%)	95 (59%)	98 (62%)	93 (62%)
Female	65 (46%)	64 (50%)	78 (43%)	64 (41%)	59 (38%)	57 (38%)
Lower middle quartile						
Total	140	133	180	159	157	150
Male	67 (48%)	68 (51%)	85 (47%)	70 (44%)	77 (49%)	73 (49%)
Female	73 (52%)	65 (49%)	95 (53%)	89 (56%)	80 (51%)	77 (51%)
Lower quartile						
Total	139	137	181	160	156	150
Male	56 (40%)	62 (45%)	73 (40%)	67 (42%)	71 (46%)	73 (49%)
Female	83 (60%)	75 (55%)	108 (60%)	93 (58%)	85 (54%)	77 (51%)

5 THE HIGHER EDUCATION SECTOR AND WHOLE ECONOMY

The Universities & Colleges Employer Association (UCEA) reported the 2025 mean hourly gender pay gap in the HE sector in England as 11.5% and a median gender pay gap of 9.3%. For 2025 the

national average was reported as 12.8% and when GDPR reporting started in 2012 this was at 19.6%. *Source ONS ASHE.*

## 6 CONCLUSION

The headline gender pay gap analysis reports a mean gender pay gap of 14% which is an increase of 2% a median gender pay gap of 14% which is up from 9% the year before.

When looking at Academy gender pay by groups of workers, the following applies:

Proportion receiving a bonus payment	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025
Male	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Female	1%	0%	0%	0%	0.6%	0%

Professional services staff	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025
Mean gender pay gap	-13%	-16%	-8%	-2%	-6%	-1%
Median gender pay gap	-4%	-16%	2%	-16%	-19%	-2%

Senior Academy part-time hourly paid teaching staff	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025
Mean gender pay gap	9%	6%	4%	5%	6%	4%
Median gender pay gap	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Junior Academy part-time hourly paid teaching staff	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025
Mean gender pay gap	3%	3%	6%	0%	0%	0%
Median gender pay gap	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Teaching staff on associate and head of department contracts	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025
Mean gender pay gap	12%	5%	4%	4%	6%	9%
Median gender pay gap	10%	6%	-5%	0%	0%	14%

Senior Management Team	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025
Mean gender pay gap	39%	37%	44%	37%	36%	40%
Median gender pay gap	46%	43%	47%	40%	40%	47%

The teaching body consists of industry leading musicians with portfolio careers who demand a high degree of flexibility and part-time working. Flexible working options are commonplace and well received across the institution.

The Academy remains committed to paying men and women equally for work rated as equivalent through our job evaluation scheme and for work of equal value. The Academy's Gender pay gap has increased slightly over the last year, we attribute this to the recruitment of a higher number of male employees that replaced female leavers for no other reason than they were selected as the best candidates out of a pool of male and female applicants based on their skills having gone through a robust selection process.

The Academy remains committed to investing in its staff and to further addressing the gender pay gap. We anticipate that our recent pay benchmarking work will address some of the inconsistencies after we introduce our new pay and reward policy in May 2026.

7 HOW THE ACADEMY IS ADDRESSING THE GENDER PAY GAP

<b>What we have achieved so far</b>
We continue to use name-blind staff recruitment, to reduce the opportunity for unconscious bias from the recruitment and selection process, and monitor the gender balance of applications against appointments made to help identify potential points of unconscious bias.
We continue to have a transparent approach to advertising salaries.
We remain committed to fair and transparent job evaluation, using the Higher Education Role Analysis system. This determines the salary grades of Academy roles through an evidence-based, systematic approach.
We continue to be part of the UCEA network for the national negotiation of the annual cost of living pay award and are committed to progressing associated work on equality.
We offer a range of flexible working options to a greater number of staff, however for safeguarding reasons, teaching activity must be on-site.
We reviewed our enhanced maternity leave provision and encourage staff to return to work with a range of flexible working options, including part-time working, flexible work patterns, working from home and job shares.
We continue to offer a variety of leave options, including carers leave and special leave, to assist with retaining staff who may have family caring responsibilities outside of work, and which continues to disproportionately affect more women than men in the UK.
We continue to promote a healthy work-life balance, with one of the lowest number of hours in the sector for a full-time equivalent working week, helping to meet out our commitment to equality, diversity and family-friendly policies.
We continue to use Equality Impact Assessments to identify and eradicate potential issues in upcoming plans, policies and initiatives.
We closely monitor the gender pay gap via our governance structures and have implemented an integrated Human Resources and Payroll system, enabling greater management information analysis.
We continue to see an increase in the number women being appointed to management, Head of Department, Senior Management and governance roles.
We have conducted a pay rationalisation exercise, reducing the number of hourly rates for teaching staff across the institution.
We continue to provide Equality, Diversity & Inclusion training to all new and existing members of the Senior Management Team.
We have updated the Recruitment Policy providing further clarity around equality, diversity and inclusion, and in-person training was provided around these updates to all staff involved in recruitment.
The Belonging Committee continues to look at ways to promote female students and performers.

Ensuring there is no pay disparity when offering roles, especially where a male is covering maternity leave.

All staff are required to complete mandatory equality and diversity and unconscious bias training.

### **What we will be doing**

We shall continue to appoint all staff within the pay and grading structure and the new simplified hourly rates, linked to it.

We will continue to promote diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging training for all new and existing Academy staff, via collaborations with external organisations and through the online training system.

We will continue to monitor staff and student diversity by gender and all protected characteristics, via the Human Resources team and the Equality, Belonging Committee, taking steps to challenge discrimination, remove barriers to inclusion and promote equality throughout the Academy.

We will manage salaries for our PTHP teachers in line with our new hourly rate structure which we expect will have an impact going forward.

Following the pay and benefits project, we will be launching a new pay and grading structure, alongside an updated pay policy. These changes will provide greater transparency around pay and progression. As part of the transition to the new pay ranges, we will be addressing salaries that currently fall below market rates. A significant proportion of these salary adjustments will apply to female employees which we anticipate will redress the Gender Pay Gap.

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