

Social and Economic Benefits Report

Generated by the Family of Aldridge
Academies in Blackburn with
Darwen and Brighton & Hove



“It is not where you come from that matters, it is where you want to get to that counts. All young people, irrespective of their backgrounds, should experience both a skills-based and knowledge-based education and enriching experiences that equip and enable them to raise their aspirations, improve their academic outcomes and create the rewarding and productive lives they choose. Every young person deserves an equal chance at life.”

Sir Rod Aldridge OBE Founder & Chair, Aldridge Foundation

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Foreword

I became a sponsor of academies in 2006 under an initiative started by the Blair Labour Government. This academy programme was designed to improve the performance of a state school and involved transferring the school away from local authority control into a trust under the guidance of a sponsor.

I wanted to focus my philanthropic activity on bringing about a change in the life chances of young people particularly those who live in challenging communities. Central to achieving this change was to improve the standard of education they received which historically had not provided them with the skills and confidence to succeed in life. Being an academy sponsor provided a platform for me to start addressing this.

This journey started for me in Blackburn with Darwen closely followed by schools in my home town of Brighton & Hove, including the very school that I attended as an 11-year-old when I failed my 11 plus! Through the charity I set up, the Aldridge Foundation, we subsequently went on to develop a London cluster of academies based in Kensington & Chelsea and Haringey. Overall, we formed a family of nine academies and colleges in the north west of England, London and in the South

East, with a cricket academy and adult learning provision, and we are a founding partner of Ada, the National College for Digital Skills.

My aim was to change three things, all of which are inter-related: -

- **to improve the education provision received by students whilst also focusing on developing enterprising attributes to increase employability options and life chances**
- **to provide a standard of top-class facilities more akin to those found in the independent sector, and**
- **to use the power that a school has in a community to drive a change in the perception of an area both by residents and those outside the area who visit it.**

It was a big attraction for me that the academy scheme enabled funding to be unlocked from the Department of Education to either build new schools or to refurbish existing ones. In my career with Capita, involving the outsourcing of back office services, I saw the impact on staff who transferred to us when we enhanced the office environment we were asking them to work in.

Unlocking this capital funding ensured that students could study in first class accommodation with modern facilities for learning - a standard denied to many of them in the past. This created a sense of pride in where they came each day to learn and with this came the belief that things had changed for the better.

A school is a vital part of a community and I believe far more can be centred on it to benefit the surrounding community. So, we view each Aldridge academy and collage as an asset belonging to the local community as a whole. An asset that plays a leading part in the regeneration of each local area and drives social change in life styles and opportunities.

This year marks the 15th anniversary of the Aldridge Foundation. We felt it was timely to commission this independent report to examine, for the first time, the social and economic impact that our work in Blackburn with Darwen and Brighton has had on these communities as a whole. Impact that has derived from the unlocking of capital investment triggered by my family's involvement as an academy sponsor.

£102 million

of capital from Government to build new schools or to refurbish exiting ones.

c£870 million

£112 million in direct government grants to the academies which has resulted in community benefits of c£870 million.

The report shows how our philanthropic giving of £9.8 million in Blackburn with Darwen and Brighton has unlocked £102 million of capital from Government to build new schools or to refurbish exiting ones. This represents a leverage £10.41 for every £1.00 of the investment made.

Of even greater significance, the report confirms that this investment in education provision has created assets which between 2014/15 and 2018/2019 have received £112 million in direct government grants to the academies which has resulted in community benefits of c£870 million, a monetised benefit of £7.77 for every £1.00 invested.

As many of our academies have been opened longer than this period of 5 years, it suggests that if the annual average impact is applied to these additional years, the benefits of the academies in these two communities amount to £1.18 billion. The benefits will go on for decades as these academies will go on serving the educational needs for future generations.

In a macro sense, this report confirms that the investments made in the academy programme do not only result in the benefit of education, they also have a ripple impact on many other aspects of our lives.

But the greatest benefit of all has been, and continues to be, the positive impact that we have on the lives of our students who now believe that anything is possible.



Sir Rod Aldridge, OBE
Founder and Chairman
Aldridge Foundation

Executive Summary

The Aldridge Foundation and Aldridge Academies

In 2006 Sir Rod Aldridge established a charity known as the Aldridge Foundation with the aim of supporting social change and community regeneration driven by a focus on improving education standards available for young people. Central to this was his decision to build and develop a family of academies and colleges all based in challenging communities in the north west, inner London and the on the south coast and in inner London. All of the academies and schools are situated in some of the UK’s most deprived areas. These academies, colleges and schools were all run as standalone educational establishments until 2016 when they were brought together to be managed and governed through an umbrella multi-academy trust structure, Aldridge Education (MAT).

The family of Aldridge academies and schools all have a strong focus on personal development, enterprise (life and employability) skills and entrepreneurship (developing an entrepreneurial mindset). This focus is embodied in the Aldridge Attributes of problem-solving, creativity, risk-taking, determination, teamwork and passion. Students at the Academies are offered a wide range of enterprise programmes and enrichment activities to support their personal development.

Report Structure

This report analyses the economic and social impacts of the family of Aldridge academies in Blackburn with Darwen and Brighton & Hove. It describes the socio-economic contexts of the Academies' catchment areas and assesses the monetised impacts that they have had. It highlights where, and how, their impacts stretch beyond their central educational attainment remit, by upholding the central aim of the Aldridge Foundation of using education as a catalyst for positive change in local communities.

The Local Community Context

This study is based on the Foundation's experiences in the northwest around Blackburn with Darwen and on the south coast involving Brighton & Hove. These two areas have been selected because they represent where the journey for the Foundation, as an academy sponsor first started and, therefore, have the longest period available to evaluate the impact of the Foundation's work in both communities. The Aldridge Academies in Blackburn with Darwen and in Brighton & Hove are situated in some of the most deprived parts of England.

There are 21 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the combined wards of East Darwen, West Darwen and South Darwen. Over half of these (11) are ranked in the top 20% most deprived local areas in England and a quarter (5) 10% most deprived. Over half the students at Darwen Aldridge Enterprise Studio (53%) and Sudell Primary School (52%) and just under half (44%) of students at Darwen Vale High School are eligible for

free school meals¹. Darwen Aldridge Enterprise Studio (32.1%) and Sudell Primary school (33.7%) also have a high proportion of children with Special Education Needs. The proportion of children living in poverty is particularly high in Darwen East (36.1%) ward, in which Sudell Primary School is located. Darwen Aldridge Community Academy and Darwen Aldridge Enterprise Studio also have a significant intake from this ward.

Although Brighton & Hove is more affluent city than Blackburn with Darwen, the Aldridge Academies are located in the most deprived parts of the city. The Brighton Aldridge Community Academy's (BACA) catchment is to the east of the city, covering Moulsecoomb & Bevendean and parts of the East Brighton wards. Nine of the LSOAs in the catchment are amongst the top 20% most deprived local areas in England and four are within the 10% most deprived. The most widespread form of deprivation relates to education, skills and training, particularly amongst children and young people. Over half (57%) of BACA's student are eligible for free school meals; 29% receive Special Education Needs Support and a quarter of children in households in Moulsecoomb & Bevendean are living in poverty.

Portslade Aldridge Community Academy (PACA) is in the west of Brighton & Hove, with its catchment mainly drawn from South and North Portslade wards. Whilst deprivation is not as acute as in the east of the city, a third (31%) of students at the Academy are eligible for free school meals²; 16% receive Special Education Needs support and just under one in five children in households in two wards are living in poverty.

Socio-economic inequality and disadvantage have been firmly embedded in spatial areas throughout the country for generations. It is likely to take decades of complex social and economic policy interventions and sustained political ambition for there to be tangible and sustainable change. Ensuring that young people receive a high quality, relevant education is central to this, but in an increasingly mobile world, benefits to individuals may not always accrue to disadvantaged local economies. It is recognised that alongside academic learning, providing enterprise and employability skills can help improve careers and earning potential. Higher qualified, better skilled people are mobile and can more readily move away from areas where there are few opportunities, to areas where they are more plentiful.

Nevertheless, the availability of good quality education, from pre-school to university is an important inward investment consideration for businesses and the impacts of the Aldridge Academies also need to be considered within this context.

1. This refers to the proportion of pupils who have been eligible for Free School Meals at any time over the previous six years
 2. This refers to the proportion of pupils who have been eligible for Free School Meals at any time over the previous six years

Aldridge Academy Benefits

This independent report considers the capital investment, direct benefits, educational benefits, staff and supply chain spending benefits and community benefits of the investment by the Aldridge Foundation and the Government funding this investment unlocked in establishing the family of Aldridge academies and schools in Blackburn with Darwen and Brighton & Hove. It also assesses the direct and indirect employment benefits. Other changes, including house price rises and crime rate reductions have occurred in the Academy catchment areas, but they cannot be directly attributable to the Academies themselves.

The Aldridge Foundation has made a financial contribution of £9.8 million in Blackburn with Darwen and Brighton & Hove. This included a capital contribution of £2.5 million and £7.3 million towards cost needed to establish the academies and to drive transformation of the education provided to students.

This investment has unlocked a further £102.0 million of central government capital investment. Every £1.00 of investment made by the Aldridge Foundation, levered a further **£10.41** of national Government investment into deprived communities in Blackburn with Darwen and Brighton & Hove. The construction investment alone has supported the equivalent of 73 net sustainable jobs.



£9.8m

Aldridge Capital and Transformational Investment



£10.41

Every £1.00 of investment made by the Aldridge Foundation, levered a further **£10.41** of national Government investment

£102.0m

Government Capital Investment



73

Sustainable Construction Jobs

Monetised and Employment Benefits

£7.77

Every £1.00 of investment in the Aldridge academies has delivered monetised benefits of £7.77

£112 million

Direct Government Grants³

Economic Benefits	
Direct Benefits	£9.4m
Staff Spending Benefits	£92.3m
Supply Chain Benefits	£49.7m
Education Benefits	£597.3m
Community Benefits	£38.4m
Current Value of Assets	£83.9m

Total Benefits	£870.1m
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This report assesses the socio and economic impacts between 2014/15 and 2018/2019, the last year of stable academy data and performance information prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. In this period, central Government invested £112.0 million in direct government grants to Aldridge academies in Blackburn with Darwen and Brighton & Hove. This has resulted in benefits with a value of **£870.1 million**, including £597.3 million of educational benefits.

Every £1.00 of investment in the Aldridge academies in Blackburn with Darwen and Brighton & Hove has delivered monetised benefits of **£7.77**. The Aldridge Academies activities support **891 jobs** including 429 direct jobs and 462 in the wider economy.

Jobs Supported	
Direct Jobs (FTE)	429
Staff Spending Jobs	206
Supply Chain Jobs	165
Sustainable Construction Jobs	73
Sustainable Construction Jobs	17

Total Jobs	891
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Many of the Aldridge academies have been open for much longer than the five years that this socio-economic assessment covers. If the academies annual average impact is applied to these additional years, the benefits of academies in the two areas would amount to **£1.18 billion**, including £726 million in Blackburn with Darwen and £457 million in Brighton & Hove.

Looking ahead, the Aldridge academies could have a further impact of around **£1.39 billion** over the next decade, including £858 million in Blackburn with Darwen and £534 million in Brighton & Hove.

3. The government grant to the academies [General Annual Grant] is the same as allocated to State Schools.

Blackburn with Darwen

There are four Aldridge academies in Blackburn with Darwen: Darwen Aldridge Community Academy (DACA), Darwen Vale High School (DVHS), Darwen Enterprise Academy Studio (DAES) and Sudell Primary School (SPS). The Bridge Business Centre, attached to DACA, is also based in Darwen.

Blackburn with Darwen has high levels of deprivation and limited employment and economic opportunities. However, there are large employers in the Borough, including Capita, Crown Paints, Euro Garages, Graham & Brown Wall Coverings and Herbert Parkinson. Health-related deprivation, in particular, is a widespread feature in the Borough and there are high levels of economic inactivity. Despite this, local education performance is quite strong across the Borough as a whole. The most deprived parts of the Aldridge academies' catchment areas are in and around Darwen town centre and high proportions of pupils are eligible for free school meals.

The Aldridge Foundation has invested £6.2 million in direct capital funding and transformational investment to establish the academies in Darwen. This investment has been supported by a further £60.0 million of central government capital investment in the local area. Every £1.00 of investment made into the local area by the Aldridge Foundation levered a further **£9.68** of national Government investment into one of England's most deprived communities.

This has improved the physical infrastructure for learning and provided Darwen with community assets to inspire learners, be used by local people and act as focuses for regeneration and community capacity-building. The construction investment alone has supported the equivalent of 43 net sustainable jobs.



£6.2m

Aldridge Capital and Transformational Investment



£9.68

Every £1.00 of investment made by the Aldridge Foundation, levered a further £9.68 of national Government investment

Monetised and Employment Benefits

£6.46

Every £1.00 of investment in the Aldridge academies has delivered monetised benefits of £6.46

£60.0m

Government Capital Investment



43

Sustainable Construction Jobs

£76.1 million

Direct Government Grants⁴

Economic Benefits	
Direct Benefits	£4.3m
Staff Spending Benefits	£57.6m
Supply Chain Benefits	£31.9m
Education Benefits	£347.3m
Community Benefits	£1.6m
Current Value of Assets	£48.4m

Total Benefits	£491.2m
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Between 2014/15 and 2018/19 central Government invested £76.1 million in direct grants to Aldridge academies in Darwen. This has resulted in benefits with a value of **£491.2 million**, including £348.3m of educational benefits. Every £1.00 of investment in the Aldridge academies in Darwen has delivered monetised benefits of **£6.46**. The Aldridge academies activities support **569 jobs** including 284 direct jobs and a similar number in the wider economy.

Jobs Supported	
Direct Jobs (FTE)	284
Staff Spending Jobs	130
Supply Chain Jobs	94
Sustainable Construction Jobs	43
Sustainable Construction Jobs	17

Total Jobs	569
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The Aldridge academies activities support **569 jobs**

4. The government grant to the academies [General Annual Grant] is the same as allocated to State Schools.

Brighton & Hove

There are two Aldridge academies in Brighton & Hove: Brighton Aldridge Community Academy (BACA) and Portslade Aldridge Community Academy (PACA). It is also home to the Aldridge Cricket Academy and Aldridge Adult Learning. BACA has also partnered with the British and Irish Institute of Modern Music (BIMM) and the Brighton Institute of Contemporary Theatre Training (BRICTT).

Brighton & Hove is an affluent and well-connected city, with two universities, a well-qualified resident workforce and it has a thriving cultural, sporting and visitor economy. It has a strong freelance, creative, digital and IT sector and key financial services businesses, including American Express and Legal & General. The Aldridge academies are located in the more deprived parts of the city, particularly Brighton Aldridge Community Academy, where educational deprivation is high by national standards.

The Aldridge Foundation has invested £3.6 million in direct capital funding and transformational investment to establish the academies in Brighton & Hove. This investment has unlocked by a further £42.0 million of central government capital investment in the local area. Every £1.00 of investment made into the local area by the Aldridge Foundation, levered a further **£11.67** of national Government investment into the most deprived communities in Brighton & Hove.

The construction investment alone has supported the equivalent of 30 net sustainable jobs.



£3.6m

Aldridge Capital and Transformational Investment



£11.67

Every £1.00 of investment made by the Aldridge Foundation, levered a further £11.67 of national Government investment

£42.0m

Government Capital Investment



30

Sustainable Construction Jobs

Monetised and Employment Benefits

£10.56

Every £1.00 of investment in the Aldridge academies has delivered monetised benefits of £10.56

£35.9 million

Direct Government Grants⁵

Economic Benefits	
Direct Benefits	£5.2m
Staff Spending Benefits	£34.7m
Supply Chain Benefits	£17.8m
Education Benefits	£249.0m
Community Benefits	£36.8m
Current Value of Assets	£35.5m

Total Benefits	£378.9m
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Jobs Supported	
Direct Jobs (FTE)	145
Staff Spending Jobs	76
Supply Chain Jobs	71
Sustainable Construction Jobs	30
Sustainable Construction Jobs	0

Total Jobs	322
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Between 2014/15 and 2018/19 central Government invested £35.9 million in direct government grants to Aldridge academies in Brighton & Hove. This has resulted in benefits with a value of **£378.9 million**, including £249.0m of educational benefits, Every £1.00 of investment in the Aldridge academies in Brighton & Hove has delivered monetised benefits of **£10.56**. The Aldridge academies activities support 322 jobs including 145 direct jobs and 177 in the wider economy.

In Conclusion

The Aldridge Foundation has focused on making investments in education that could be highly leveraged by unlocking further Government funds to positively impact young people in some of the most deprived parts in the north west and south east coast of England, and through doing so add greater social and economic benefits in these areas. The capital investment has enabled an infrastructure of academies and schools to be created where an ambitious academic education, combined with a focus on raising aspirations and developing enterprise skills and an entrepreneurial mindset in young people, can drive positive social and economic change in these disadvantaged and deprived communities.

Much has been achieved but there is much more still to be done to benefit these young people and their communities. The Aldridge Foundation, Aldridge Education MAT and the individual academies all seek to continue to develop greater community engagement and to build on achievements to date and ensure that the academies are best at the heart of their local communities.

Based on this assessment, the next ten years could see the Aldridge academies' contribute a further **£1.39 billion** to some of England's most deprived communities over the next decade.

5. The government grant to the academies [General Annual Grant] is the same as allocated to State Schools.

"By creating better opportunities and inspiring experiences for young people in the communities in which we work, they will be equipped with the enterprise skills and entrepreneurial mindset to positively change their lives and those of their families, contributing to their local communities and wider society".

Transforming lives through entrepreneurial education

Background and Context

The Aldridge Foundation and the Aldridge Academies

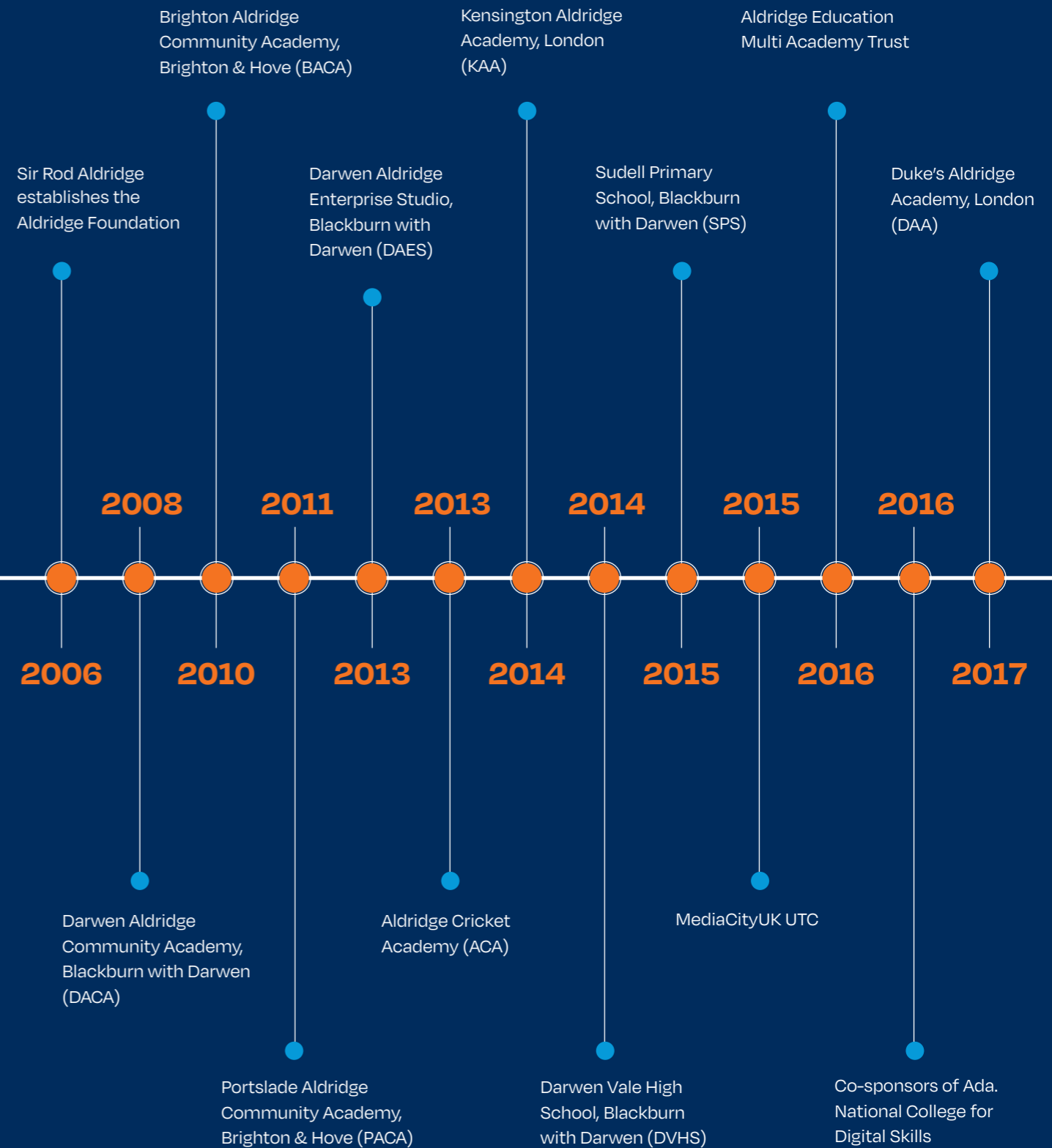
In 2006, Sir Rod Aldridge, founder of Capita, the UK's leading public sector outsourcing company, set up the Aldridge Foundation, a registered UK charity. The Foundation supports social change and community regeneration. It focuses on equipping young people from disadvantaged backgrounds with the skills they need to give them better life chances and to enable them to become catalysts for positive change in their communities.

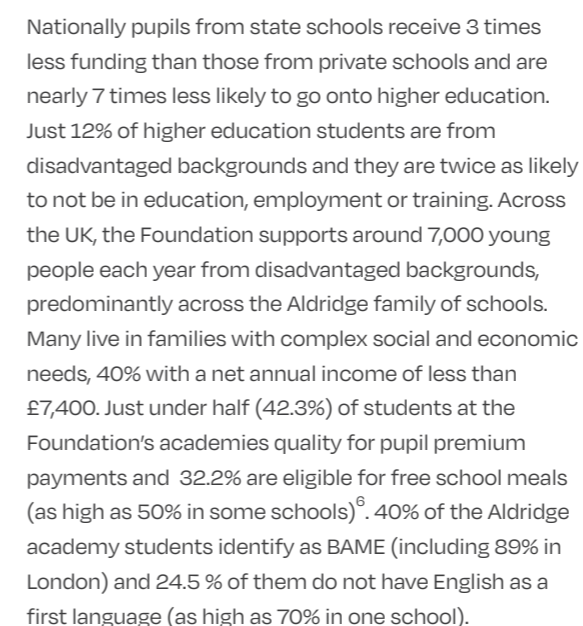
It has developed a family of sponsored non-selective community academy schools and colleges that have a strong focus on developing enterprise (life and employability) skills and an entrepreneurial mindset and strengthening the quality of education in order to improve young people's life-chances.

The Aldridge Foundation established its first academy school, Darwen Aldridge Community Academy in 2008. There is now a family of nine academies, colleges and schools: five in the north west (four in Darwen and one in Salford) two in inner London and two in Brighton & Hove.

It also runs an Adult Learning provision and was the educational partner to Ada, National College for Digital Skills. In 2016, it formed the Aldridge Education Multi Academy Trust (MAT), under which the academies are now managed and governed.

Timeline





Students take part in an art competition, developed in partnership with on-line art gallery, Artellite, and sponsored by leading cyber security firm, Callsign. Winners have their work judged and exhibited professionally alongside an international competition. Students learn about and build their confidence in following a career in the arts sector, and the competition winners receive internships with Artellite. Students have sold their artwork and had work commissioned through the exhibition.

6. This refers to the proportion of pupils who have been eligible for Free School Meals at any time over the previous six years



- **Bright Futures** – A programme of supported expeditionary experiences and one-on-one and small group coaching to increase confidence and develop young people's key life and employability skills. The programme has been designed as an intervention for the hardest to reach young people and it is funded and delivered by Aldridge Foundation and the British Exploring Society. It provides opportunities for young people to reflect on their skills and build their confidence through UK and overseas expedition experiences. They have a series of supported workshops and experiences to build on the expedition learning and to further develop life and employability skills and maintain their engagement in the programme. In Summer 2021, 29 students camped in the Peak District for a long weekend and 18 students attended a two-week expedition, wild camping and trekking in the Cairngorms in Scotland.
- **AfriDACA** – Every two years since opening, the Darwen Aldridge Community Academy (DACA), with the support of the Foundation, has been raising funds to support the displaced Acholi Tribe in Uganda. The fundraising also enables sixth form students to visit the Acholi Tribe, plan lessons, provide educational materials and teach the tribe's children. Students witness the challenges other people face, learn how to work in a team to support others and broaden their world view.
- **Aldridge Cricket Academy (ACA)** - Working in partnership with Sussex Cricket, the Aldridge Cricket Academy provides male and female cricketers the chance to develop sporting talent and academic qualifications together. Opened in June 2016 it is a state-of-the-art facility with three lanes and full bowler's run up along with the latest technology spin bowling machines, a full serviced gym, and a physiotherapy room. It is accredited by the MCC Foundation and is the home of Sussex Women's cricket. It is an important facility of the highly successful Aldridge Cricket Academy at BACA for 16-19 year olds with a Junior Pathway Academy for 11- to 16-year-old started in 2020. The premier league standard cricket square is maintained by Sussex Cricket ground staff and the academy offers ECB Level 3 and 4 coaching staff including Sussex Cricket Performance Coaches. The Centre is used by local primary schools, local clubs and is used by the Southern Vipers for training purposes as well as students at BACA and PACA. BACA was named by the "Cricketer" Magazine as one of the top 100 cricket schools in the country being one of only 4 state schools in the list and sitting alongside Eton, Harrow, Charterhouse and Wellington.
- **Covid-19 Response** - The Aldridge Foundation provided emergency support to its communities that were badly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. This included funding mental health and wellbeing support for students and teachers; providing laptops and internet services to ensure access to distance learning; and setting up a digital World of Work hub, and family outreach services for parents and carers of primary school students in Darwen. To address recovery requirements, the Foundation also provided substantial funds for the set up and operation of the Aldridge Virtual Catch-up Tutoring Academy, providing after school one-on-one and small group tutoring for disadvantaged students most in need of closing gaps in English and maths learning.
- Relevant education increasingly involves greater convergence of the worlds of education and business and a stronger focus on personal development, alongside core academic and technical study. Resilience, self-confidence, aspiration, self-awareness, empathy, leadership, communication, teamworking, problem-solving, critical thinking, entrepreneurialism and effective decision-making are all personal characteristics that enable people to lead full and successful lives.
- At the heart of Aldridge Foundation is a mission to develop these skills amongst the young people and communities it supports. The focus of the Foundation is on levelling the playing field, so that students from less affluent backgrounds are given the same opportunities as students from more privileged backgrounds, by helping them acquire enterprise skills and exposing them to new extra-curricular experiences. This includes embedding businesses, sports, art, culture and community into students' learning experience.
- The future of work and how we live is changing rapidly, leading to greater uncertainty, but also greater opportunities for people with the skills and attributes to navigate the world successfully. Two-thirds of children entering primary schools in 2016 are likely to find themselves in jobs that do not yet exist⁷. Employers consider character, behaviours and attributes to be the most important consideration when recruiting school and college leavers⁸.

7. The Future of Jobs – Employment, Skills and Workforce Strategy for the Industrial Revolution, World Economic Forum, 2016
8 Education and Learning for the Modern World – CBI/Pearson Education and Skills Survey Report 2019

Aldridge Attributes

Underpinning all the learning activities within the Aldridge academies are the Aldridge Attributes, which aim to equip young people with the skills and attitudes to succeed in education and in their future lives. These are:



Teamwork

Relatedness and Communication. A co-ordinated effort on the part of a team or in the interests of a common cause



Passion

Autonomy and Enthusiasm. The drive to achieve and succeed.



Risk taking

Proactivity and Optimism. Not being afraid to try something new or do something differently.



Problem solving

Analysis and Solutions focussed. The ability to express and interpret challenges, concepts, thoughts, feelings, facts and opinions.



Creativity

Imagination and Innovation. The ability to look at things in a new way, and seek different solutions.



Determination

Goal-setting and Resilience. The movement towards a goal, and resilience to difficulties along the way.

A clear sense of the importance of social conscience permeates all the Aldridge Attributes.

Educational Establishments as Community Assets

The Aldridge family of academies are not just centres of academic learning; they are genuine community assets, which, through effective community and businesses partnerships, are becoming central vehicles for improving and regenerating the disadvantaged communities within which they are located.

The Aldridge family of academies and schools support c7,000 students in schools in some of the most deprived communities in London, the North West and South East. Since launching in 2006, Aldridge Foundation has invested £12.2 million in new facilities (including £9.8 million in direct capital and transformational investment in the academies and £2.4 million specifically in the Aldridge Cricket Academy), enhancing existing facilities and providing revenue support to unlock £300 million Government funding to build and renovate all of the Aldridge Academies in England, many of which are in some of England's most deprived communities.

2

Blackburn with Darwen

This section focuses on Blackburn with Darwen. It provides a summary of the socio-economic characteristics; a profile of the four Aldridge academies, all of which are located in Darwen; a description of the other activities that are inspired by the Aldridge academies locally; and an assessment of the monetised and non-monetised impacts benefits



Socio-Economic Context

Blackburn with Darwen is located in the north west of England. Its principal towns are Blackburn in the north of the Borough and Darwen in the south. The two towns are bisected by the M65, which connects to the M6 to the west of the Borough. The Borough has a population of approximately 149,000. Around 29% of its adult population (16+) is from a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) background, with higher concentrations in Blackburn than in Darwen, which is a more traditional white working class community.

The Borough's economy is worth £3.16 billion and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per head is £23,561, ranking it 206th out of 317 lower tier local authorities in England. Its 4,900 businesses provide 67,000 jobs. Key private sector employers include Capita, Crown Paints, Euro Garages, Graham & Brown Wall Coverings and Herbert Parkinson.

The Borough has high levels of deprivation: It has a low economic activity rate (73%); high levels of unemployment (6.2%); and more than one in ten (11%) of its working age adults holds no qualifications. Over a third (36%) of all its Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) are in the top decile of most deprived local areas in England and it is the 7th most deprived Borough in England. Its relative position has worsened since 2015, when it was the 13th most deprived local area in England⁹.

The Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated deprivation in the Borough and created huge economic and educational challenges that will take years to address. People living in poverty and low income households have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. Blackburn with Darwen has had amongst the highest Covid-19 infection rates in England. By the end of June 2021, there were over 25,000

confirmed cases and 470 Covid-related deaths – both the infection rate and the standard mortality rate are well above the national average. The pandemic has had economic as well as health impacts – by February 2021, there were over 7,700 claimant count unemployed residents in the Borough – 71% more than there had been 12 months previously. In Darwen East, one in ten adult residents is now unemployed.

Educational attainment in Blackburn with Darwen is similar to the England average, however. In primary schools 66% of pupils met the expected standard at Key Stage 2 in 2018, compared with 65% in state funded schools in England. At secondary level, 44% of students achieved Grade 5 or above in English & Maths at GCSE, compared with 43% in state schools in England; the average Attainment 8 score (46.4%) was virtually identical to the England average at (46.7%); and the average Progress 8 score (0.13) was above the average for England (-0.03). At Key Stage 5, the average grade attained at A level (C) was slightly below the average grade for England (C+).

Aldridge academies and schools are based in the Darwen area of the Borough, which has a smaller catchment area. In 2019, the combined East Darwen, West Darwen and South Darwen wards comprised 21 LSOAs and a population of 25,765. Its population is somewhat older than that of the Borough as a whole.

Over half (11) of the LSOAs in the Aldridge academies' catchment areas are amongst the 20% most deprived local areas in England, with a quarter (5) of the in the top decile. These are all located in and around Darwen town centre.

The most widespread form of deprivation is health-related with 10 of the 21 LSOAs in the top decile by this domain. By contrast, 'barriers to housing' is not a significant deprivation challenge locally. Education, Skills and Training deprivation is less widespread than some other forms of deprivation, but there are still nine LSOAs in Darwen where Children & Young People's education, training and skills deprivation are ranked within the top 20% most deprived local areas in England.

Over half the students at Darwen Aldridge Enterprise Studio (53%) and Sudell Primary School (52%) and just under half (44%) of students at Darwen Vale High School are eligible for free school meals¹⁰. Darwen Aldridge Enterprise Studio (32.1%) and Sudell Primary school (33.7%) also have a high proportion of children with Special Education Needs. The proportion of children living in poverty is particularly high in Darwen East (36.1%) ward.

9. The English Indices of Multiple Deprivation (2019)- Statistical Release; Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government; 2019 & Open datacommunities.org

10. This refers to the proportion of pupils who have been eligible for Free School Meals at any time over the previous six years

Summary of Benefits

There are four Aldridge academies in Darwen: Darwen Aldridge Community Academy (DACA); Darwen Vale High School (DVHS), Darwen Aldridge Enterprise Studio (DAES) and Sudell Primary School (SPS), which serves the community in Darwen East ward. The Bridge Business Centre, with its eleven ‘entrepreneurial pods’ is also located in Darwen, and is attached to DACA.

The Aldridge Foundation has invested £6.2 million in direct capital funding and transformational investment to establish the academies in Darwen. This investment has been supported by a further £60.0 million of central government capital investment in the local area. Every £1.00 of investment made into the local area by the Aldridge Foundation levered a further **£9.68** of national Government investment into one of England's most deprived communities.

This has improved the physical infrastructure for learning and provided Darwen with community assets to inspire learners, be used by local people and act as focuses for regeneration and community capacity-building. The construction investment alone has supported the equivalent of 43 net sustainable jobs.



£6.2m

Aldridge Capital
and Transformational
Investment



£9.68

Every £1.00 of
investment made
by the Aldridge
Foundation, levered
a further £9.68 of
national Government
investment

£60.0m

Government Capital
Investment



43

Sustainable
Construction Jobs

Monetised and Employment Benefits

£6.46

Every £1.00 of
investment in the
Aldridge academies
has delivered
monetised benefits
of £6.46

£76.1
million

Direct
Government
Grants¹¹

Economic Benefits	
Direct Benefits	£4.3m
Staff Spending Benefits	£57.6m
Supply Chain Benefits	£31.9m
Education Benefits	£347.3m
Community Benefits	£1.6m
Current Value of Assets	£48.4m

Total Benefits	£491.2m
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Between 2014/15 and 2018/19 central Government invested £76.1 million in direct government grants to Aldridge academies in Darwen. This has resulted in benefits with a value of **£493.2 million**, including £348.3 million of educational benefits, Every £1.00 of investment in the Aldridge academies in Darwen has delivered monetised benefits of **£6.46**.

Most of the Aldridge academies have been open for much longer than the five years that this socio-economic assessment covers. If the academies annual average impact is applied to these additional years, the benefits of the academies would be £726 million. Looking ahead, the Aldridge academies could have a further impact of around £858 million in Blackburn with Darwen over the next decade.

The Aldridge academies activities support **569 jobs** including 284 direct jobs and a similar number in the wider economy.

Jobs Supported	
Direct Jobs (FTE)	284
Staff Spending Jobs	130
Supply Chain Jobs	94
Sustainable Construction Jobs	43
Sustainable Construction Jobs	17

Total Jobs	569
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There are other benefits that are more difficult to attribute and monetise, including health and community well-being, civic pride and the self-confidence that the Aldridge academies have begun to instil in the local community.

For example, between 2011 and 2019 aggregate house price value in Darwen increased by £16.5 million more than would have been expected had values increased at the same rate as Blackburn with Darwen, as a whole. There were 106 fewer crimes in the twelve months to September 2019 than there would have been had change in the crime rate in Darwen reflected that in the Borough as a whole between 2012 and 2019. This had a fiscal, social and economic value of £0.39 million in the 12 months to September 2019.

11. The government grant to the academies [General Annual Grant] is the same as allocated to State Schools.

The Aldridge Academies

Darwen Aldridge Community Academy (DACA)

DACA became the Aldridge Foundation's first Academy in 2008. It moved into new purpose-built premises in September 2010, with a newly created sixth form. There are over 1,200 students at DACA, including over 220 students in Years 12 & 13. The sixth form provision provides better opportunities for young people from Darwen to progress to higher education and to gain higher level technical skills. DACA's sixth form has been rated in the top 10% of sixth forms in England for the past four years, under the ALPS¹² Award scheme and the progress score at Key Stage 5 has remained above the national average since 2017. In 2018/19, 89 (76%) of DACA's Year 13 students progressed onto higher education courses.

Its latest OFSTED rating is 'Good' (2017), with strengths in leadership & management, teaching quality and pupil behaviour. In 2011 its OFSTED rating was 'Satisfactory'. In 2019, 59% of students achieved Grade 4 or above in GCSE English & Maths. DACA is strong at supporting disadvantaged pupils with the Attainment 8 score for disadvantaged pupils above the national average and a quarter of disadvantaged leavers entering an apprenticeship programme.

DACA's entrepreneurship specialism has been recognised in the form of an Enterprising Britain Gold Award and as finalists in the V&A National Schools Challenge. DACA is involved in a wide range of entrepreneurship events and activities, including the Tycoon in the School competition, Young enterprise Global Entrepreneurship Week, Home of 2030 Architecture competition and the Team Creates and Team Ready entrepreneurship programmes.

DACA also has a sport specialism with a state-of-the-art sports centre, a fitness studio and a multi-use games area. Its football academy is partnered with Clitheroe FC, its netball academy is linked with Manchester Thunder and it offers sports-related leadership development programmes.

Sixth Form students are involved in the AfriDACA project, which teaches children of displaced people in Uganda, for which DACA was awarded a British Council International Schools Award in 2016.

DACA employs 156 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff, including 85 FTE teaching staff. It received £44.0 million in direct grant funding from central government between 2014/15 and 2018/19 and it raised a further £3.3 million in self-generated funds and community grants.

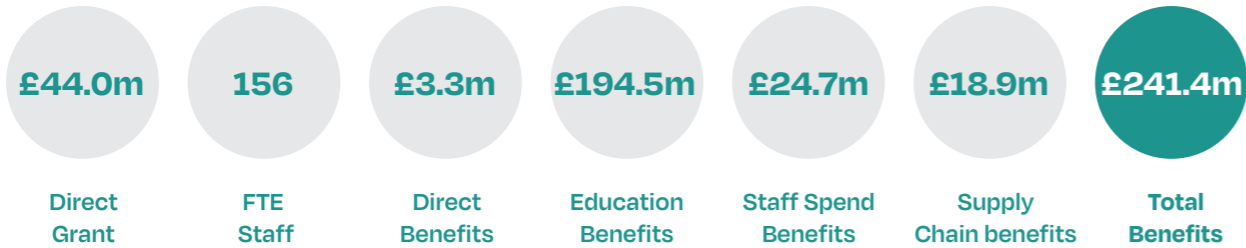
It delivered £194.5 million worth of educational benefits between 2016/17 and 2019/20, whilst the staff and supply chain spending benefits between 2014/15 and 2018/19 were £24.7 million and £18.9 million respectively. The total monetised benefits have been calculated at **£241.4 million**.

The Bridge Business Centre @ DACA

The Bridge is a business centre was designed and built with a European Grant of £836,673 and is located in the main structure of the academy. The Bridge is the home of Darwen Creates. It has eleven entrepreneurial pods that can be used by business start-ups. These are rented on a flexible basis and The Bridge enables young people to work and mix with local entrepreneurs. Since it was opened, 24 adults and 31 young people have started a business at the Bridge, creating 17 jobs. Alongside this, 31 young people have started businesses. The total value is £1.6 million. DACA and the Bridge provide a wide range of entrepreneurship programmes, which have attracted 267 young people and 68 adults.

“Since moving to the Bridge, we have catapulted the business and now in a position to take on a larger facility to maintain our growth! The Bridge is a community of businesses to that can feed off each other’s success. The space is easily adaptable to your needs and is the perfect environment to give your business a boost”.

Jacob Knowles
Empire Print Management



12. <https://alps.education>

Darwen Vale High School (DVHS)

DVHS was first established as Darwen Grammar School in 1894. It became an Aldridge Academy in 2014 following major refurbishment and rebuild, an Academy Order and an OFSTED inspection, which graded the school 'Inadequate'. Aldridge Education inherited a school in deficit, with less than 750 children and outcomes at 22% for English and Maths at Grade 5 or above.

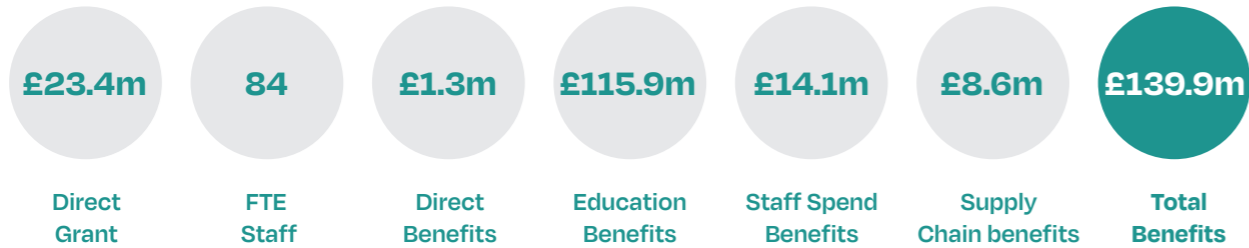
Since becoming an Academy, DVHS has seen significant improvement. At its 2020 OFSTED inspection it was assessed as "Requires Improvement" and there are now 835 students on roll, with Years 7 and 8 at capacity. Its financial deficit has also been converted into an £800,000 surplus, whilst English and Maths results are consistently now above the national average. DVHS has no sixth form.

The most recent OFSTED inspection noted improvements in behaviour and according to students that there have been many positive changes at the school since the previous inspection in 2017. The school curriculum is becoming more ambitious, leaders' and teachers' expectations of students are increasing, and there is growing confidence in the school amongst parents.

Like all Aldridge academies, entrepreneurship is an important part of the DVHS curriculum and is now fully embedded within the school and is reflected in its reward system, the Vale Values and effective links with local employers. Community involvement through the Soup@Vale programme, for example, helps to develop students' life skills,

confidence and communication skills, as well as strengthening links between the Academy and its local community.

At the time of its refurbishment, new sports facilities were built at DVHS. These include a new 3G sports pitch, a sports hall, a fitness studio and a dance studio.



DVHS employs 84 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff, including 46 FTE teaching staff. It received £23.4 million in direct grant funding from central government between 2014/15 and 2018/19 and it raised a further £1.3 million in self-generated funds and community grants.

It delivered £115.9 million worth of Educational benefits between 2016/17 and 2018/19, whilst the benefits of spending by staff and spending on goods and services between 2014/15 and 2018/19 were £14.1 million and £8.6 million respectively. The total monetised benefits have been calculated at **£139.9 million**.

Darwen Aldridge Enterprise Studio (DAES)

DAES was established as an Aldridge academy in 2013. The Studio provides young people ages 13-19 of all abilities with an education that focusses on professional learning, work experiences and life skills. It has a specialism for Creative Digital Media, Technical Creative Media & Care sector related subjects. The most recent OFSTED inspection (2015) assessed DAES as 'Good'. It reported that good leadership had secured rapid improvement; that students feel safe and secure and that their achievements in the studio's specialist subjects are strong. It highlights students' wide-ranging experiences, including relevant work placements and it states that the pastoral care at the school is excellent and that the sixth form, which did not exist before it became an Aldridge academy,

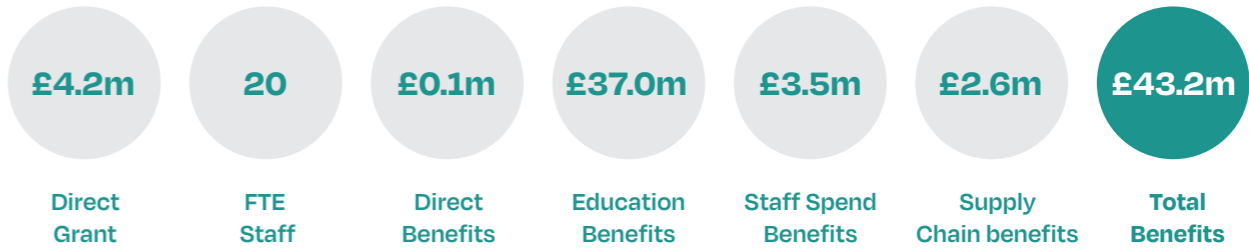
provides students with the right skills and self-belief to progress to higher education. This is often with unconditional offers, as a result of the portfolios that they produce through their project-based learning.

In 2019, 42% of students achieved Grade 4 or above in GCSE English & Maths. Progress 8 and Attainment 8 measures are complicated by the fact that DAES only admits pupils from Year 9, whilst the benefits of the studio school are its career-focused integrated academic and professional education programme, rather than solely its academic performance.

Academic progress in the sixth form was well above average in 2019, with 54% of 'A'level results at A* to B and 86% of media students achieving a Distinction at Level 3.

In 2019 the Progress 8 score for disadvantaged pupils was (-1.24) at DAES compared with (-0.45) in England and 14% of disadvantaged pupils attained Grade 5+ in English and Maths GCSE, compared with a quarter (25%) nationally.

Alongside the core curriculum, students at DAES can follow specialisms in Creative Digital Media, Technical Digital, Health & Social Care and Enterprise & Business. There is a strong focus on working on real-life projects. There have been collaborative projects with Darwen Little Theatre, Easy Coffee, Chorley Junior Golf Academy, the National Youth Film Academy, Church Action in Poverty and the HIVE Business Schools.



AES employs 20 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff, including 16 FTE teaching staff. It received £4.2 million in direct grant funding from central government between 2014/15 and 2018/19 and it raised a further £0.1 million in self-generated funds and community grants.

It delivered £37.0 million worth of Educational benefits between 2016/17 and 2019/20, whilst the benefits of spending by staff and spending on goods and services between 2014/15 and 2018/19 were £3.5 million and £2.6 million respectively. The total monetised benefits have been calculated at **£43.2 million**.

Sudell Primary School (SPS)

SPS became an Aldridge academy in 2015. It has capacity for 210 four to eleven year old pupils and in 2019 there were 172 pupils on roll. Most of the pupils from SPS progress to secondary school at DACA.

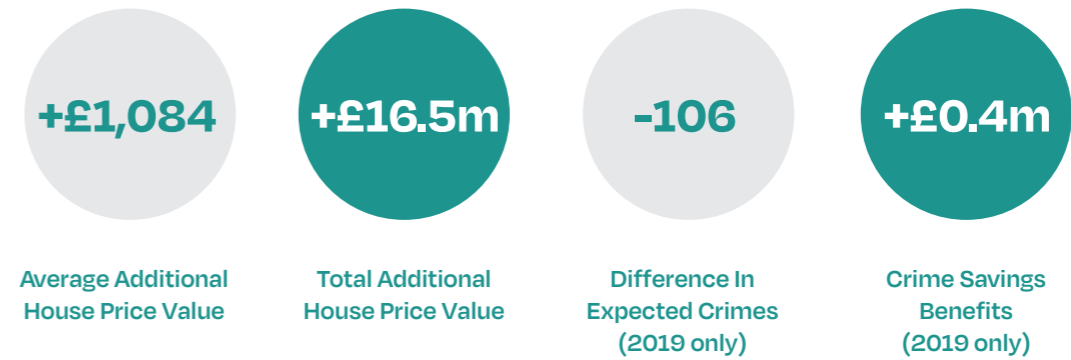
Its most recent OFTED inspection (2018) assessed SPS as “Requires Improvement”, but Early Years provision was assessed as “Good”. The OFSTED report noted that there had been considerable change in the school in the year prior to inspection, including changes to leaders’ roles and responsibilities, and that the level of development of pupils entering the school was below what is typical for that age group. The school catchment is based in Darwen East ward, which has

significant deprivation challenges. Half (52.3%) of all students are eligible for free school meals¹³ and the Academy works with the Magic Breakfast Club charity to provide healthy school breakfasts.

There have been notable improvements in Key Stage 2 performance and achievement at the school since 2017. The average scores for reading and for maths is now at, or above, the national average, having been well below the average in 2017. Nearly three quarters (72%) of pupils now reach the expected standard in reading, writing and maths, compared with a national average of (65%) and a 35% rate at SPS in 2017.

SPS embeds the Aldridge Attributes of Determination, Passion, Risk-taking, Teamwork, Problem-solving and creativity into its pupils’ learning experience. An Eco-Committee has been set up to engage pupils in environmental projects and pupils participate in events, such as Black History Month, Harvest Festival and World Maths Day.

Associated Community Impacts



There are community benefits that cannot clearly be attributed to the Aldridge academies. These include house prices and crime rates. Even where there may appear to be positive impacts in the local area, these may be correlational, rather than causal.

Indeed, in areas where house prices have risen sharply, the changing socio-economic characteristics of a catchment area may be a driver of improvements in school performance, rather than a result of it. Changes in house prices are based on market supply and demand and the relative affluence of people living in the surrounding area. Blackburn with Darwen remains a Borough with high levels of disadvantage, limited opportunities and relatively low incomes, so improvements to local education provision is likely to have limited, if any, impact on local house prices.

Between 2011 and 2019 average house prices rose by 6.0% in real terms (2019 prices) in Darwen and by 5.2% across the whole of Blackburn with Darwen. This represents an additional increase of £1,084 per property in Darwen and an additional aggregated value increase of £16.5 million.

It is also difficult to directly attribute changing crime rates to the Aldridge academies. There are many other variables to consider to estimate causality. Furthermore, crimes area not all committed in the places where people live.

Had the crime rate in the Darwen changed at the same rate as the crime rate in the Borough as a whole, there would have been 106 more crimes in the area in the twelve months to September 2019. This means that the cost of crime was £0.39 million lower in those twelve months, compared with what might have been expected.

SPS employs 24 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff, including 10 FTE teaching staff. It received £4.5 million in direct grant funding from central government between 2014/15 and 2018/19 and it raised a further £0.2 million in self-generated funds and community grants.

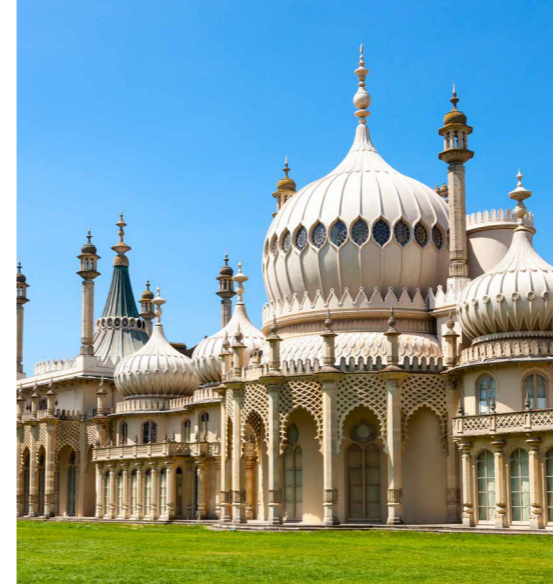
Educational benefits for between 2016/17 and 2019/20 for SPS have not been monetised. However, benefits associated with spending by staff and spending on goods and services between 2014/15 and 2018/19 were £3.3 million and £1.8 million respectively. In the absence of specific monetised educational benefits for the Primary School, the total monetised benefits have been calculated at **£5.3 million**.

13. This refers to the proportion of pupils who have been eligible for Free School Meals at any time over the previous six years

3

Brighton & Hove

This section focuses on Brighton & Hove. It provides a summary of the socio-economic characteristics; a profile of the two Aldridge academies; a description of the other Aldridge Foundation's involvement in the local community, including through Aldridge Adult Learning and the Aldridge Cricket Academy; and an assessment of the monetised and non-monetised benefits.



Socio-Economic Context

Brighton & Hove is located on the south coast in the south east of England. It is well-connected with London and Gatwick Airport and it is one of the region's most important economic, cultural and sporting centres. It has a thriving tourism economy, with year round attractions; it has two major universities – Brighton & Sussex, a University Teaching Hospital; a Premier League Football Club; a Championship Cricket Club; a high profile creative, digital and information technology (CDIT) sector; and a cultural offer, which includes England's largest arts festival – the Brighton Festival. It has a resident population of approximately 300,000, with around 11% of its adult residents from a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) background.

Brighton & Hove was awarded city status in 2001. Its economy is worth £8.41 billion and GDP per head is £32,470, ranking it 97th out of 317 lower tier local authorities in England. Its 18,200 businesses provide 143,000 jobs. Key private sector employers include American Express, Legal & General and Domestic & General. It also has a thriving freelance, digital and creative community.

Overall, levels of deprivation in Brighton & Hove are low and concentrated in the extreme east and west of the city, the catchment areas of the two Aldridge academies. Its economic activity rate (81%) is high, but the unemployment rate (7.6%) has doubled over the past 12 months. Over half (56%) of the city's working age adults holds a Level 4 qualification and only 4% hold no qualifications at all. Fewer than one in ten (9%) of all its Lower Super Output Areas are in the top decile of most deprived local areas in England. There are two fewer LSOAs in the most deprived deciles than there were in 2015. Based on the extent of deprivation, Brighton & Hove is ranked as the 122nd most deprived local authority area in England. This is an improvement from 103rd in the 2015 Indices of Multiple Deprivation.

Educational attainment in Brighton & Hove, is marginally better than the England average. In primary schools 67% of pupils met the expected standard at Key Stage 2 in 2018, compared with 65% in state funded schools in England. At secondary level, 47% of students achieved Grade 5 or above at GCSE in English & Maths, compared with 43% in state schools in England; the average Attainment 8 score was slightly higher (47.6%) than the England average (46.7%); and the average Progress 8 score (-0.08) was below the average for England (-0.03). At Key Stage 5, performance was strong, with the average grade at A Level (B) higher than the average A Level grade in England (C+).



Portslade Aldridge Community Academy (PACA) Catchment

In 2019, the combined wards of South Portslade and North Portslade had a resident population 19,804. It has a much higher proportion of 0 to 15 year old residents (20%) than Brighton & Hove as a whole (16%) population.

Two of the LSOAs in the area are amongst the 20% most deprived local areas in England and none are in the top decile. No LSOAs are amongst the top decile of most deprived local areas by any deprivation index domain, although two LSOAs are in the top 10% most deprived in the young people's education, training and skills sub domain.

There was a modest improvement in deprivation in Portslade between 2015 and 2019 with the average deprivation score rising from 12,228 to 12,992¹⁴. Just under a third (31%) of pupils at Portslade Aldridge Community Academy were eligible for free school meals¹⁵; 16% received Special Education Needs support and just under one in five children in households in two wards are living in poverty. Other measures also show limited levels of deprivation within the catchment area by national standards, although this is within the context of a relatively affluent city.

Brighton Aldridge Community Academy (BACA) Catchment

BACA's catchment area is to the east of the city, broadly covering the Moulsecoomb & Bevendean and part of the East Brighton, Hollingdean and Stanmer wards. It has a resident population of 28,830. The two universities are within the academy's catchment area, so it has a high proportion of young adults.

Nine of the LSOAs in the area are amongst the 20% most deprived local areas in England, including four that are in the top 10%. The most widespread form of deprivation relates to Education, Learning and & Skills. Nine of the area's LSOAs are amongst the top decile of most deprived local areas in England in this domain.

Education deprivation is even more acute amongst young people in the catchment area. Only three of the fourteen LSOAs are not in the top decile of deprived areas in the Children and Young People's Education, Training and Skills sub-domain and all of these are in the 30% most deprived areas in England.

There was a modest improvement in deprivation in the BACA catchment area between 2015 and 2019 with the average deprivation score rising from 6,254 to 7,019¹⁶. In 2019, more than half (57%) of pupils at BACA were eligible for free school meals¹⁷; 29% receive Special Education Needs Support and a quarter of children in households in Moulsecoomb & Bevendean are living in poverty. Other measures show high levels of child poverty within the catchment by national standards.

14. Note: In the Indices of Multiple Deprivation, the higher the score, the lower the level of deprivation

15. This refers to the proportion of pupils who have been eligible for Free School Meals at any time over the previous six years

16. Note: In the Indices of Multiple Deprivation, the higher the score, the lower the level of deprivation

17. This is the proportion of pupils who have been eligible for Free School Meals at any time over the previous six years

Summary of Benefits

There are two Aldridge academies in Brighton & Hove: Brighton Aldridge Community Academy (BACA) and Portslade Aldridge Community Academy (PACA). The Sir Rodney Aldridge Cricket Centre is situated at BACA and the Aldridge Cricket Academy courses are run here. Aldridge Adult Learning is based in Portslade, near PACA.

The Aldridge Foundation has invested £3.6 million in direct capital funding and transformational investment to establish the academies in Brighton & Hove. This investment has been supported by a further £42.0 million of central government capital funding. Every £1.00 of investment made into the local area by the Aldridge Foundation, levered a further **£11.67** of national Government investment into the most deprived communities in Brighton & Hove.

This has improved the physical infrastructure for learning and provided Brighton & Hove with community assets to inspire learners, which can be used by local people and act as focuses for regeneration and community capacity-building. The construction investment alone has supported the equivalent of 30 net sustainable jobs.

The monetised impacts are comprised of educational benefits, direct benefits from self-generated income by the Academies, staff and supply chain benefits and other benefits associated with the Aldridge Cricket Academy, Aldridge Adult Learning, use of the BACA sports facilities and the partnership with the British and Irish Modern Music [BIMM] Institute.



£3.6m

Aldridge Capital
and Transformational
Investment



£11.67

Every £1.00 of
investment made
by the Aldridge
Foundation, levered
a further £11.67 of
national Government
investment

£42.0m

Government Capital
Investment



30

Sustainable
Construction Jobs

Monetised and Employment Benefits

£10.56

Every £1.00 of
investment in the
Aldridge academies
has delivered
monetised benefits
of £10.56

£35.9
million

Direct
Government
Grants¹⁸

Economic Benefits	
Direct Benefits	£5.2m
Staff Spending Benefits	£34.7m
Supply Chain Benefits	£17.8m
Education Benefits	£249.0m
Community Benefits	£36.8m
Current Value of Assets	£35.5m

Total Benefits	£378.9m
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This report assesses the socio and economic impacts between 2014/15 and 2018/2019, the last year of stable academy data and performance information prior to the Covid-19 pandemic.

In this period, central Government invested £35.9 million in direct grants to Aldridge academies in Brighton & Hove. This has resulted in benefits with a value of **£378.9 million**, including £249.0m of educational benefits, Every £1.00 of investment in the Aldridge Education Academies in Brighton & Hove has delivered monetised benefits of **£10.56**.

Both Aldridge academies have been open for much longer than the five years that this socio-economic assessment covers. If the academies annual average impact is applied to these additional years, the benefits of Academies in the city would amount to £457 million in Brighton & Hove.

Jobs Supported	
Direct Jobs (FTE)	145
Staff Spending Jobs	76
Supply Chain Jobs	71
Sustainable Construction Jobs	30
Sustainable Construction Jobs	0

Total Jobs	322
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Looking ahead, the Aldridge academies could have a further impact of around £534 million in Brighton & Hove over the next decade.

The Aldridge academies activities support 322 jobs including 145 direct jobs and 177 in the wider economy.

Between 2011 and 2019 aggregate house price value increased by £184.5 million more in the PACA catchment area and £169.3 million more in the BACA catchment area than would have been expected had values increased at the same rate as Brighton & Hove as a whole.

18. The government grant to the academies [General Annual Grant] is the same as allocated to State Schools.

“While Moulsecoomb and the surrounding areas face many problems, it is also rich beyond the index of multiple deprivation. There is a growing network and sense of possibility and opportunity emerging. One person described it as “an ordinary estate doing extraordinary things” and BACA is part of that. The school not only stepped up quite literally to the plate to deliver meals to the whole community but also supports students with events such as the Enterprise Days with mock interviews while also allowing students more flexibility at a younger age to choose a more hands on curriculum”.

Warren Carter – the Bevy Pub

The Aldridge Academies

Brighton Aldridge Community Academy (BACA)

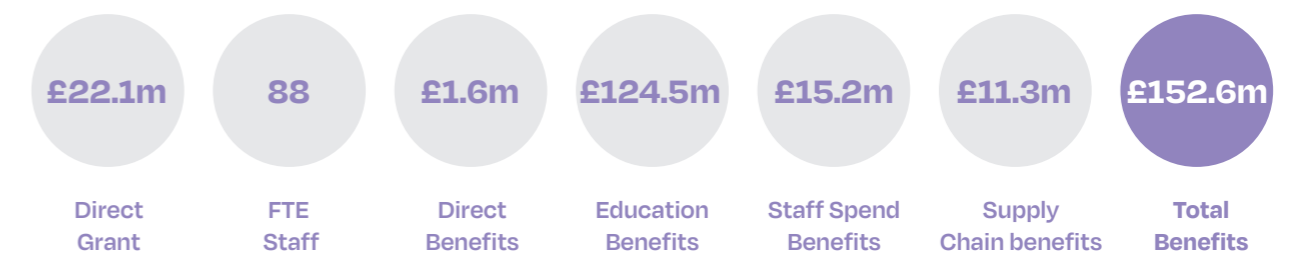
BACA became an Aldridge academy in 2010 and new academy buildings were completed in 2011. There are over 900 students at BACA, including BACA College, which provides opportunities for 16 to 18 year olds. As well as its core academic and vocational provision, students have access to Brighton Digital Media Academy courses and the Aldridge Cricket Academy. It has also hosted British and Irish Institute of Modern Music (BIMM) and the Brighton Institute for Contemporary Theatre Training (BRICTT).

Its latest OFSTED rating (2016) is ‘Good’, with strengths in leadership & management, teaching quality, learning and assessment, personal development, behaviour and welfare; and outcomes for pupils. In 2014, its OFSTED rating had been ‘Requires Improvement’. In 2019, 46% of students achieved Grade 4 or above

in English & Maths GCSE. There have been improvements in academic progress (Progress 8) at Key Stage 4 and in academic attainment (Attainment 8) at Key Stage 4. Progress and attainment scores for disadvantaged pupils are now similar to the average for England. At Key Stage 5, the average ‘A’ level grade is ‘C’, compared with ‘C+’ nationally and for all general qualifications it is ‘Distinction’ compared with Merit+ nationally.

BACA students engage in a wide range of community activities. During the Covid-19 pandemic BACA staff collaborated with community-run pub, The Bevy, and the Brighton Food Factory with funding from the Aldridge Foundation to deliver Bevy Bites, a ‘meals on wheels’ style service to vulnerable people, using the BACA training kitchen to prepare meals.

BACA has a strong focus on sport and offers Cricket Academy courses in association with the Aldridge Cricket Centre, which has a partnership with Sussex Cricket, and has a partnership with Brighton Table Tennis Club and has previously had a partnership with Burgess Hill Football Club. Alongside with the Cricket Centre, it has outstanding sports facilities, including floodlit 3G AstroTurf pitches, grass pitches and an indoor sports hall, all of which are available to rent by the general public.



BACA's Construction Centre offers students Level 1, 2 and 3 vocational construction courses in site carpentry and bench joinery, electrical installation, plumbing services and multi trades, providing students with the skills and knowledge needed to move into apprenticeships, jobs or higher education.

Enterprise skills and entrepreneurship is also a key element of learning at BACA, delivered through the Aldridge Attributes: Passion, Determination, Risk-taking, Problem-solving, Teamwork and Creativity. There are three Enterprise Days each year and BACA College has over 60 industry partnerships.

BACA employs 88 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff, including 50 FTE teaching staff. In 2021, this had increased to 113.5 FTE jobs, including 57 teaching staff. It received £22.1 million in direct grant funding from central government between 2014/15 and 2018/19 and it raised a further £1.6 million in self-generated funds and community grants.

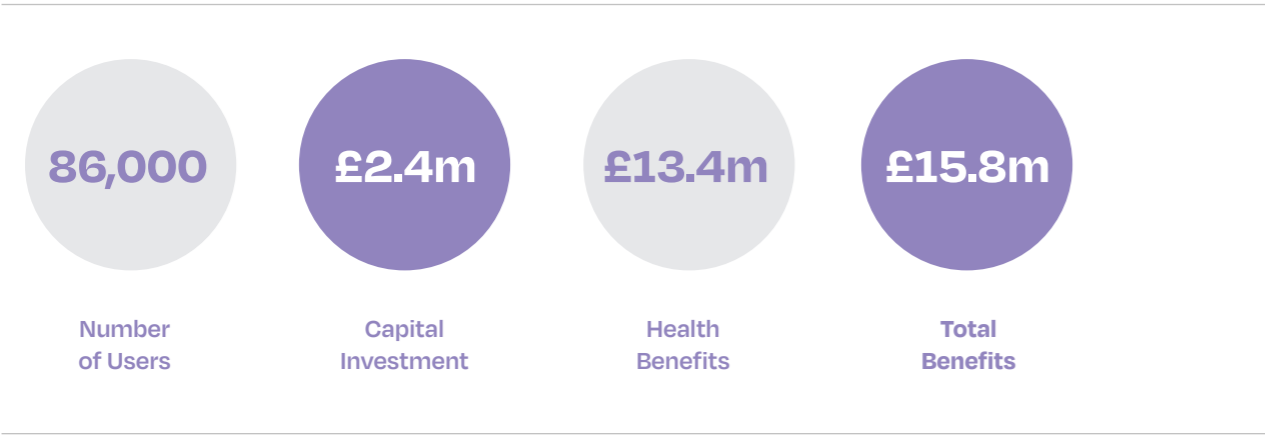
It delivered £124.5 million worth of Educational Impacts between 2016/17 and 2019/20, whilst the benefits of spending by staff and spending on goods and services between 2014/15 and 2018/19 were £15.2 million and £11.3 million respectively. The total monetised benefits have been calculated at £152.6 million.

“The Aldridge ethos has helped me navigate the huge gap I found between school and university. My mum’s always told me you have to rely on yourself: if you’ve the Aldridge Attributes drilled into you, then you can do just that”.

Lily Cai
Former BACA student, Lily Cai secured a place at Imperial College to study medicine. She is now working alongside her university college and a Nepalese NGO to raise funds to build schools and improve conditions for Nepalese women.

Overseas Cricket Tours ACA has provided students with the opportunity to experience overseas cricket tours to the United Arab Emirates and South Africa. These have taken students to new environments, given them new experiences, developed self-confidence, extended, their outlook and world view and developed resilience, teamwork and other key life skills.

Aldridge Cricket Academy (ACA)



The Aldridge Indoor Cricket Centre was opened in June 2016. At a cost of £1.8m it is a state-of-the-art facility with three lanes and full bowler's run up along with the latest technology spin bowling machines, a full serviced gym, and a physiotherapy room. It is accredited by the MCC Foundation and is the home of Sussex Women's cricket. It is an important facility of the highly successful Aldridge Cricket Academy at BACA for 16-19 year olds with a Junior Academy for 12- to 17-year-old started in 2021.

The Centre is used by local primary schools, local clubs and is used by the Southern Vipers for training purposes as well as students at BACA and PACA. The ground and the square are designed for premier league.

BACA was named by the "Cricketer" Magazine as one of the top 100 cricket schools in the country being one of only 4 state schools in the list and sitting alongside Eton, Harrow, Charterhouse and Wellington.

ACA student outcomes include qualifications and experience in coaching and understanding of applied sport science, performance analysis, sport psychology, sports management and ground maintenance. The playing programme involves competitive fixtures, including biannual overseas tours (South Africa - 2015; Dubai - 2017; and Sri Lanka - 2019). It also has strong links with local clubs, which are overseen by the Sussex Cricket Foundation.

Since it was opened it has been used by an estimated 86,000 people and its value is calculated at £15.8 million, including £2.4 million capital investment from the Aldridge Foundation and a further £13.4 million in health and well-being benefits.



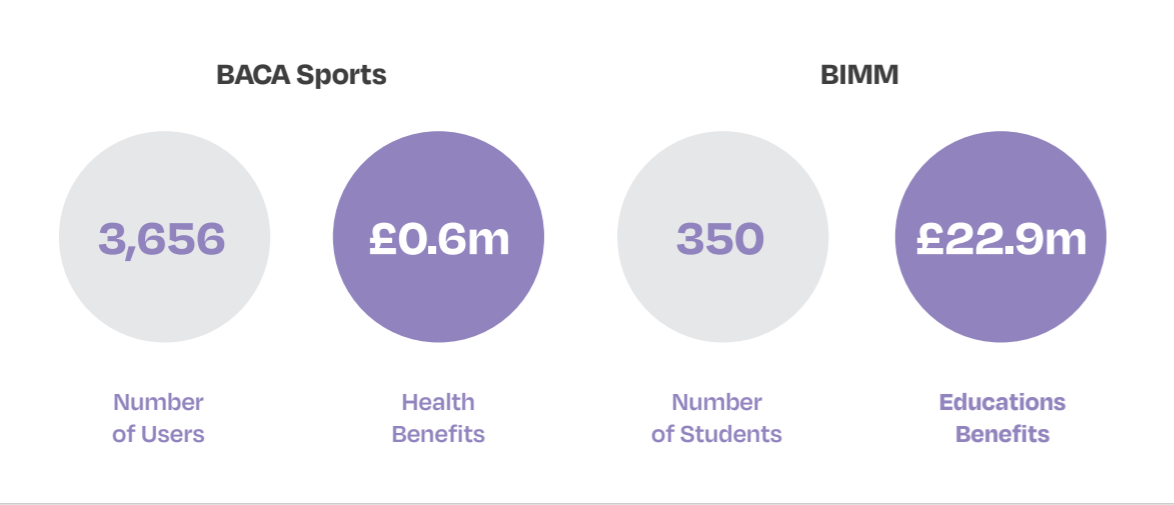
“There is nowhere else like this and training here has made me fitter and stronger. I would not be in the position I am today without this opportunity”.

Promoting Women's and Girls Cricket
Since graduating from ACA, Tara Norris has toured South Africa with the England Academy team, studied at a BSc in Sport Science with Management at Loughborough University and represented Southern Vipers and Loughborough Lightning in the KIA Super league. She is unequivocal about the difference that PACA and the Sir Rod Aldridge Cricket Centre has made to her life:

BACA Sports Centre and BIMM

BACA's sports centre is used extensively by the local community. It includes floodlit 3G AstroTurf pitches, grass pitches and an indoor sports hall. The facilities are used for local leagues and competitions throughout the year.

In 2017, BACA entered a partnership with the British and Irish Institute of Modern Music (BIMM). This involves BIMM students studying post-16 courses at BACA including in Event Management, Music Production, Music Performance and Music Journalism.



Over a 22 month period, BACA Sports Centre has been used by 3,656 people – an average of 166 per month. This has a monetised health and well-being benefit of **£0.6 million**.

Students at the British and Irish Institute of Modern Music (BIMM) and at the Brighton Institute of Contemporary Theatre (BRICCT) both used BACA facilities for their learning. 350 BIMM students completed Level 3 qualifications using BACA facilities with a monetised benefit of **£22.9 million**.

BACA Sports Centre and BIMM

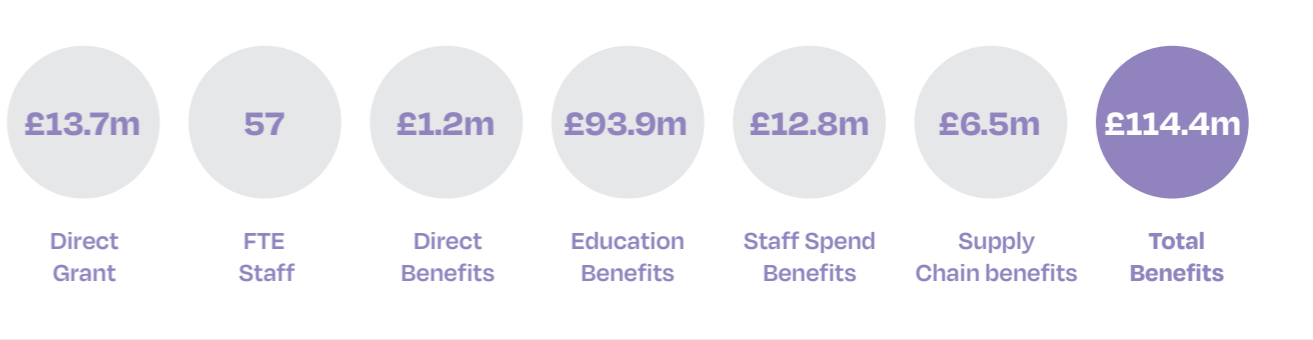
PACA became an Aldridge academy in 2011, replacing the previous school, Portslade Community College. There are over 900 students at PACA. Following consultation with the community, PACA Sixth Form has been suspended due to lower predicted sixth form student numbers, meaning PACA would be unable to provide the breadth and depth of subjects offered by larger colleges.

Its latest OFSTED rating (2016) is 'Good', with strengths in leadership & management, teaching quality, learning and assessment, personal development, behaviour and welfare; outcomes for pupils, and the 16 to 19 study programme. In 2014, its OFSTED rating had been 'Requires Improvement'. In 2019, 53% of students achieved Grade 4 or above in GCSE English & Maths. There have been improvements in academic progress (Progress 8) and in academic attainment (Attainment 8) at Key Stage 4. At Key Stage 5, the average 'A' level grade was 'D' in 2019, compared with 'C+' nationally and for all general qualifications it was 'Pass' compared with Merit+ nationally.

PACA has access to a sports centre, managed by Freedom Leisure on behalf of the City Council, with a new 3G all-weather football pitch, which it shares with the local community and it houses the community library.

The PACA Social Action Committee, which is managed by students, was launched in 2013. It has raised thousands of pounds to support local and national charities including the global Nepal earthquake, MacMillan Cancer and the Martlets Hospice. PACA was awarded the Youth in Action Community School of the Year in 2016 and Brighton & Hove's Most Improved School of the Year in 2017.

Enterprise skills and entrepreneurship is also a key element of learning at PACA, delivered through the Aldridge Attributes: Passion, Determination, Risk-taking, Problem-solving, Teamwork and Creativity.



PACA employs 57 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff, including 33 FTE teaching staff. This has now increased to 75.6 FTE, including 58.8 FTE teaching staff. It received £13.7 million in direct grant funding from central government between 2014/15 and 2018/19 and it raised a further £1.2 million in self-generated funds and community grants.

It delivered £93.9 million worth of Educational Impacts between 2016/17 and 2019/20, whilst the benefits of spending by staff and spending on goods and services between 2014/15 and 2018/19 were £12.8 million and £6.5 million respectively. The total monetised benefits have been calculated at **£114.4 million**.

Aldridge Adult Learning

Aldridge Adult Learning (AAL) is based at Portslade Aldridge Community Academy (PACA) and it also operates out of Foredown Tower, a former water tower with an operational camera obscura, and Quayside Youth Centre. AAL runs over 100 adult education courses, evening classes, part-time education courses and one day courses for people aged over 19 years. It also runs programmes to support people back into employment. Two-thirds of learners think the quality of the teaching is “outstanding” encouraging many to continue learning, improving their job prospects, self-confidence and health and well-being.

Between 2015/16 and 2018/19 there were over 10,000 enrolments and over 6,000 learners. More than a third (38%) of learners live locally in Portslade or Southwick. However, learners come from as far as Crawley, Littlehampton and Eastbourne. Over a half (55%) of leavers went into employment or self-employment. The total monetised benefits have been calculated at **£30.6 million**.

3,656

Number of Users

350

Number of Students

£22.9m

Educations Benefits

Associated Community Impacts

BACA Sports

+£19,953

Average Additional
House Price Value

+£169.3

Total Additional
House Price Value

-124

Difference In
Expected Crimes
(2019 only)

+£0.5m

Crime Savings
Benefits
(2019 only)

PACA

+£19,953

Average Additional
House Price Value

+£184.5

Total Additional
House Price Value

+170

Difference In
Expected Crimes
(2019 only)

+£0.6m

Crime Savings
Benefits
(2019 only)

There are community benefits that cannot directly be attributed to the Aldridge academies. These include house prices and crime rates. Even where there may appear to be positive impacts in the local area, these may be correlational, rather than causal.

Indeed, in areas where house prices have risen sharply, the changing socio-economic characteristics of a catchment area may be a driver of improvements in school performance, rather than a result of it. Changes in house prices are based on market supply and demand and the relative affluence of people living in the surrounding area.

Brighton & Hove is an affluent city, located in the south east of England and within commuting distanced from London and key employment centres, such as Crawley. By national standards, employment opportunities are plentiful. The Aldridge academies are located in the more deprived parts of Brighton & Hove, where historically, property prices have been lower. However, high prices across the city as a whole have resulted in people moving to the outer edges of the city and to other towns within the Greater Brighton area, raising house prices in traditionally more affordable areas.

Between 2011 and 2019 average house prices rose by 30.4% in real terms (2019 prices) in Brighton & Hove, by 39.0% in the BACA catchment area and by 38.5% in the PACA catchment area. This represents an additional average price increase of £19,953 in the BACA catchment area over the period and an additional total value increase compared with the city as a whole of £169.3 million.

In the PACA catchment area, the additional average price increase was £19,562 and the additional total value increase of £184.5 million. The two areas combined had an aggregate property value increase of £353.8 million more than would have been the case had house prices risen at the same rate as across the city as a whole.

It is also difficult to attribute changing crime rates to the Aldridge academies. There are many other variables to consider to estimate causality. Furthermore, crimes area not all committed in the places where people live. Between 2012 and 2019, the crime rate in Brighton & Hove fell by 18.2% from 146.6 per 1,000 residents to 119.9 per 1,000 residents. Over the same period, the crime rate in the BACA catchment area fell by 21.7%, from 123.7 per 1,000 residents to 96.8 per 1,000 residents. Had the crime rate in the BACA catchment area fallen at the same rate as the crime rate in the city as a whole, there would have been 124 more crimes in the area in the twelve months to September 2019. The cost of crime was £0.5 million lower in those twelve months, compared with what might have been expected.

In the PACA catchment area, the crime rate fell by 10.2% over the period, from 90.9 per 1,000 residents to 81.6 crimes per 1,000 residents. Had the crime rate in the PACA catchment area fallen at the same rate as the crime rate in the city as a whole, there would have been 170 fewer crimes in the area in the twelve months to September 2019. This means that the cost of crime was £0.6 million higher in those twelve months, compared with what might have been expected.

4

Aldridge Academy Impacts

This section summarises the combined Aldridge academies monetised benefits for Blackburn with Darwen and Brighton & Hove.



Capital Investment

The Aldridge Foundation has invested £9.8 million in direct capital funding and transformational investment to establish the academies in Blackburn with Darwen and Brighton & Hove. This investment has been supported by a further £102.0 million of central government capital investment. Every £1.00 of investment made by the Aldridge Foundation, levered a further **£10.41** of national Government investment into deprived communities in Blackburn with Darwen and Brighton & Hove.

The construction investment alone has supported the equivalent of 73 net sustainable jobs.

£9.8m

Aldridge Capital and Transformational Investment



£10.41

Every £1.00 of investment made by the Aldridge Foundation, levered a further £10.41 of national Government investment

£102.0m

Government Capital Investment



73

Sustainable Construction Jobs

£112.0 million

Direct Government Grants¹⁹

£7.77

Every £1.00 of investment in the Aldridge academies has delivered monetised benefits of £7.77

Economic Benefits	
Direct Benefits	£9.4m
Staff Spending Benefits	£92.3m
Supply Chain Benefits	£49.7m
Education Benefits	£597.3m
Community Benefits	£38.4m
Current Value of Assets	£83.9m

Total Benefits	£870.1m
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Jobs Supported	
Direct Jobs (FTE)	429
Staff Spending Jobs	206
Supply Chain Jobs	165
Sustainable Construction Jobs	73
Sustainable Construction Jobs	17

Total Jobs	891
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Monetised and Employment Benefits

This report assesses the socio and economic impacts between 2014/15 and 2018/2019, the last year of stable academy data and performance information prior to the Covid-19 pandemic.

In this period, central Government invested £112.0m in direct government grants to Aldridge academies in Blackburn with Darwen and Brighton & Hove. This has resulted in benefits with a value of **£870.1 million**, including £597.2 million of educational benefits, Every £1.00 of investment in the Aldridge academies in Blackburn with Darwen and Brighton & Hove has delivered monetised benefits of **£7.77**.

However, both Aldridge academies have been open for much longer than the five years that this socio-economic assessment covers. If the academies annual average impact is applied to these additional years, the benefits of academies in the two areas would amount to **£457 million**. Looking ahead, the Aldridge academies could have a further impact of around **£534 million** in Brighton & Hove over the next decade.

The Aldridge academies activities support **891 jobs** including 429 direct jobs and 462 in the wider economy.

19. The government grant to the academies [General Annual Grant] is the same as allocated to State Schools.

5

Summary

The Aldridge Foundation has invested heavily in education in some of the most deprived parts in the north west of England and the south east. As well as the direct capital and transformational investment provided by the Aldridge Foundation and the Department of Education, the aim has been to develop an enriching curricula offers and ambitious learning environments to provide young people from disadvantaged backgrounds with the same socio-cultural and educational opportunities that more affluent young people enjoy.

The Aldridge Attributes embed skills and attributes that go beyond traditional academic learning, providing new experiences that broaden horizons, develop life skills, build self-confidence and promote aspiration and ambition. The impact of how and what young people learn will only be evident over the longer term. Aldridge Foundation's approach to learning reflects employers' views that attributes and personal qualities are at least as important as academic achievement recruiting young people, whilst the digital age provides new opportunities for enterprising entrepreneurial young people to establish new and successful businesses.

Aldridge Foundation's vision is to help to deliver social change by supporting disadvantaged communities, as well as individuals. Alongside ambitious and visionary leadership, physical and human capital investment can develop the social and economic well-being of local communities. Whilst the academies have developed excellent partnerships with local community organisations, there is still more to do. The physical buildings are outstanding community assets that, with the right partnerships and well-targeted investment could be further and better utilised.



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The Aldridge Foundation opens young peoples' eyes to opportunities in the world beyond school and helps them build valuable skills and attributes through enterprise learning, expeditionary experiences, sport and the arts.

If you'd like to find out how you can support our work, visit our website:

www.aldridgefoundation.com/support-us

Telephone: +44 (0) 207 297 0365
Email: hello@aldridgefoundation.com
Website: www.aldridgefoundation.com

Twitter: [@AldridgeFdn](https://twitter.com/AldridgeFdn)
LinkedIn: [Aldridge Foundation](https://www.linkedin.com/company/aldridge-foundation)
Instagram: [@aldridge_foundation](https://www.instagram.com/aldridge_foundation)

Aldridge Foundation
Fifth Floor
8 City Road
London
EC1Y 2AA