



**THIS POLICY COVERS ALL ACADEMIES/SCHOOLS WITHIN
ARDEN MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST**

Name of Policy	Investment Policy	
Lead	Christine Austin, Director of Finance	
Governor Committee	Audit & Risk Committee	
Policy Status	Initial Governor Approval	15 th October 2012
	Trustee approved	12 th December 2023
	2 years	
Version No.	2	
Next Review		
Amendments	Autumn Term 2024	
	15.02.15 – some minor changes	
	19.10.15 – approved during F&R Meeting	
	30.11.15 – formally approved during AMAT Board Meeting	
	16 th November 2017 (FRC)	
	MPM reviewed on 10 th June 2019	
	September 2019 – minor amendments made to reflect Trust Status	



1. Requirements of investment strategy

Any Investment by Arden Multi-Academy Trust needs to:

- Be as risk free as possible;
- Adhere to guidelines as specified in the EFA Academies Financial Handbook 2019 (2.2.9 Investments – ‘The Board must ensure that investment risk is properly managed’) and any subsequent EFA revisions;
- Have the approval of the AMAT Audit & Risk Committee;
- Optimise returns (relative to a low risk environment) and accessibility.

2. Current situation

The schools/academies in the Trust currently invest in short term fixed interest deposits with Lloyds Banking Group. These are on a mix of 1/3/6/9 or 12 monthly cycles to enable the investment situation to be reviewed each quarter. These certificate of deposits run alongside the current accounts of each individual school. At maturity, a decision is taken on whether to re-invest in whole or part and on what time frame based on a review of the cash flow forecast.

3. Responsibilities of the Business Director (AMAT) and the Finance Team

The Director of Finance will decide the following:

- At maturity of the deposits, make a decision on whether to re-invest or not based on a review of the cash flow forecast.
- Monitor rates of the deposits by benchmarking with products from other similar banking organisations.
- Refer to the AMAT Audit & Risk Committee for prior approval to any proposed changes to the current investment arrangements.
- Report each term to the AMAT Audit & Risk Committee on current status of investments across the Trust.