Investment Policy

Responsible Committee	CLPT Finance & Operations Committee
Date Approved by Committee	February 2026
Implementation Date	February 2026
Next Review Date	March 2027
Policy Owner	Kate Hillman, CFO

This document has been created to support the mission, values and beliefs of the Creative Learning Partnership Trust:

Our mission.

Creating **transformational** educative opportunities; promoting **social justice**; unlocking individual **freedom**

Our values.

Integrity
Courage to do the right thing, taking time to care.

Speaking and acting truthfully, fairly and upholding universal, moral principles.

Collaboration.
Working together, enabling each other.

Working with others to achieve strategic direction and to develop mutual trust and respect.

Dedication.
Committed to supporting and improving.

Showing commitment to and responsibility for strategies and goals.

Kindness.
Thinking of others and acting with compassion.

Demonstrating intentional actions to show care, respect and empathy to others.

Innovation.
Using expertise and research to transform.

Taking a proactive approach to problem solving , showing creativity, forward thinking and adaptability.

Understanding.
Openness, listening and valuing one another.

Actively listening to others to gauge the perspectives and needs of others within relevant context.

CREATIVE.

Creativity is at the heart of how we achieve exceptional educational outcomes. It drives innovation and empowers us to transform new and original ideas into reality, enriching the learning experience for every child.

LEARNING.

Learning is at the core of all we do. We are relentless in our commitment to ensuring that every child within our care achieves outcomes that truly reflect their potential and aspirations.

PARTNERSHIP.

Collaboration and **partnership** are key to continuous improvement. By working together, we create an inclusive, supportive, and responsive organisation that listens and learns from all voices.

TRUST.

Trust is the foundation of our culture. It permeates every aspect of our schools and organisation, creating confidence, integrity, and building strong relationships across our entire community.

1. Purpose and scope of this policy

To set out the processes by which the Trust can invest funds surplus to day-to-day operational requirements and to ensure that investment risk is properly and prudently managed.
In doing so, Trustees must:

- Act within their Charity's power to invest.
- Set investment objectives.
- Set the parameters that deposit counterparties need to meet.
- Consider the level of liquid cash required to be held either overnight or within current accounts.
- Approve the type of products that the Trust can invest in and seek external guidance if required.
- Define processes to manage and make investment decisions.
- Monitor and review investments on a regular basis.

2. Responsibility

The Trustees delegate the day-to-day responsibility of managing and implementing the investment policy to the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to ensure investments are managed in accordance with this policy and monitor regularly how the Trust's investments are performing.

3. Objectives

To identify a level of funds that can be placed on deposit to generate additional interest income for the Trust in order to support its on-going charitable objectives.

Any investment decisions must be supported by a cashflow forecast that reduces the risk of the Trust not having the liquidity required to carry out its day-to-day activities.

3. Counterparty Risk

Following the Banking Crisis in 2007/2008, The Bank of England have (through the FSA and latterly, the FCA and PRA) implemented changes to banking regulation and capital requirements of UK FCA registered banks to ensure the stability of the UK Banking system.
As such, the Trust can only make cash deposits with institutions with a UK banking licence regulated by the FCA.

4. Counterparty Restrictions

For Institutions with an Investment Grade "good" or better credit rating or implied credit rating the Trust can deposit a maximum of £2,000,000 (plus interest accrued) in any one institution.

These ratings include:
Baa3 / P-3 or better (Moody's) or
BBB- / A-3 or better (S&P) or
BBB- / F3 or better (Fitch) or

An implied rating of BBB- or better

The Credit rating or Implied Credit Rating will be checked at the time of placing a deposit with a new bank.

It is worth noting that Implied Credit Ratings are usually the 'long term' position, however, the Trust will only be depositing 'short term' in deposits with a maturity date or notice period of 12-months or less.

The Trust will further reduce its counterparty risk by having funds with at least two institutions.

It is recognised that the Trust's current account balance(s) may exceed the deposit limits stated above. For the purpose of this investment policy, current account balances are excluded from the counterparty limits detailed above.

4. Assessing liquidity needs

The Trust should ensure that a sufficient balance will be held across accounts with short term (Instant or easy access) so that the Trust's financial commitments can be met without the risk of the current account going overdrawn.

It should also allow enough flexibility to deal with reasonable, one-off events should they occur.
The Trust's cash flow forecasts will dictate how much is available for investment and for how long.

The cashflow forecasts should be reviewed monthly as part of the management accounts cycle and on maturity of fixed term deposits.

5. Investment Products

The Trust can invest surplus funds in a mixture of interest-bearing accounts and money market facilities (where the capital is not placed at risk) including:

- Overnight (instant access / easy access)
- Notice accounts (typically from 30-days to 100+ days)
- Fixed term deposits (typically from 1-month to 12-months)
- Investment maturity dates should not exceed 12-months in term unless funds are held for a specific future product with no risk of requiring access in the meantime.

It is noted that notice and term deposits will not be accessible before the required notice period or maturity date for any reason.

The profile and restrictions of the most common deposit accounts are:

Easy Access:

- No notice needed to make withdrawals.

- Funds are usually returned overnight or within a few days
- Interest Rates are variable

Notice Accounts:
- No access without giving the required notice
- Interest Rates are variable

Fixed Term Deposits:
- No access until the deposit matures
- Interest Rates are fixed for the term

6. Investment Decisions

The CFO is responsible for producing reliable cash flow forecasts as a basis for decision making.

The CFO is responsible for making investment decisions that comply with this Policy.

Deposit facilities in use by the Trust must be restricted to 'dual control' for the opening of a deposit, placing funds and withdrawing funds.

7. Monitoring & Reporting

The CFO will report investments held and the performance of investments against objectives to the Finance and Operations Committee for review each time it meets or when requested to do so.

The reporting should include:
- Funds invested
- Maturity dates
- Interest rates
- Latest cash flows showing 12-month liquidity requirements
- Recommendations for the next 3 months.

8. Review

Trustees should review the Investment policy to ensure it is still fit for purpose annually.