



Date	Changes
03/03/2025	Approved by the Trust Remuneration Committee
25/02/2026	Approved by the Trust Remuneration Committee

Review date: 31<sup>st</sup> March 2027

## Gender Pay Gap Report 2025

Under the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017, and as an employer with over 250 employees, SMART (South East Cornwall Multi Academy Regional Trust) is required to measure and report on the gender pay gap in the organisation. The Trust is a public sector body and has a data capture on 31st March each year.

Under the regulations there is a requirement to report on the following six measures:

- The difference in the mean pay of full pay male and female expressed as a percentage
- The difference in the median pay of full pay male and female expressed as a percentage
- The difference in the mean bonus pay of full pay male and female expressed as a percentage
- The difference in the median bonus of full pay male and female expressed as a percentage
- The proportion of male and female employees who were paid bonus pay
- The proportion of full pay male and female employees in each quartile pay band

### Data Snapshot Date: 31st March 2025

#### Difference in mean and median hourly rate of pay

	Difference in the mean hourly pay	Difference in the median hourly pay
Pay gap % difference male to female	24.46%	46.89%

#### Difference in mean and median bonus pay

	Difference in the mean bonus pay	Difference in the median bonus pay
Pay gap % difference male to female	N/A	N/A

#### Proportion of male and female employees who were paid bonus pay

	Proportion receiving a bonus
Male employees (% paid a bonus compared to all male employees)	N/A
Female employees (% paid a bonus compared to all female employees)	N/A

## Proportion of male and female employees according to quartile pay bands

	Quartile 1 Lower	Quartile 2 Lower middle	Quartile 3 Upper middle	Quartile 4 Upper
Male (% males to all employees in each quartile)	14.53%	18.97%	39.17%	42.86%
Female (% females to all employees in each quartile)	85.47%	81.03%	60.83%	57.14%

There were no bonuses paid in the period.

### Narrative

South East Cornwall Multi Academy Regional Trust has three secondary schools (two with sixth form provision), three small primary schools and two nurseries.

The challenge in our organisation is to eliminate any gender pay gap. Working in the education sector is an attractive option for many due to the working patterns, willingness to accommodate requests for part-time roles and the availability of term time only contracts that enable a balance with family caring responsibilities. This results in a high proportion of female employees for SMART and the impact is reflected in our pay data which shows that when we take an overall average for female employees, it is much lower than the overall average for male employees.

On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025, 29% of the roles employed across the Trust were held by male employees, and 71% were held by females. This is a one percent reduction in female employees compared to the previous year. There was an increase of 33 roles appointed.

The Trust has a mean gender pay gap of 24.46% (an increase from 22.4% from the 2024 report). This compares very favourably to the national figure of 32% ([as reported in April 2024](#)) meaning SMART is in the best performing quartile nationally but still well above the best performing large Trust last year which achieved 13.6% up from 12% the year before (Ark Trust).

After a small increase in the percentage of female employees in the upper pay quartile in 2024, there was a reduction from 59.34% to 57.14% in 2025. The number in the upper middle pay quartile remained the same at 60.83%. These changes can be attributed to the turnover of employees in these quartiles and some male candidates being the best performers when applying for vacancies that were previously held by female employees.

The Trust operates nationally agreed pay scales for all employees which are available to our workforce and the public. Our support staff roles are evaluated to ensure fair pay across all roles. All vacancies are advertised equitably and in accordance with the pay scale for the role with no gender bias. Recruitment procedures are managed in accordance with SMART's Recruitment Policy which promotes equal opportunities; fair, transparent and non-discriminatory selection processes; and appointments on merit. Our policies are rigorously debated and consulted upon with trade union representatives prior to implementation and are subject to equality impact assessment.

Dan Buckley  
Chief Executive Officer