

Sixth Form Funding Tool (*Beta*).

A practical tool to help sixth forms secure and retain accurate funding.

OXFORDANALYTICS

Turn complex funding data into clear insight

6th Form Funding - Utopia Academy



Historic 6th Form Funding trend



Future 6th Form Funding Profile

Funding trend

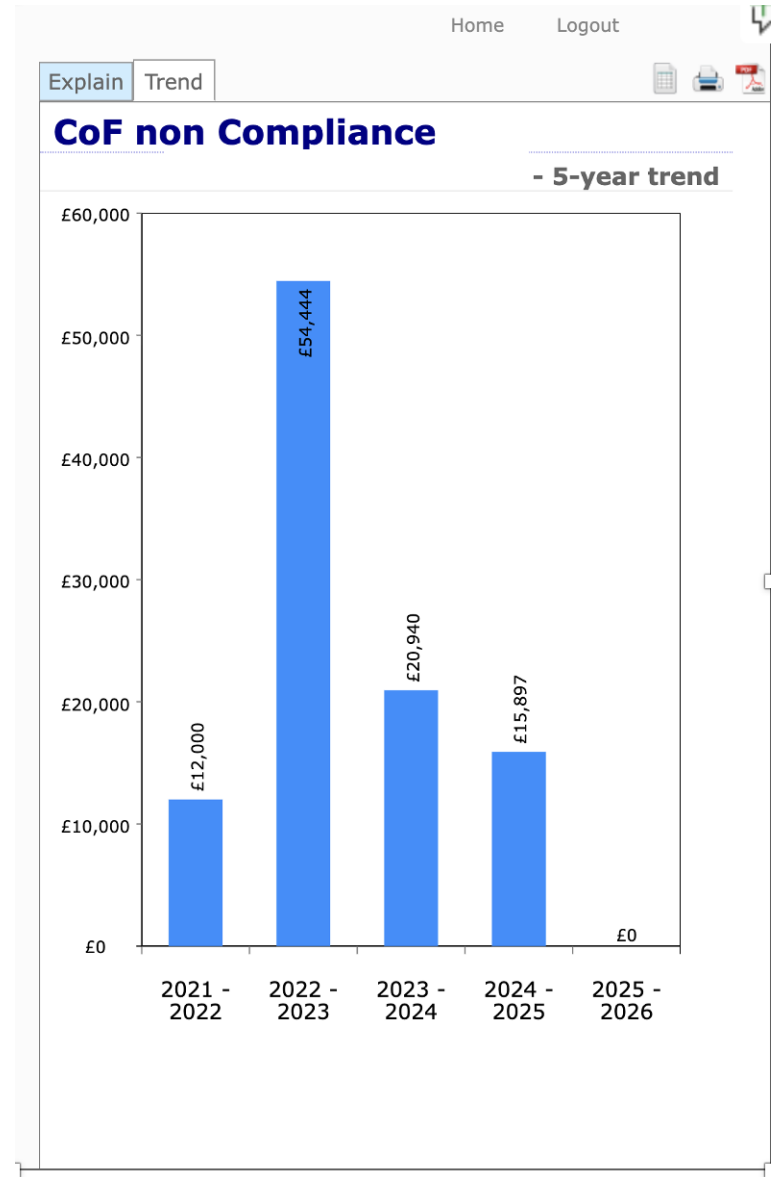
Identify patterns and anomalies in your historic funding data to reduce risk in future Census returns

Historic 6th Form Funding Trend - Utopia Academy

Mainstream students	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Band 1	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.19%	0.00%
Band 2	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Band 3	5.97%	4.56%	0.65%	0.74%	0.19%
Band 4a	0.00%	3.60%	4.90%	5.20%	5.00%
Band 4b	0.03%	0.84%	5.45%	3.87%	6.81%
Band 5+ (inc. T-level)	94.00%	91.00%	89.00%	90.00%	88.00%
Programme Weighting	1.01	1.01	1.02	1.03	1.02
Disadvantage Block 1	£592,466	£962,042	£5,745,559	£826,033	£727,387
Disadvantage Block 2	£19	£0	£61	£13	£16
Learner numbers	156	198	222	237	249
Retention factor	0.980	0.970	0.890	0.990	0.933
Retention rate	0.960	0.940	0.780	0.980	0.866
Area Cost Uplift	1	1	1	1	1
Total Funding	£1,466,000	£1,478,000	£1,422,000	£1,501,000	£1,494,000
CoF Adjustment	£0	£0	-£12,145	£0	-£4,777
Large Programme Funding	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
CoF non Compliance	£0	£0	£0	£0	£19,000
Band 6 students	0	0	0	6	8
Band 7 students	0	0	0	0	0
Band 8 students	0	0	0	0	0
Band 9 students	0	0	0	0	0

Drill-down insight

Drill down into student numbers, retention, lagged data and more to see **what's really driving your funding**



Errors & Explanations - side by side

Quickly identify:

Historic funding errors
Likely causes
Clear, plain-English
explanations

All in one view.

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Explain
Trend

Retention rate

Retention rate = retained students ÷ all students
Retention factor = (retention rate ÷ 2) + 0.5
Calculated from autumn census for the previous full-year.

Possible recording errors:

Possible error #1: Core aim is returned for an academic student or not returned for a vocational student.
Result: May result in a student being incorrectly recorded as not retained.
Explanation: The core aim is used to determine whether or not a student's programme is academic or vocational (those with a core aim are vocational and those without are academic). If a student is deemed academic because a core aim has not been recorded the retention calculation will exclude all vocational aims. If that student has no academic aims the retention status will be set to not retained by default. The same is true of an academic student who is deemed vocational because a core aim has incorrectly been recorded.

Possible error #2: Incorrect or invalid QN is recorded
Result: May result in a student being incorrectly recorded as not retained.
Explanation: If an invalid QN is returned, we cannot match in reference data from LARS. Therefore the aim type will be unavailable and the learning aim will default to vocational. If the student's programme is academic, vocational aims will be ignored in the retention calculation. An incorrect QN may result in incorrect LARS data being matched to the learning aim, again resulting in incorrectly excluded aims in the retention calculation.

Possible error #3: Learning aim status is incorrect or missing
Result: May result in a student being incorrectly recorded as not retained.
Explanation: Aims with incorrect statuses could reflect a transferred or withdrawn (not retained) aim where it is actually continuing or completed (retained). Those aims with no learning aim status will default to not retained.

Forecasting & Modelling

Project your last validated funding year data forward, based on the main drivers such as:

- Growth in student numbers

BETA - Future 6th Form Funding Profile - Utopia Academy

Metric	2025-2026	Change	Value
Learner numbers	249	16	265
Retention rate	86.6%	0.0%	86.6%
CoF Adjustment	£-5,000	£0	£-5,000
Proportion of students in Band 5	88.0%	0.0%	88.0%
Total Funding	£1,494,000	£76,000	£1,571,000

Info Reset

Forecasting & Modelling

Or a decline in retention

BETA - Future 6th Form Funding Profile - Utopia Academy

Learner numbers

2025-2026	Change	Value
249	0	249

Retention rate

2025-2026	Change	Value
86.6%	-2.9%	83.7%

CoF Adjustment

2025-2026	Change	Value
£-5,000	£0	£-5,000

Proportion of students in Band 5

2025-2026	Change	Value
88.0%	0.0%	88.0%

Total Funding

2025-2026	Change	Value
£1,494,000	£-18,000	£1,476,000

Info Reset

Next steps

Beta access offered **free of charge** to:

- Schools attending the **Sixth Form Funding Masterclasses 2026**
- **Oxford Analytics Partner Schools**

Feedback from beta users will shape the final release

Oxford Analytics

Helping hundreds of sixth forms secure their full funding entitlement since 2010