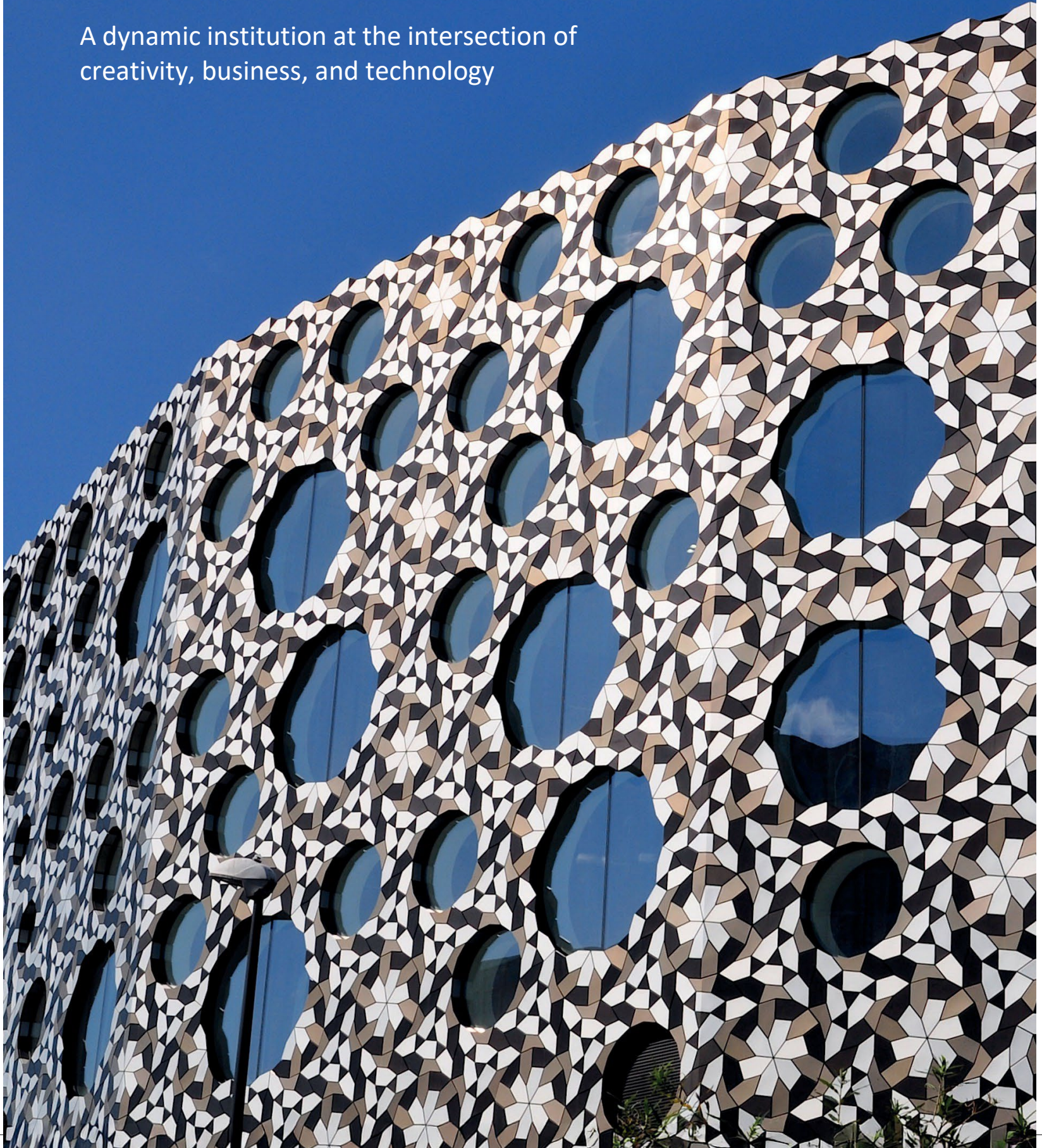




Ravensbourne
University London

Appointment of board members

A dynamic institution at the intersection of
creativity, business, and technology





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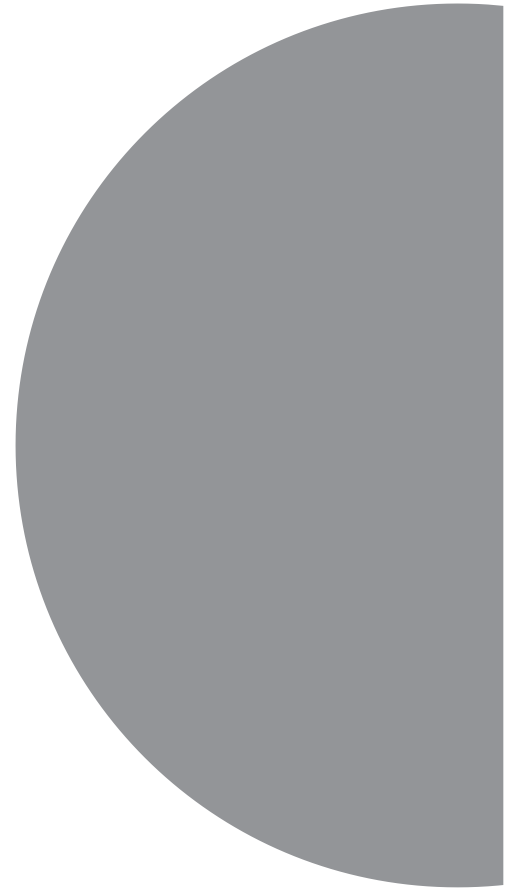
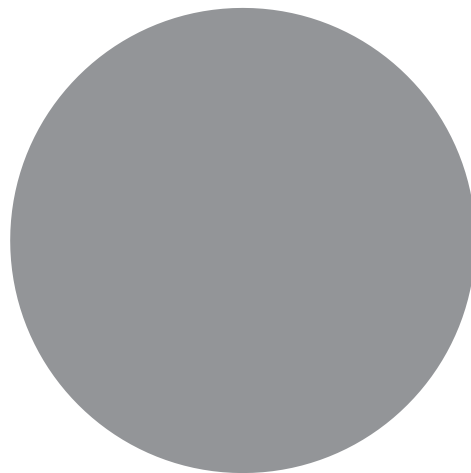
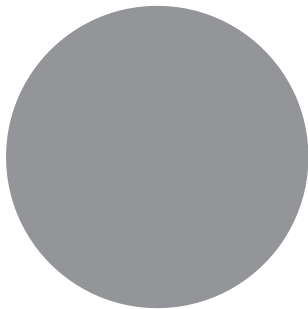
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Introduction from the Chair



Ravensbourne is a special place. Its focus on creativity, technology and business sets it apart. Its student cohort, both international and domestic, is diverse and dynamic. Ravensbourne is committed to ensuring accessibility and employability for each and every student through industry partnership and academic excellence.

The workplace is going through a period of momentous change, requiring universities to deliver agile, industry-led training models that adapt quickly to evolving needs. This means embedding hands-on, real-world experience into training from the outset. Ravensbourne exemplifies this approach, offering a portfolio that aligns with the needs of industry, is led by industry, and works across disciplines.

Ravensbourne's impressive growth over the last few years has required enormous adaptability and focus and led to financial stability and strength. The challenge for the next five years is sustainability, ensuring students are equipped for the evolving world of work that they seek to enter, and working with industry in the spirit of partnership and mutual learning.

We are dedicated to giving our students the skills and opportunities they need for outstanding careers in digital media, design, business and technology. Our offering currently spans television, film and broadcasting, product and graphic design, architecture, fashion, business and leadership, marketing and computing. Our ambition is to diversify our offer, ensuring it works for students and employers.

Our ambition comes with many challenges shared across the university sector: demographic shifts, greater competition and shrinking graduate employment opportunities. However, it is clear to me that Ravensbourne has clear advantages; a culture of agility, a demonstrable commitment to accessibility and the respect of industry, will continue to set it apart.

This is a time of positive change and opportunity. I joined as Chair of the Board of Governors in January 2026 to support the realisation of the delivery of our 2025–2030 strategy. Now, we are looking for strategically-minded individuals to join the board to help the university in achieving its full potential and I hope that you will be interested in joining us.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Lisa Opie

Chair of Board of Governors

What makes us special

Diversity

Diversity is in our DNA. We are proud of the many ethnicities, identities, cultures and religions that make up our community.

Connectivity

Connection with industry is at the heart of our strategy, teaching and student experiences. From industry-experienced tutors to industry briefs and embedded live briefs, we learn with industry, industry learns with us and together we transform lives.

Excellence

We have a Silver Award for our excellent quality of teaching and learning from the teaching excellence framework.

Values

We are deeply committed to our core principles which guide our behaviour, decision-making and actions and serve as the foundation for our culture.

Innovation

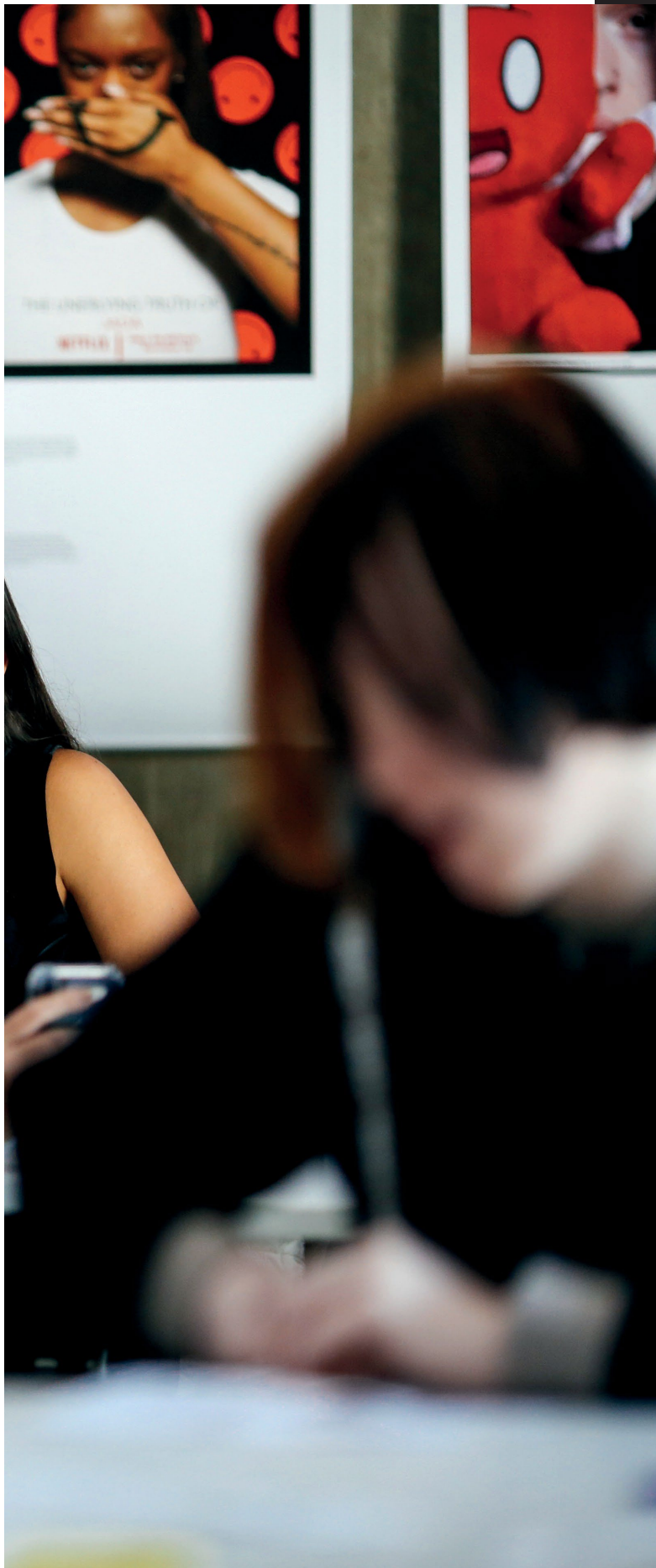
We're not a university that stands still. Enhanced by our industry connections we ensure our course offer, curriculum, spaces and equipment reflect the needs of our students and the industries they will go into on graduation including the launch of our Centre for Excellence in Emerging Technologies launched in 2025.

Alumni

Fashion designer Stella McCartney, 2012 Olympic torch designer Jay Osgerby, The King's Speech and Oscar winning producers Simon Egan and Gareth Unwin and Meghan Markle's wedding dress designer Clare Waight Keller were all trained here.







About us

The present

Ravensbourne University London is a dynamic institution at the intersection of creativity, business, and technology.

Based in London's Design District in the heart of North Greenwich, we are home to a diverse, global community in one of the world's most vibrant business and creative hubs.

We learn with industry; industry learns with us and together we transform lives. With cutting-edge facilities and strong industry connections, we empower students with the skills, knowledge, experience and connections needed to thrive in their careers and lives. Our courses foster collaboration, innovation and real-world learning, preparing graduates to become leaders in their fields.

Recognised for excellence, we are proud to be ranked among the top five universities in London by StudentCrowd, hold a Silver rating in the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) and are the only university worldwide to receive RIBA accreditation for both Architecture and Interiors courses.

Our corporate strategy 2025–2030 Our purpose at Ravensbourne is to create bold new thinkers who shape industries at the intersection of business, creativity and technology.

Our vision is to be a university that challenges convention to meet the needs of students and industries in a changing world. Our new strategy 2025–30 sets out a bold vision that will help us complete our transformation into the university we're already well on the way to becoming.

Our corporate strategy 2025–30 can be found [here](#).



Our values

Developed in consultation with our staff community, our values provide a framework for the way we work and operate together to deliver our vision and strategy; they help shape our strategic choices, our activities and our culture.

These are our core principles, which guide our behaviour, decision-making and actions and serve as the foundation for our culture.

Professionalism

We are relentless in the pursuit of excellence, seeking quality in all we do. We learn together as a student, staff and alumni community, and evolve with the best practice in the industries we serve.

Connection

We value what happens together and collaborate to achieve common goals. We build our university community to connect with individuals, institutions, and professions and develop strong industry partnerships.

Dynamism

We embrace every opportunity to adapt and optimise. We have the confidence to embrace change, the agility to respond, and the courage to do things differently.

Inclusion

We celebrate our diversity and we embrace difference as a source of strength. We strive for an inclusive Ravensbourne community, removing barriers and challenging exclusionary and discriminatory practice.

Transformation

We are a catalyst for social mobility. We open doors, creating opportunities for everyone, helping an increasingly diverse range of students break into their chosen fields and rebalance cultural and economic inequality.

Relevance

We engage proactively with the energy and ambition of the learners we work with, the communities we serve and the industries we work alongside.

Research

Our approach to research is practice-led and industry-embedded, with research designed to address real challenges in creative, technological, business, computing and social contexts.

We develop research through multidisciplinary teams, working with external partners from the outset to generate impactful projects, consultancy and collaborative innovation. This strengthens our teaching, supports professional practice and ensures our research contributes to sector development, organisational change, and wider societal benefit.

Our research culture is built around collaboration, experimentation and measurable impact. Through embedded research, living labs, contract research and collaborative projects, we support staff, students and partners to develop solutions that can progress into new ventures, funding bids, publications, and Research Excellence Framework and Knowledge Exchange Framework quality outputs.

We are building our Research Excellence Framework 2029 submission through a Labs framework structure, with a focus on high quality, applied research and impact in areas of institutional strength. Our research activity is shaped by the expertise of our academic staff and the needs of our industry and community partners.

Current research activity spans the Labs network, including:

- The Audio-Visual Media Lab.
- The Emerging Technology, Business and Social Purposes Lab.
- Collaborative Observatory for Architecture and Cities Lab.
- The Learning Lab.
- The Digital Hack Lab.
- The Regenerative Fashion Lab.

We have a growing portfolio of externally engaged research and knowledge exchange projects across the UK and internationally and we use the findings from these collaborations to inform curriculum development, new partnerships and commercial opportunities.

Through the Labs, our research is translated into consultancy, professional collaboration and funded activity that strengthens both our academic profile and our sector relevance.



Alumni

We are proud to boast names that have gone on to become part of the elite in their field, artists Chris Orr MBE, Brian Barnes MBE, Dinos Chapman, and Anthony McCall; fashion designers Stella McCartney OBE, Bruce Oldfield OBE, Maria Cornejo, and Clare Waight Keller; sculptor Alison Wilding OBE; product designer Jay Osgerby; Oscar-winning producers Simon Egan and Gareth Ellis-Unwin; and Apple's Vice President of Industrial Design Richard Howarth.

The future

We are seeking board members who will help us on our ambitious journey. Understanding and unlocking our potential and facing our challenges, board members are integral to shaping our future.

As a small and agile university, we need board members with vision, who understand our unique opportunities, relish the challenges and can contribute to our success.

New board members will help us to:

- influence the world through creativity, business and technology in learning, research and business;
- inspire a highly diverse range of people, valuable to and valued by the world beyond university; and
- innovate as a resilient, future-facing organisation, to extend our reach and relevance.





Role description

Introduction

1. The Board of Governors is responsible for the determination of the educational character and mission of Ravensbourne and for the oversight of its activities. It has a key role in ensuring the efficient use of resources and the solvency of the institution.
2. Members ensure compliance with the statutes governing the Institution and have an important role in monitoring Ravensbourne's performance against its Strategic Plan. The Board approves annual estimates of income and expenditure and sets the framework for the pay and conditions of service of all staff.
3. The Committee of University Chairs' Higher Education Code of Governance states that "good governance requires a set of strong relationships based on mutual respect, trust and honesty to be maintained between the governing body, the clerk, the vice chancellor and the senior management team."

Tenure

4. Independent members of the Board will be appointed for an initial term of three years on the basis of the experience and capacity they have in industry, commerce, or employment matters or the practice of any profession.
5. Membership can be renewed for a further three years with the agreement of the Board of Governors, and thereafter (in exceptional circumstances) for a third and final term.

Remuneration and insurance

6. With the exception of the role of Chair of the Board of Governors, independent members of the Board fulfil a voluntary unpaid role. However, all reasonable travel and subsistence expenses attending meetings and other official University business will be reimbursed in accordance with the University's Financial Regulations and Procedures.
7. Directors and Officers' Liability Insurance is in place.

Induction and provision of information for new governors

8. All new members of the Board will be provided with an Induction and such other information as is appropriate. This would include a copy of the University's Instrument and Articles of Government; its Rules and Bye Laws; its most recent set of Annual Accounts and Financial Statements; its Strategic Plan; the CUC's Higher Education Code of Governance; and the Office for Students' terms and conditions of funding and other guidance documents as may be relevant.

Expectations

9. Independent members of the Board are expected to:
 - a. Have a strong personal commitment to:
 - i. Higher Education as a public good.
 - ii. Ravensbourne's [purpose, vision and values](#).
 - iii. Ravensbourne's [strategic objectives](#).
 - b. Play an appropriate part in ensuring that the necessary business of the Board is carried out efficiently, effectively, and in a manner appropriate for the proper conduct of public business.



- c. Make rational and constructive contributions to debate and to make their knowledge and expertise available to the Board as opportunity arises.
- d. Have responsibility for ensuring that the Board acts in accordance with Ravensbourne's Instrument of Government and internal rules and regulations, and should seek advice from the University Secretary & Registrar in any case of uncertainty.
- e. Make a full and timely disclosure of personal interests to the University Secretary & Registrar in accordance with the procedures approved by the Board of Governors.
- f. Recognise and respect the proper separation between governance and executive management, and to accept collective responsibility for the decisions reached by the Board.
- g. Attend all meetings of the Governing Body and of committees of which they may be appointed members, or give timely apologies if absence is unavoidable. Meeting dates are normally set at least six months in advance.
- h. Read agenda papers in advance, ask appropriate questions at meetings and engage in debate so as to assure themselves that matters are being appropriately managed by the University.
- i. Participate in procedures established by the Governing Body for the regular appraisal/review of the performance of individual members.
- j. Attend any induction activities arranged for them and participate in appropriate training events such as those arranged by external organisations which will be drawn to their attention by the University Secretary & Registrar.



Standards and proper conduct of business

10. All members of the Board of Governors are required to bring particular behaviours to the Board. These include having a positive commitment to embrace and comply with:
 - a. The Core Values set out in the CUC [“The Higher Education Code of Governance”](#)
 - b. The [Nolan principles of public life](#)
 - c. Ravensbourne’s own [values](#) and organisational behaviours in everyday actions and interactions, acting as a role model of Ravensbourne’s desired culture
 - d. Ravensbourne’s commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion, engaging its staff through inclusive and empowering approaches that celebrate and maximise the potential of our diverse university-wide community. This commitment means that independent members will at all times act fairly and impartially in the interests of Ravensbourne University as a whole, using independent judgement and maintaining confidentiality as appropriate. If in any doubt as to the status of information, members should check with the University Secretary & Registrar before disclosing. In turn, independent members will ensure that the Board conducts itself in accordance with accepted standards of behaviour in public life, embracing selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.
11. All members of the Board are asked to regulate at all times their personal conduct as members of the Board in accordance with these standards so as to act responsibly and not bring Ravensbourne University into disrepute.
12. Independent members must also satisfy the Office for Students’ Fit and Proper Person Test.

Responsibilities of the Board of Governors

13. The functions of the Board of Governors include:
 - a. the determination of the educational character and mission of the University and oversight of its activities;
 - b. the appointment or dismissal of the Vice Chancellor;
 - c. the effective and efficient use of resources, the solvency of the institution and the Corporation and for safeguarding their assets;
 - d. approving annual estimates of income and expenditure;
 - e. keeping accounts and records, and appointing auditors, in accordance with the provisions of the Act;
 - f. the determination of the tuition and other fees payable to the Corporation (subject to any terms and conditions attached to grants, loans or other payments paid or made by funding bodies, and to the provisions of the Education Acts, and any relevant regulations, orders or directions made by the Secretary of State);
 - g. the approval of policies and procedures relating to the appointment, grading, assignment of duties to, appraisal of, suspension, dismissal and determination of the pay and conditions of service of the holders of such senior posts as the Board may determine;
 - h. the approval of a framework for employing all other staff and regulating their employment;
 - i. ensuring that there are in place policies and procedures for the government and conduct of the institution, including, for all other staff, staff performance, discipline, dismissal and grievance, and for dealing with student discipline, complaints and academic appeals;

- j. the appointment or dismissal of the Clerk to the Board who shall act as secretary to the Board of Governors

14. The Board of Governors may delegate its functions as it sees fit, but shall not, however, delegate the following:
- a. the determination of the educational character and mission of the College;
 - b. the approval of the annual estimates of income and expenditure;
 - c. ensuring the solvency of the institution and the Corporation and the safeguarding of their assets;
 - d. the appointment or dismissal of the Vice Chancellor;
 - e. the approval of the scheme of delegation setting out the delegations made by the Board of Governors;
 - f. the varying or revoking of the Articles.

The external role of independent members

15. Independent members may be asked to:
- a. Represent the Board and the University externally, and will be fully briefed by the University to enable them to carry out this role effectively.
 - b. Use personal influence and networking skills on behalf of the University.
 - c. Play a role in liaising between key stakeholders and the University, or in fund-raising. They will be fully briefed by the University to enable them to carry out this role effectively. However, this role in particular must be exercised in a carefully co-ordinated fashion with other senior officers and staff of the University.

Time commitment

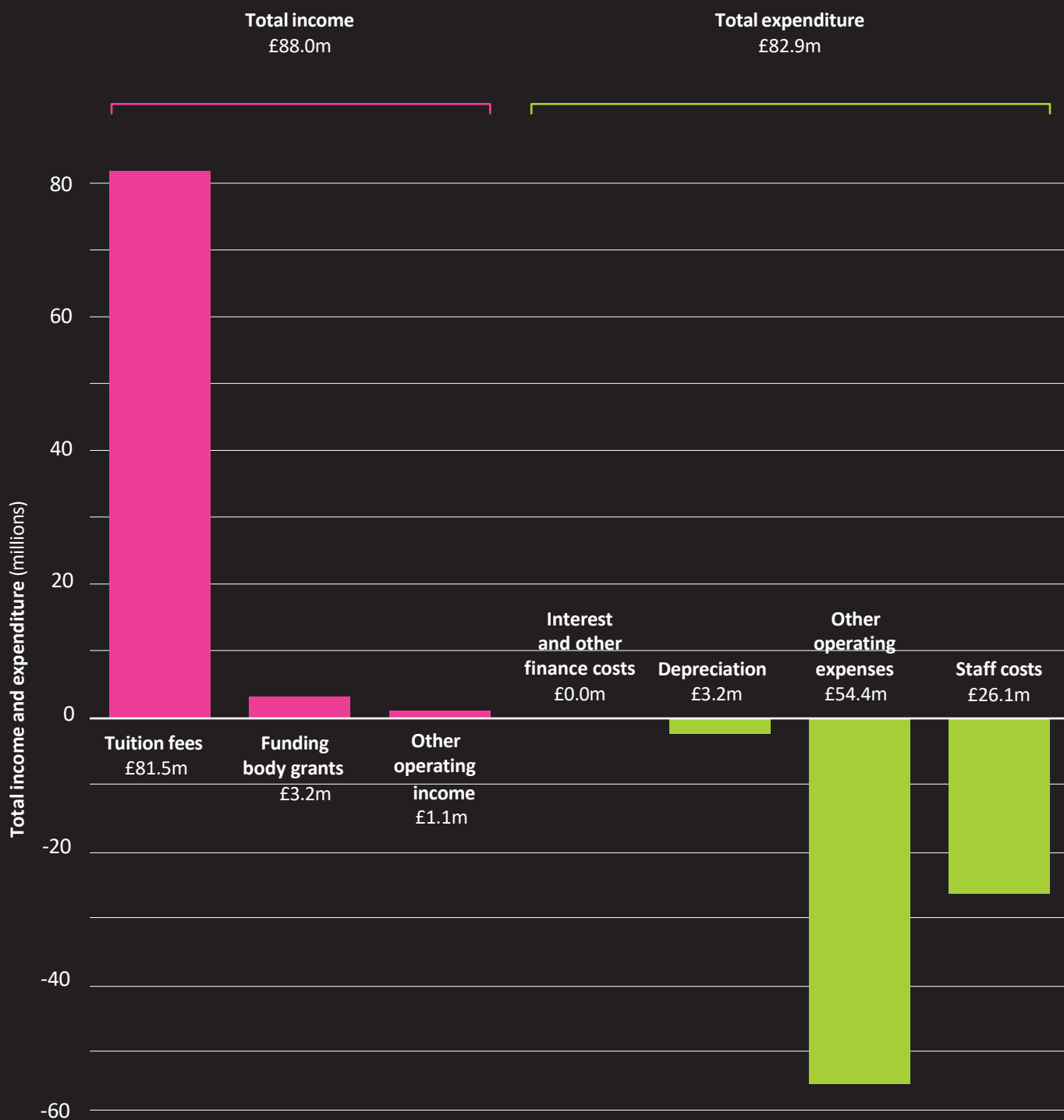
16. The Board of Governors usually meets four days a year plus one away day. Members are expected to give priority to attendance, and also to attend training and development days, any sub-group project work as required, and any exceptional Board meeting that may be called should urgent business require a full Board decision.
17. Board members can also be expected to be appointed to one or more committees of the Board. These include the Audit Committee, Governance and Nominations Committee, Remuneration Committee, Finance Committee and Honorary Awards Sub-Committee. With the exception of the Remuneration Committee (which tends to meet annually only), these committees would normally meet four times per year.
18. In addition, independent governors can be expected to receive invitations to functions such as our graduation ceremonies. These take place three times a year – October, December and June.
19. A time commitment estimation would be two days per month.



The numbers

Our sources of income, and how we spend it

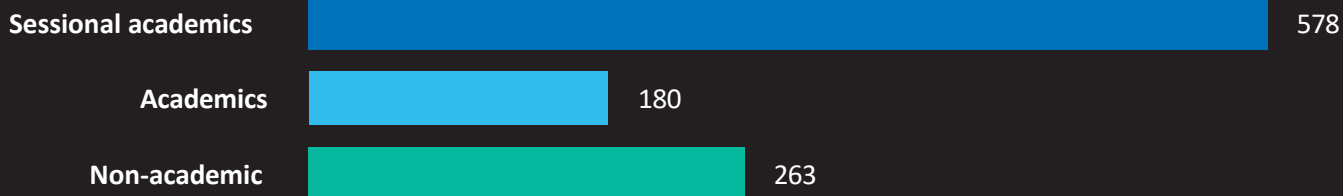
Figures based on 2024/25 data



Our staff

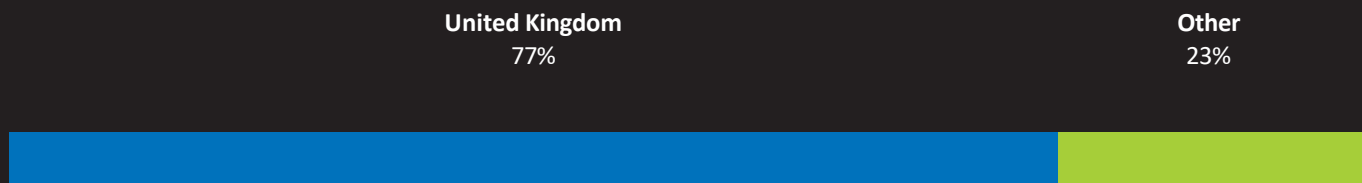
Who are they?

Headcount of all staff



What is their nationality?

(Permanent academic and non-academic staff)



What is their ethnicity?

(Permanent academic and non-academic staff)



Our students in 2026

What type of students are they?
(Full-time equivalent)



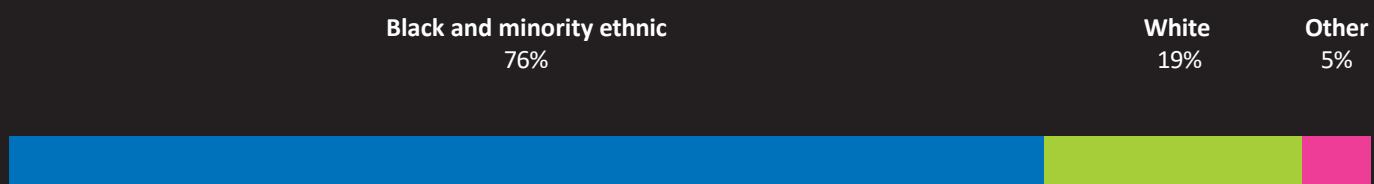
Which school are they part of? (Undergraduate students only)
(Full-time equivalent)



Where do they come from?



What is their ethnicity?



What is the ethnicity of our UK students?





Membership of the board of governors

Ex-officio

The Vice Chancellor

Governors independent to the university

Lisa Opie (Chair)

Shoku Amirani

Richard Bee

Stuart Duncan

Professor Lizbeth Goodman

Kate Gregory

Dr Penny Haughan

Paul O'Grady

Lee Wilkinson

Stephen Woodford

Paul Wright

University members

Professional services staff governor

Academic staff governor

President of Student Union

In attendance

Executive Team Members

University Secretary & Registrar

Others as required

How to apply

Saxton Bampfylde Ltd is acting as an employment agency advisor to Ravensbourne University London on this appointment.

Candidates should apply for this role through our website at roles.saxbam.com using code **EBZIB**

Click on the 'apply' button and follow the instructions to upload a CV and cover letter and complete the online equal opportunities monitoring* form.

The closing date for applications is noon on the 6th July 2026.

*The equal opportunities monitoring online form will not be shared with anyone involved in assessing your application. Please complete as part of the application process.

GDPR personal data notice

According to GDPR guidelines, we are only able to process your Sensitive Personal Data (racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, genetic data, biometric data, health, sex life, or sexual orientation) with your express consent. You will be asked to complete a consent form when you apply and please do not include any Sensitive Personal Data within your CV (although this can be included in your covering letter if you wish to do so), remembering also not to include contact details for referees without their prior agreement.

- [Read our guide to writing cover letters](#)



All information included herein is correct as of April 2026.

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