

Value for Money Statement

Organisation name: St Ann's Catholic Primary School, A Voluntary Academy

Company number: 8722710

Year ended 31 August 2016

I accept that as accounting officer of St Ann's Catholic Primary School, A Voluntary Academy I am responsible and accountable for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. I am aware of the guide to academy value for money statements published by the Education Funding Agency and understand that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

I set out below how I have ensured that the academy trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during the academic year.

1. Collaboration.

We have very strong school-to-school support with Stocksbridge Family of Schools (SFOS) AND Sheffield Catholic Family of Schools (SCFOS).

We share good practice and staff training. Our pupil progress meetings are showing an improving picture.

2. Staffing Structure.

Following redundancy procedures for some support staff in 2012, the directors have carried out a re-structure of staffing. Each new contract is temporary for one year and subject to regular review.

3. Purchasing of Services.

Further to our becoming an academy on 1st December 2013, it has been necessary to negotiate our own services such as staff sickness insurance and buildings cover. These services were previously provided by the LEA at discount prices. The directors have sought value for money in considering quotations and terms.

Classroom Requirements (stationery, books etc) : we use a procurement card to enable us to make purchases online at budget prices, taking advantage of special offers and daily discounts.

4. Budget Restrictions.

We have a bursar who prepares monthly returns and budget forecasts for the directors. Any purchases, orders or repairs over the value of £5000 must be approved by the directors.

5. Maximising Additional Income.

Pupil Premium and Sports Grant are related to pupils. The spending plan for these budgets is regularly reviewed.

6. Lessons Learned.

Communication with the EFA. The regular bulletin reminds us of deadlines for forms to be submitted and it is essential to adhere to their recommendations.

Communication with Hart Shaw Ltd (the accountants). The accountants give good advice and recommendations on a regular basis and these should be followed.

7. Areas for Development.

Governors to develop a detailed risk register, as recommended by the auditors.

Record the school fund on the school's financial management system, to ensure VAT can be reclaimed fully.

Regularly review the articles of association.

Develop online banking to keep frequent checks on remittances and ensure balance remains in credit at all times.

Name: Miss Sarah Eady

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date: 03 Dec 2016