

Value for Money Statement

Academy trust name: St Barnabas Catholic Academy Trust

Academy trust company number: 8089246

Year ended 31 August 2013

I accept that as accounting officer of **St Barnabas Catholic Academy Trust** 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.

Improving Educational Results

We direct resources carefully to target those pupils most in need of extra support and ensure that everyone benefits from money allocated to the school.

- We keep data on all pupils to allow us to target resources and ensure that appropriate interventions are in place for all pupils.
- We provide an extensive support network for weaker pupils and those with language barriers.
- We have a broad, balanced curriculum and we ensure that adequate provision is made to enable all pupils to progress.
- Trinity School make sure that key subject areas are always fully staffed. The school performance data shows us that funds are being deployed successfully.
- Our Lady of Perpetual Succour ensures that all classes are always fully staffed. The school performance data shows the school to be consistently above national averages over the past 3 years in reading, writing and mathematics.
- Pupil Premium funding is directed to named pupils/groups throughout the school.
- Recent results show St Teresa's as 2nd most successful school in Nottingham City and 584th nationally.
- Extra staff have been employed to lead booster groups and to support vulnerable children.
- Staff resources are shared with the Trust, especially to support transition.

Financial Governance and Oversight

We have a Finance and General Purposes Committee which meets at least once per term with the Head and Bursar. They receive reports on the period since the previous meeting. This committee improves and monitors the school budget. The Governing Body as a whole sees the minutes of these meetings and can interrogate the data provided.

In addition we retain the professional services and support of Mazars Accountants.

The primary schools retain the professional support to the Local Authority.

Increased collaboration within the Trust family of schools to improve value for money and effective budgetary controls.

Better Purchasing

- We obtain at least 3 quotations for major purchases.
- We do not enter into 'single supplier' or 'preferred supplier' agreements and use the open market for all purchases.
- We use a proven system to manage and monitor spending throughout the school.
- We are benchmarking data to ensure that we are efficient financially.
- We have a school debit card to make use of online purchasing where it is cost efficient.
- We do not enter into long term contracts and seek to reuse those in place when we can.
- Increased collaboration with the Trust family of schools and local EIP to negotiate improved value-added contracts with suppliers.

Better Income Generations

- We make use of our indoor and outdoor facilities to generate income.
- We are a centre for external candidate entry in public examinations which generates income.
- We offer student internships which bring in money.
- We use our cash assets carefully to generate income.


Reviewing Controls and Managing Risks

- We are careful planners and have regard to both the medium and long term.

- The Head Teacher and Bursar have daily interactions on revenue issues.
- The school has appropriate insurance cover and relevant professional services are retained.
- The Governors review the Risks and ensure controls are in place.
- The school retains professional services from its providers to ensure expertise is accessible and available.

Staffing

The school is fully staffed and every subject is taught by a teacher qualified in that area. We ensure that every teacher has sufficient time to prepare properly and deliver good lessons.

Signed: 

Name: Michael McKeever

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date: 20 December 2013