

Value for Money Statement

Academy Trust name: St Mary's C of E Junior

Year ended 31st August 2016

I accept that as accounting officer for St Mary's C of E Junior I am responsible 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

Although test results have fluctuated over the past two years the school is now on an upward trend in attainment and progress in Reading and Writing; both were set as development areas at our last Ofsted in 2014. PP children have also performed well this year; attainment and progress gaps have closed, in some cases PP children have overtaken non PP.

Attainment - Strengths

In Reading 74% of children attained expected standard against the national standard of 66%.

In Writing 84% children achieved the expected standard against a national standard of 74%

Teacher assessment proved accurate in both Reading and Writing, with judgements being upheld in external moderation for Writing

PP children have performed strongly this year with 55% achieving the expected standard in RWM. In Reading and Writing there was no significant gap between PP and non PP children.

In Maths PP children outperformed non PP with 64% achieving expected standard.

Our 1 EAL pupil achieved 100% in RWM

To obtain best value for our money, we operate the 3 quote system for all work to be carried out in the school. We always shop around for best value in all our purchases e.g. following attendance at the Academies Show we were able to obtain lower quotes for our sickness insurance.

Good financial guidance and oversight is provided by our finance governors who have many years experience in businesses. They have advised and challenged the Headteacher and finance manager during the past year to achieve value for money. The school has managed the budget well in a year when other schools in our cluster have struggled to remain in a positive budget.