

Value for Money Statement

Academy trust name: The Emmanuel School Trust

Academy Trust Company Number: 07640769

Year ended 31 August 2014

I accept that as accounting officer of **The Emmanuel School 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 have ensured that resources are directed where they are most needed and most effective in meeting educational requirements, for example:

- Pupils with English as a second language have shown great improvement and levels of proficiency, because funds have been targeted towards small group provision for these children.
- Bought in additional senior leadership support for the delivery of EYFS has led to good progress of the children throughout the year.
- Bought in extra teaching assistants for group work and support has led to specific children, including those falling behind, making good progress as shown on our pupil trackers.
- Pupils eligible for pupil premium in our first class 2012/13 outperformed the rest of the class as a whole, through wise allocation of available funds.
- Utilisation of a school improvement partner to affect greater challenge has helped the school to focus on raising pupil attainment even more effectively. He is an experienced adviser who has led on the primary strategy for a London LA in the past and is also an Ofsted inspector.

Financial Performance:

- involvement of community volunteers in various areas of the school, including classroom set up, cleaning, hearing readers etc. has meant that the school has been able to effectively support pupils beyond the use of available funds.
- The school 'Opened on a shoe string' with low numbers of staff, no full time caretakers etc. but delivered a good outcome at the end of the academic year, through staff members and volunteers willing to go the extra mile, because of their strong belief in the vision of the school.
- Finance governance and oversight is good, with an experienced

accountant on the Governing Body and Finance sub-committee. He brings rigour to the school's approach to the management of its finances and ensures that those responsible for the day to day management of the budget are held to account.

- Half-termly preparation of budgets and management accounts mean that the school is well aware of how its different budgets are being spent and where any pinch points might be. Regular meetings to assess spend against budgets allows the school to ensure that money is well spent on raising achievement.
- Governance policy is in place for spending with clear guidelines, allowing all stakeholders to be clear regarding their roles and the parameters in which they need to work.
- Negotiated discounts with suppliers and service providers mean that the school gets best value for money when buying in resources and services.
- Annual review of service provider contracts ensures that they are fit for purpose and best value for our school.
- The school ensures that tenders/quotes are obtained as appropriate to ensure Value for Money with all projects.

Future Objectives:

We recognize the need to continue developing relationships with other academies and/or local schools, in order to benefit from economies of scale in procuring products and services, developing staff and sharing knowledge, skill and expertise.

Signed

Name Peter Lewis

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date: 26 November 2014