



## Value for money statement 2022-23

### Review of value for money

I accept that as the accounting officer of All Saints Inter-Church 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 education and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

All Saints Inter-Church Academy continually seeks to improve educational results with a very restricted budget. Located within Cambridgeshire, the lowest funded local educational authority in the whole country there is a necessity to be especially prudent when managing our finances. In addition we have two year groups where we have admitted over our Published Admissions Number placing greater constraints on our budget.

Since becoming an Academy on 1 April 2013, All Saints has continued to ensure robust and rigorous financial governance and oversight. However, in recent years has declined with changing leadership personnel across the academy. Towards the end of the 2023 financial year the academy has begun on a rapid and sustained programme of improving both financial oversight and governance across the Trust. Much of the work of this was based on both feedback from the internal auditors and an ESFA School Resource Management Advisor (SRMA) review.

It is noted that despite macro levels issues of control and financial governance, at individual decision level principles for ensuring best value for money are embedded within the culture of All Saints. Staff are committed to ensuring that resources are directed where it is most needed and most effective in meeting educational requirements.

With our desire to become an outstanding academy considerable discussion and planning is dedicated to ensuring that our money is used to target significant development. We have used strategic partners to assist us in scrutinising our performance and through that process we have identified key areas for development. For example we have applied our best value principles in acquiring quotations for lunchtime catering. We explored the market and reduced potential candidates to four companies who tendered for the contract. This required scrutiny of business practice and sampling of food to determine the best option for All Saints. Consequently we have a partner who provides nutritious food at a reduced cost from the previous supplier.

The academy ensures that its estate is both safe for pupils and well maintained. It does this by contracting estate management services from a variety of appropriately qualified external contractors. Having reviewed the situation, it would appear that the school does not have evidence of any RAAC and the risks associated with this.

The school has also benefitted throughout the year from ongoing support from the Diocese and engagement with the LBCT.