

Value for Money Statement

Academy trust name: **THE HIGH ARCAL SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**

Academy trust company number: **07817806**

Year ended **31 August 2014**

I accept that as accounting officer of The High Arcal School 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.

1. Staff are asked to complete a draft order form before goods are officially ordered. The market is tested and quotes are required for items of over £1,000.
2. The school is part of a consortium of schools – a) we have a partnership with 20 other schools in North Dudley (called NDLP) allowing the schools to obtain value for money particularly with staff training and b) we are exploring a partnership with Bramford Primary School that will enable more buying power.
3. We follow the EFA financial guidelines when purchasing and this ensures we obtain quotes and obtain value for money. A recent Audit of accounts justifies our processes based on the DFE financial handbook .
4. ACMF applications have been successful on 3 occasions – we have received funding to replace our Oil filled boilers with gas, to change all the heating pipe works and to make improvements to the roof. Stringent processes set out by the EFA were applied to ensure value for money was obtained in these projects. The new boilers, replacement pipe work and new roof works has reduced energy costs and made the school more efficient to maintain.
5. High Arcal is an ECO school – securing Eco Schools Green award in 2012. The school has an Eco policy, solar panels have been installed, new eco cost effective lights (G5) and various energy saving devices (such as sensors) have been installed and the Oil boilers removed. These projects have all contributed to reducing energy costs and making the school more efficient to maintain.

Signed:

Name: Mr B Kitto.....

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date: 8/12/14.....