

Value for Money Statement

Academy trust name: Chelmsford County High School for Girls

Academy trust company number: 07445392

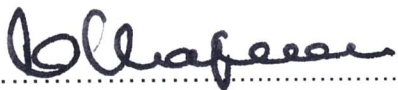
Year ended 31 August 2014

I accept that as accounting officer of Chelmsford County High School for Girls 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.

- The School ensures that resources and materials were used as outlined in the School Development Plan in order to drive educational standards to the highest level. In 2013_14 the School is pleased to report that 84% of grades achieved at GCSE were A/A*; 88% of grades at A level were A*/B; the average score for the International Baccalaureate was 34.9 points.
- Strong Financial Governance was achieved through the regular review of the School's financial performance and budgetary targets by various stakeholders including budget holders, the Senior Leadership Team and the Governing Body. Monthly management reports including a cash flow forecast are reviewed by the Finance Committee. Short and medium-term financial forecasts are prepared for review and discussion by the Governing Body.
- The School operates a robust internal control system. This was reviewed and tested by the Responsible Officer and Auditors on a frequent basis during the course of the year. Several recommendations were implemented and reports were considered by the Audit Committee. A Risk Register is maintained and reviewed annually by the Governing Body.
- A detailed purchasing procedure is outlined in the School's Financial Regulations Manual. Prices for larger orders were compared through obtaining several quotations or a tendering process. The School purchased many goods/services via both the Local Authority and a purchasing consortium in order to maximise the use of economies of scale.

- The School has actively explored additional sources of income including lettings and fundraising activities. The marketing of the School premises for lettings was increased and two new contracts obtained.
- The School has developed strong links with other educational establishments both across Essex and nationally. These relationships were used to share best practice and benchmark its performance in a number of areas.
- The School's financial forecasts show a very challenging future. The Governors and Senior Leadership Team are aware of the need to make further significant savings and are actively engaged in reviewing all areas of the School to ensure value for money is maintained.

Signed: 

Name: **NICOLE CHAPMAN**

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date: **19 December 2014**