

**The Liverpool Joint Catholic and  
Church of England Academies Trust**



**Diocese of  
Liverpool**

**THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
ACADEMIES TRUST**

**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2016**

**Company Registration Number: 07007398  
(England and Wales)**

# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

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# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## Reference and Administrative Details

### Members

The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Education Trust (Corporate Member)

Mr B Marsh

Mr A Scott

Rt. Rev. Richard Blackburn

Father M O'Dowd

### Trustees

Mr P Alcock

Chair of the Local Governing Body at The Academy of St Francis of Assisi (appointed 19<sup>th</sup> October 2015)

Mr K Sexton

Chair of the Local Governing Body at Enterprise South Liverpool Academy

Mr T Warren

Archdiocese of Liverpool's Director of Schools and Colleges (appointed 19<sup>th</sup> October 2015)

Mr B Marsh

Chair of the Trust Board

Mr M Elliot

Chair of the Audit Committee (appointed 19<sup>th</sup> October 2015)

Lady E Hedley

Vice-Chair of the Local Governing Body at The Academy of St Francis of Assisi (appointed 24<sup>th</sup> November 2015)

Dr J Richardson

Diocese of Liverpool's Director of Education (appointed 19<sup>th</sup> October 2015)

Mr A Scott

Vice-Chair of the Trust Board (appointed 19<sup>th</sup> October 2015)

Mrs A Pontifex

Ex-Officio (Executive Headteacher) (appointed 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015)

### Senior Management Team

### Position

Mrs A Pontifex

Executive Headteacher

Mr D Clayton

Trust Director of Finance and Resources

Mrs T Greenough

Head of School – The Academy of St Francis of Assisi

Ms L Foley

Head of School – Enterprise South Liverpool Academy

# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## Reference and Administrative Details

<b>Company Name</b>	The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust
<b>Principal and Registered Office</b>	51 Horrocks Avenue Garston Liverpool L19 5NY
<b>Company Registration Number</b>	07007398 (England and Wales)
<b>Independent Auditor</b>	RSM UK Audit LLP Chartered Accountants Bluebell House Brian Johnson Way Preston PR2 5PE
<b>Bankers</b>	The Cooperative Bank PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## Trustees' Report

The Trustees present their report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016. The report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The trust operates two Academies for pupils aged 11 – 18 in Liverpool. It's Academies have a combined pupil capacity of 2,160, and a roll of 1,640 in the school census in October 2016.

## Structure, Governance and Management

### Constitution

The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust is a company limited by guarantee (No. 07007398) and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust. The Trustees of The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust.

Details of the Trustees who served during the period are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 2.

### Members' liability

Each member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10, for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

### Trustees' Indemnities

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy Trust has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy Trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £10,000,000 on any one claim.

### Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

The members shall appoint a minimum of four directors, provided that the number of directors representing the Archdiocese of Liverpool shall be equal to the number of directors representing the Diocese of Liverpool. The Executive Headteacher shall be an ex-officio director.

The directors may appoint a further two co-opted directors, with the consent of the sponsor, for a term not exceeding four years.

### Policies and Procedures for the Induction and Training of Trustees

All Trustees are provided with access to policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as Trustees. As there are normally a minimal number of appointments as Trustees within a year, induction is done informally and is tailored specifically to the individual.

# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## Trustees' Report

### Organisational Structure

The management structure consists of two levels: Governance (being the Trust Board and the Local Governing Bodies), and the Trust Management team comprising the Executive Headteacher (who is also the Accounting Officer), the Trust Director of Finance and Resources and the Head of School for each of the Trust's Academies. The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and accountability to support decision making at all levels.

The Trustees, supported by the Local Governing Bodies are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the Academy Trust through the use of management reports and making decisions about the strategic direction of the Academy Trust, significant items of capital expenditure and the staffing structure.

The Trust Management Team controls the Academy Trust at an executive level implementing the policies laid down by the Trustees and reporting back to them. As a group the Trust Management team is responsible for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets and the appointment of staff, though appointment boards for posts in the Leadership Team always contain a member of the Local Governing Body/Trust Board, as appropriate.

Each Academy then has a Senior Leadership team, led by the Head of School, which includes a combination of Deputy Heads of School, Assistant Heads of School, Directors of Curriculum and Directors of Progress. These leaders, along with the Trust Management Team, are responsible for the day to day operation of the constituent Academies, in particular managing the staff, students and facilities.

### Arrangements for Setting Pay and Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

The Trust Board has established a separate Remuneration Committee which is responsible for setting pay and remuneration for key management personnel. The Committee have established a pay scale attached to each post based on relevant benchmarking data and guidance included within the School Teacher Pay and Conditions document. Progression along this pay scale is linked to performance, and decisions regarding progression are made by the Remuneration Committee on an annual basis following the completion of the performance management cycle.

### Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

The Academy Trust is sponsored by The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Education Trust, a charitable company which is jointly controlled by the Diocese of Liverpool, and the Archdiocese of Liverpool. The Sponsor is responsible for appointing certain members of the Board of Trustees (as noted above). The Sponsor supports the Academy Trust by working closely with the Trust Management Team and the Board of Trustees in setting the strategic objectives of the Academy Trust and reviewing plans for improvement. In addition, the Sponsor is also responsible for monitoring the financial position of the Academy Trust.

### Objectives and Activities

#### Objects and Aims

The principal object and activity of the charitable company is the operation of the Academy of St Francis of Assisi and Enterprise South Liverpool Academy:

# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## Trustees' Report

- to advance the education of the public in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a joint Church of England and Roman Catholic secondary school offering a broad curriculum with a strong emphasis on, but not limited to, the environment to be conducted in accordance with the principles and practices of both the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church; and
- to provide facilities for recreational and other leisure time occupation for the community at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the conditions of life of the said community.

The Trustees confirm they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Academy Trust's aims and objectives.

The main objectives of the Academy Trust during the year ended 31 August 2016 are summarised below:

- to ensure that every child enjoys the same high quality education in terms of resourcing, tuition and care;
- to raise the standard of educational achievement and progress of all students;
- to improve the effectiveness of the Academy Trust by keeping the curriculum and organisational structure under continual review;
- to provide value for money for the funds expended;
- to comply with all appropriate statutory and curriculum requirements;
- to conduct the Academy Trust's business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness.

### Objectives, Strategies and Activities

The Academy Trust's main objectives are set out above.

The main strategies for improvement consist of:

- Securing leadership capacity through increased accountability and high quality continued professional development for all staff;
- Improving teaching, learning and assessment in order to secure the best possible outcomes for students;
- Developing the whole child through our unique Christian ethos, values and environmental specialism to create respectful, caring and compassionate citizens in the community; and
- Developing the organization to provide a financially sustainable future, where funds are available to invest in improving resources and the learning environment for students.

# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## Trustees' Report

### Public Benefit

The Trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charities Commission in defining the strategic direction of the Academy Trust.

## Strategic Report

### Achievements and Performance

#### Performance against Objectives

Educational performance within the Trust demonstrated an improving trend in 2015/16. Both Academies secured improvements in the number of students achieving 5 or more A\*-C grades including English and Maths. Whilst improving, both Academies achieved a progress 8 score which is below the government's floor target. Enterprise South Liverpool Academy achieved a progress 8 score of -0.91 with 31% of its students achieving a grade C or above in Maths and English, whilst The Academy of St Francis of Assisi achieved a progress 8 score of -0.72 with 19% of students achieving a grade C or above in Maths and English.

Since the establishment of the new Trust arrangements in January 2016, significant changes have been implemented within both Academies in order to achieve improvements in Academic outcomes. The Trust therefore remains optimistic regarding academic performance in 2016/17.

#### Ofsted Section 5 Inspection

The Academy of St Francis of Assisi achieved a 'Good' Section 5 inspection following its latest inspection in November 2012.

Enterprise South Liverpool Academy was subject to a Section 5 inspection in November 2016. Inspectors judged that the Academy no longer required special measures, and the judgement on overall effectiveness improved from inadequate to requires improvement. Inspectors commented positively on the additional capacity provided by the Trust, and the Academy's ability to achieve further improvements. Subsequently, the Academy has implemented a plan for "getting to good".

#### Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

### Financial Review

#### Financial Objectives

The Academy Trust's financial objectives are:

- to achieve an annual operating surplus;



# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## Trustees' Report

- to generate sufficient levels of income to support the asset base of the Academy Trust;
- to ensure the Academy Trust's continued liquidity;
- to generate sufficient reserves to fund continued capital investment.

The Academy Trust's achievements in line with these objectives are noted below.

## Operational Review

The majority of the Academy Trust's income is obtained from the Education Funding Agency (EFA) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received during the period and the associated expenditure are shown under Restricted Funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Excluding the transfer of assets from The Academy of St Francis of Assisi on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016, expenditure for the year exceeded income by £1,014,000 (2015: £1,508,000) after providing for depreciation and loss on disposal of fixed assets totalling £1,301,000 (2015: £1,205,000). The surplus generated before providing for depreciation and loss on disposal of fixed assets was £287,000 (2015: deficit of £303,000).

Whilst the fixed costs of the Academy Trust's staffing, building maintenance and IT maintenance represent the majority of the Academy Trust's expenditure, we have also continued to invest in providing the very best resources for our students to ensure that they continue to receive the very best education.

At 31 August 2016 the net book value of fixed assets was £37,781,000 (2015: £21,001,000) and movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 11 to the financial statements.

The Academy Trust held fund balances at 31 August 2016 of £30,707,000 (2015: £16,797,000) comprising £37,781,000 (2015: £21,000,000) of restricted fixed asset funds, and £493,000 (2015: £134,000) of unrestricted funds, offset by a pension scheme liability totalling £7,064,000 (2015: £3,668,000) and a deficit of £539,000 (Aug 2015: £650,000) on restricted general funds. The fund balances are adequate to fulfil the obligations of the Academy Trust and provide a balance against most unforeseen future events.

## Reserves Policy

The policy of the Academy Trust is to carry forward a prudent level of free reserves (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds) designed to meet the long term cyclical needs of renewal and any other unforeseen circumstances. Following their annual review, the Trustees consider that the current level of reserves are not sufficient, and a financial recovery plan is in place to improve this position. The Academy Trust's financial position has approved ahead of this plan, demonstrated by the improvement in the free reserves position. At the end of the prior year, free reserves were in a deficit position totalling £516,000, and this has reduced to a deficit of £11,000 at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016. The Trust expects to achieve a cumulative surplus position by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017.

# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## Trustees' Report

### Investment Policy

The Academy Trust is firmly committed to ensuring that all funds under its control are administered in such a way as to maximise return while minimising risk. Trustees do not consider the investment of surplus funds as a primary activity, but rather a requirement for the effective management of funds .

Trustees' management of cash flow should ensure that there are always sufficient funds in the main bank accounts to cover operational costs. The Academy Trust will seek to ensure that any cash not required for operating expenses is placed on deposit at the most favourable rate.

Where significant funds have been accumulated that are not required in the short term for operational expenses, or as part of a planned surplus for a specific project, Trustees may consider the investment of these funds in order to generate a longer term income or capital fund. The approval of the Finance and General Purposes Committee is required before any investment is made.

### Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charitable company is exposed, in particular those relating to teaching, provision of facilities and other operational areas of the Academy Trust, and its finances. The Trustees have implemented a number of systems to assess risks that the Academy Trust faces, especially in the operational areas (e.g. in relation to teaching, health and safety, bullying and school trips) and in relation to the control of finance. They have introduced systems, including operational procedures (e.g. vetting of new staff and visitors, supervision of school grounds) and internal financial controls in order to minimise risk. Where significant financial risk still remains they have ensured they have adequate insurance cover. The Academy Trust has an effective system of internal financial controls and this is explained in more detail in the following statement.

The Academy Trust continues to develop and embed the system of internal control, including financial, operational and risk management which is designed to protect the Academy Trust's assets and reputation.

The Trust Management Team undertakes a comprehensive review of the risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed. They identify systems and procedures, including specific preventable actions which should mitigate any potential impact on the Academy Trust. The internal controls are then implemented and the subsequent year's appraisal will review their effectiveness and progress against risk mitigation actions. In addition to the annual review the Trust Management Team also consider any risks which may arise as a result of any new area of work being undertaken by the Academy Trust.

A risk register is maintained at the Trust level which is reviewed at least annually by the full Trust Board and more frequently by the Audit Committee and Trust Management Team. The risk register identifies the key risks, the likelihood of those risks occurring, their potential impact on the Academy Trust and the actions being taken to reduce and mitigate the risks. Risks are prioritised using a consistent scoring system.

### Principal Risks and Uncertainties

Outlined below is a description of the principal risk factors that may affect the Academy Trust. Not all the factors are within the Academy Trust's control. Other factors besides those listed below may also adversely affect the Academy Trust.

- Uncertainty with regard to the impact of future Government funding reforms

# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## Trustees' Report

- Potential difficulties in reaching capacity in the constituent Academies.
- Potential difficulties in obtaining capital funding to ensure the Academy Trust's premises continue to meet the needs of its students

These risks are mitigated in a number of ways including:

- Ensuring the Academy Trust is rigorous in delivering high quality education and training
- A comprehensive marketing/PR programme including activities for primary pupils and parents
- Rigorous monitoring of financial activities ensuring value for money
- Maintenance of a detailed property strategy to ensure maximum value is obtained from the Academy Trust's premises.

## Plans for Future Periods

The main objectives for the coming year are to:

- Develop leadership capacity amongst the Academy Trust's staff through increased accountability and high quality CPD
- Improve teaching, learning and assessment in order to secure the best possible progress for students
- Develop the whole child through our unique Christian ethos, values and environmental specialism to create respectful, caring and compassionate citizens in the community
- Continue to develop the Trust's business model to secure financial sustainability by maximising student recruitment, continuing to ensure all spending offers value for money and ensuring appropriate strategies are in place to develop the Academy Trust's premises and IT resources.

The Academy Trust will continue striving to improve the levels of performance of its students at all levels and will continue its efforts to ensure its students progress into further education at the Academy Trust and other institutions.

# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

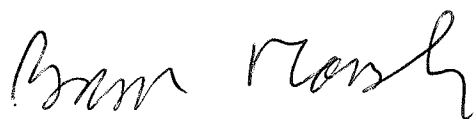
## Trustees' Report

### Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

In so far as the Trustees are aware

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of Trustees, as the Company Directors, on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016 and signed on its behalf by:



Bryn Marsh  
Chair

# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## Governance Statement

### Scope of Responsibility

As Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust has an effective and appropriate system of control, financial and otherwise. However such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Executive Headteacher, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

### Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met five times during the year and attendance was as follows:

	Meetings Attended	Out of a Possible
Mr B Marsh (Chair)	5	5
Mr A Scott (Vice-Chair)	5	5
Mr K Sexton	5	5
Mr P Alcock	4	5
Mr M Elliott	4	5
Mr J Richardson	4	5
Mr T Warren	4	5
Lady E Hedley	4	4
Mrs A Pontifex	4	5

### Governance Review

The board of Trustees has reviewed a number of key policies and procedures in the year to evaluate their effectiveness. Each of these policies has been updated where appropriate to ensure the standards of governance within the Trust continue to meet expectations. The board will continue to evaluate its effectiveness in the next financial year.

The Audit Committee is a sub-committee of the Trust Board. Its purpose is:

- monitoring the integrity of the financial statements
- reviewing internal financial controls and reviewing the company's internal control and risk management systems

# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## Governance Statement

- monitoring and reviewing the effectiveness of the internal controls reviews
- making recommendations to the board in relation to the appointment, re-appointment and removal of the external auditor and approve the remuneration and terms of engagement of the auditor
- reviewing the auditor's independence and objectivity

	Meetings Attended	Out of a Possible
Mr M Elliott (Chair)	1	1
Mr K Sexton	1	1
Mr P Alcock	1	1

## Review of Value for Money

As accounting officer the Executive Headteacher has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The accounting officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The accounting officer considers how the trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where available. The accounting officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Completing a full review of the curriculum and staffing based on costing information to ensure that the level of investment in each subject area is in proportion to the number of students studying the subject.
- Reviewing the value for money obtained from all non-core expenditure including, for example, professional subscriptions, marketing activities and administration costs and changing purchasing practices accordingly.
- Utilising the opportunities for economies of scale offered by the new Trust arrangement to reduce costs.

## The Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust for the year ended 31 August 2016 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## Governance Statement

### Capacity to Handle Risk

The board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period ending 31 August 2016 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

### The Risk and Control Framework

The Academy Trust's system of internal financial control is based on a framework of regular management information and administrative procedures including the segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular, it includes:

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the governing body;
- regular reviews by the Trust Board and the Finance and Business Committee of the Local Governing Bodies of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines.
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks.

The Board of Trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided not to appoint an internal auditor. However, the Trustees have appointed RSM UK Audit LLP, the external auditor, to perform additional checks.

The auditor's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial systems. On a termly basis, the auditor reports to the board of Trustees on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of Trustees' financial responsibilities. There have been no material control issues arising as a result of the auditor's work during the year. The schedule of audit work has been completed as planned for the year.

### Review of Effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, the Executive Headteacher has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been informed by:

- the work of the external auditor;
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## Governance Statement

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Audit Committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016 and signed on its behalf by:



Bryn Marsh  
Chair



Anne Pontifex  
Executive Headteacher and Accounting Officer



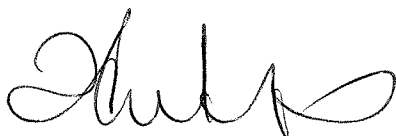
# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As accounting officer of The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Board of Trustees and the Education Funding Agency of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with Education Funding Agency terms and conditions of funding, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust's Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy Trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook.

I confirm that no instances of material irregularity, impropriety or funding non-compliance have been discovered to date. If any instances are identified after the date of this statement, these will be notified to the Board of Trustees and the Education Funding Agency.



Anne Pontifex  
Executive Headteacher and Accounting Officer

# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who act as Governors of The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust and are also the Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction published by the Education Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

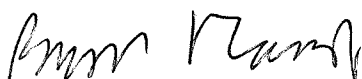
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2005;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from the Education Funding Agency/Department for Education have been applied for the purposes intended.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016 and signed on its behalf by:



Bryn Marsh  
Chair

# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## **Independent Auditors' Report to the Board of Trustees of The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust for the period ending on 31 August 2016**

We have audited the financial statements of The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Multi Academy Trust for the year ended 31 August 2016 on pages 20 to 45 the financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), and the Academies: Accounts Direction 2015/16 issued by the Education Funding Agency.

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

### **Respective responsibilities of governors and auditor**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 17, the Trustees (who act as trustees for the charitable activities of the company, and are the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

### **Scope of the audit of the financial statements**

A description of the scope of an audit of financial statements is provided on the Financial Reporting Council's website at <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditscopeukprivate>.

### **Opinion on financial statements**

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2016 and of company's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Academies: Accounts Direction 2015/16 issued by the Education Funding Agency.

### **Opinion on other requirement of the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion the information given in the Trustees' Report and the incorporated Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

# THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

## Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the charity has not kept adequate accounting records, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the charity financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of governors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

*RSM UK Audit LLP*

Karen Musgrave (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of RSM UK Audit LLP, Statutory Auditor  
Chartered Accountants  
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Date *20/12/16*