



What it means to be part of Preston Primary Academy Trust

In the past many schools were under the jurisdiction of the Local Authority (LA). This meant that funds devolved from central Government were given to each local authority to allocate to individual schools.

10% of these funds were held by the LA as “de-delegated” funds to provide services such as School Improvement, Human Resource Management, payroll and contingency funds to support schools in difficulties.

Over the years the LA services were somewhat eroded when key personnel and positions were lost, therefore schools sometimes felt that they were not being provided with full services.

Educational Trusts have, in some cases, taken on the role of an “umbrella”, providing support and improvement to schools in place of the Local Authority.

Not all Trusts operate in the same way.

Financial Implications of being part of Preston Primary Academy Trust:

The Trust and Local Governing Bodies employ Headteachers to maintain the individual nature of the school, giving autonomy in day to day decision making, such as staffing and school organisation.

Each school controls its own budget with the Headteacher and LGB responsible for the day to day management of the finances.

Each school's budget allocation is used only for the intended school and will be used to set a balanced budget; meeting the school priorities.

Each school's accrued reserves remain within that school for its own use

Preston Primary Academy Trust currently takes a 6% contribution from each school (This is reviewed on a regular basis and is extremely competitive.)

This is used to provide:

- School Improvement Support
- Financial Stability, Expertise and Advice
- Payroll and Pension Management
- An element of Central Procurement and Contract Provision (to achieve economies of scale) to ensure both quality of provision and best value.
- Health and Safety Officer support and guidance.
- HR, Legal, Accountancy and Asset Management support.
- Support for CIF (Condition Improvement Funds) bids to enhance school sites.

The Headteacher, alongside the Local Governing Body (LGB) make informed decisions about spending for the benefit of all children.

Financial accounts are presented to the LGB and Directors Finance Committee at regular intervals to ensure transparency.

Accounts are audited by an Accounting firm annually.

The Trust will support the Headteacher and Local Governing Body to set a balanced budget (as did the Local Authority in the past).

The Trust will not take decisions on behalf of the school.

**As a member of Preston Primary Academy Trust (PPAT)
Our Key Values and Aims are to:**

- Ensure outstanding teaching and a culture of high expectations and high attainment where all individuals reach their full potential and take pride in their achievements.
- Create a safe and stimulating environment, providing lifelong learning experiences which meet individual needs.
- Promote and develop spiritual, moral and cultural growth.
- Provide good examples that children will use as a reference for positive behaviour.
- Encourage all to care for and respect themselves, the local community and others.

Schools within our Trust will be recognised for:

- Their welcoming, positive ethos where all are happy and thrive.
- High academic standards.
- Artistic and sporting achievement and consideration towards others and their needs throughout the world.

Our children will:

- Feel cared for and secure in school.
- Be proud of their school and their personal contributions to its success and the wider community.
- Have good self-esteem and confidence in their individual strengths.
- Be aware of their role in the wider community.

Further information about Preston Primary Academy Trust can be found at www.prestonprimaryacademytrust.co.uk or by following the link on your school's website.