

TIME FOR TEACHERS TO BRING OUT THE BEST IN EVERYONE



Accrington Academy consistently achieves great outcomes for its students with a large proportion going on to study at Russel Group universities.

Part of the reason for this is their insistence on providing the best facilities and experiences for students and delivering on their promise to “Bring out the best in everyone”.

So when they needed a safe and secure way to handle money on international trips, the Academy, which is part of the United Learning Trust, turned to Caxton to provide the ideal solution.

COMPLEX PROBLEMS DEMAND ELEGANT SOLUTIONS

Accrington Academy typically sends students on trips and exchanges to a variety of different, worldwide destinations.

While this is exciting and stimulating for the students, it can be a headache for the school administrators, finance team and indeed the teacher who accompany the group.

With destinations as diverse as New York and Malawi (and everywhere in between), the Academy needed a solution that could handle any currency at a moment's notice.

They also needed something that was secure. After all, carrying around thousands of pounds of local currency is just asking for trouble.

And it needed to be simple to manage for both the admin colleagues who set up the trips, the teachers who would have to use the solution and the finance team who would have to set budgets and manage the expenses.

All in all a tough ask and with a short notice trip coming up, the Academy finance manager Dana Ellis, asked colleagues in other academies in The Trust if they had any suggestions.

Luckily one member was using Caxton to support their expenses management and recommended she take a look at our card solution.

AT A GLANCE THEIR CHALLENGES

- Travelling with cash
- Lengthy, complicated reconciliation,
- Lack of reporting
- Cards required for a trip urgently

OUR SOLUTIONS

- Expense cards delivered in 2 days
- Account manager on hand for queries
- Heavily reduced the admin for international school trips



A HIGHLY TAILORED SOLUTION FOR A BUSY ACADEMY

From the outset, it was clear that Accrington Academy required a highly tailored solution but this wasn't a surprise as we had already supplied cards to their sister academy that featured a bespoke arrangement.

But we felt that it was important to understand exactly what Accrington needed so we spent time talking with them and understanding their requirements so we could provide the perfect solution.

The starting point was a Caxton master account for The Academy that would allow it to then order pre-loaded Mastercards that could be held by individual teachers.

It was a big ask and as Dana explains "Although the start was somewhat confusing, all my worries disappeared as soon as we started using the cards"

The Academy began by using the cards for expense transactions in the UK in Sterling but then decided that they would be perfect for the overseas trips however with the jaunt to Malawi coming up fast it was a race against time.

With the Caxton card programme, emergency cards can reach new customers as soon as 48 hours after signing up and we were able to ensure that the teachers would be ready to go with their own Mastercards.

SAFETY, SECURITY AND SIMPLICITY

The Academy now has a safe and secure way to give their staff spending power overseas without the risk that goes along with cash or travellers' cheques.

The cards can be easily ordered from the portal, budgets can be managed in advance and reporting is a simple matter of downloading the transaction list.

Although the cards are simple to use they are actually more cost-effective as the transaction costs of buying foreign currency have disappeared.

Best of all teachers can concentrate on providing the best experiences and making sure their students have a stimulating and exciting time on their trips rather than worrying about how they are going to handle their foreign cash.

If you're ready to reduce inefficiencies and lower the cost of your payments, why not book a quick call?

BOOK A CALL



DANA ELLIS

Academy Finance Manager

"My experience with Caxton has been very positive and easy to manage. Our contact, Conall, is always on hand to resolve any queries I have and to offer guidance on how to use the cards, the portal and anything I need for managing our money"

All of your business payments, expenses, and currency accounts in one place



Expense Management



International Payments



API Solutions



Payroll Payments



Supplier Payments



Embedded Payments