

SAVING A SCHOOL TRIP WITH JUST IN TIME PAYMENT CARDS

When teachers at St Edmunds Catholic Academy wanted to take a group of students away on a foreign trip they realised that they'd have to be taking with them a large amount of cash which wasn't ideal.

The headteacher needed a method of allowing the teachers to pay for crucial expenses like food, entry to attractions and other travel costs but without drawing cash or asking staff to use their own money.

This is when the academy turned to Caxton. Find out what we delivered.

CASH CAUSES PROBLEMS

Carrying any amount of cash around brings with it problems. First, you have to find a bank branch to draw out the money, then you need to keep it secure and if there is any left at the end of the trip you will need to revisit your branch and deposit it back in your account.

Cash can be simple to use but sadly not to account for. You will have to make sure there are the correct receipts, enter them onto your system and make sure the whole lot reconciles.

An alternative would be to ask staff members on the trip to use their own debit and credit cards to manage the travel costs but with a large contingent of students on an overseas trip, the staff were naturally reluctant.

Add to that the problems with foreign currency for overseas visits and you can see why both the staff and head of St Edmunds weren't keen on using banknotes for their school trips.

CARDS IN SUPER-QUICK TIME

When they first contacted us, St Edmunds Catholic Academy had a trip coming up in the next few days so we pulled out all the stops.

In normal circumstances, we can set up an account and provide a payment card in a respectable 3-5 days but as a leading provider of payment cards to over 500 schools in the UK we knew that St Edmunds needed something even faster.

Our team managed to set up a fully functioning account and app and deliver 2 school payment cards within a lightning 2 days - just in time for the school trip departure date!



AT A GLANCE THEIR CHALLENGES

- Travelling with large amounts of cash
- Lengthy and complicated reconciliation processes, prone to human error
- Solution required in 2 days

OUR SOLUTIONS

- Expenses cards delivered in a record-breaking 2 day turnaround
- An account manager on hand for any queries
- Heavily reducing the admin involved in an international school trip



SIMPLE TO USE AND NO LOST RECEIPTS!

We were pleased that the St Edmunds trip went ahead on time and without a hitch with the teachers and support staff being able to concentrate on providing a great experience for their wards rather than worrying about how to pay for things.

Coming home, it meant no awkward missing receipts or paperwork to fill in, the staff simply scanned the receipts on the Caxton app and uploaded them to the system, saving everyone time and money.

So how was the experience of dealing with Caxton? Donna Watson, Senior Financial Manager for the academy says *"Caxton have been terrific, not only did they get the cards to us within two working days they were so supportive. The team are friendly, approachable and respond quickly to queries."*

One of the aspects that the finance team were delighted with was the ability to set a budget but vary this if needed using the online management tools. This meant that teachers could always request extra funds if they had any unforeseen expenses.

Admin was improved too, as Donna notes *"They took away the painful process of providing our staff with a safe way to spend abroad and no lost receipts"*

So did St Edmunds think that choosing Caxton was the right thing to do? Let's ask Donna. *"The set-up has been really simple and the system and cards are so easy to use. I would highly recommend Caxton to my colleagues!"*

BREATHE EASY - CAXTON TAKES AWAY THE STRESS

It's fair to say that school trips can be a stressful time for staff and if we can assist by taking away the problems of paying for expenses then we're happy to have helped. We can't promise to get cards out within two days for every new customer but we were pleased to help St Edmunds Academy in this case and delighted that their trip went off without a hitch.

A Caxton payment card makes sense at home too, especially when buying things for use in school or paying for staff travel.

As St Edmunds found, the expense app makes recording receipts a cinch and reduces admin needed for finance staff to manage expenses. With Caxton's unrivalled foreign exchange facility, you can spend in any currency anywhere in the world.

The good news is that you don't need to be a school to take advantage of the benefits of the Caxton payments card and you could find that they revolutionise expenses and petty cash for your organisation.

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

BOOK A CALL



DONNA WATSON

Senior Financial Manager

"The set-up has been really simple and the system and cards are so easy to use. I would highly recommend Caxton to my colleagues!"

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



Expense Management



International Payments



API Solutions



Payroll Payments



Supplier Payments



Embedded Payments