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James Spencer
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Catholic Education Service
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10TH March 2017

Dear Mr Spencer,

Thank you for getting in touch, and for supporting Comic Relief. This letter is a response to your request for confirmation that money raised for us will not be used on projects against Catholic teachings.

We know that misinformed publicity about Comic Relief has caused some confusion in the past among Catholic schools wanting to support Red Nose Day and Sport Relief. So in 2000, we opened up a dialogue with the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales to help communicate the facts.

At that time, they issued a statement confirming that, after careful examination of our records, they were satisfied with Comic Relief's assurance that we do not fund and have never funded abortion services or the promotion of abortions. The Bishops' Conference and the Department of International Affairs confirmed that they were confident that Catholics may continue to support Comic Relief's fundraising initiatives in good faith. Our commitment remains the same.

Our international funding goes to all kinds of projects such as education, maternal and child health, support for children at risk on the streets or in hazardous work.

This includes over £16 million of grants to 74 projects of the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD), the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF) and Progressio for work across Africa and Asia.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Val Pumfrey". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over the "Yours sincerely," text.

Val Pumfrey
Head of Youth Engagement & Fundraising
Comic Relief