



BEST VALUE STATEMENT

Status	Non Statutory	Date first approved	March 09
Any other statutory names for this policy (where applicable)	Publication Scheme	Date last reviewed	January 2015
Responsibility for this policy (job title)	Support Staff Director	Frequency of review	Three Yearly
Governors' Committee with responsibility for its review	Resources Sub Committee	To be put on the school website? (Yes/No)	Yes

Introduction

1. The governing body is accountable for the way in which the school's resources are allocated to meet the objectives set out in the school's development plans. Governors need to secure the best possible outcome for pupils, in the most efficient and effective way, at a reasonable cost. This will lead to continuous improvement in the school's achievements and services.

What Is Best Value?

2. Governors will apply the four principles of best value:

- Challenge - Is the school's performance high enough? Why and how is a service provided? Do we still need it? Can it be delivered differently? What do parents want?
- Compare - How does the school's pupil performance and financial performance compare with all schools? How does it compare with other Local Authority schools? How does it compare with similar schools?
- Consult - How does the school seek the views of stakeholders about the services the school provides?
- Compete - How does the school secure efficient and effective services? Are services of appropriate quality, economic?

The Governors' Approach

3. The Governors and the leadership team will apply the principles of best value when making decisions about:

- The allocation of resources to best promote the aims and values of the school.
- The targeting of resources to best improve standards and the quality of provision.
- The use of resources to best support the various educational needs of all pupils.

4. Governors and the leadership team, will:
- Make comparisons with other/similar schools using data provided by the Local Authority, local schools and the Government.
 - Challenge proposals, examining them for effectiveness, efficiency, and cost, e.g. setting of annual pupil achievement targets.
 - Require suppliers to compete on grounds of cost, quality and suitability of services or products.
 - Consult individuals and organisations on quality/suitability of service we provide to parents and pupils, and services we receive from providers.
5. This will apply in particular to:
- Staffing.
 - Use of premises.
 - Use of resources.
 - Quality of teaching.
 - Quality of learning.
 - Purchasing.
 - Pupils' welfare.
 - Health and safety.
6. The pursuit of minor improvements or savings is not cost effective if the administration involves substantial time or costs. Time wasted on minor improvements or savings can also distract management from more important or valuable areas. Therefore, Governors and the leadership team:
- Will not waste time and resources on investigating minor areas where few improvements can be achieved.
 - Will not waste time and resources to make minor savings in costs.
 - Will not waste time and resources by seeking tenders for minor supplies and services.

Staffing

7. Governors and the leadership team will deploy staff to provide best value in terms of quality of teaching, quality of learning, adult-pupil ratio, and curriculum management.

Use of Premises

8. Governors and the leadership team will consider the allocation and use of teaching areas, support areas and communal areas, to provide the best environment for teaching & learning, for support services and for communal access to central resources.

Use of Resources

9. Governors and the leadership team will deploy equipment, materials and services to provide pupils and staff with resources which support quality of teaching and quality of learning. Ultimately the output in terms of pupil capability achievement is the measure of achieved value and this needs to be related against the input in terms of resources.

Purchasing

10. Governors and the leadership team will develop procedures for assessing need, and obtaining goods and services which provide “best value” in terms of suitability, efficiency, time, and cost. Measures already in place include:

- Competitive tendering procedures (for goods and services above £50,000)
- Procedures for accepting “best value” quotes, which are not necessarily the cheapest.
- Procedures which minimise office time by the purchase of goods or services under £1,000 direct from known, reliable suppliers.

Monitoring

11. These areas will be monitored for best value by:

- In-house monitoring by the Headteacher, leadership team and curriculum managers.
- Annual Performance Management.
- Annual Budget Planning.
- Governors’ monthly financial review.
- Analysis of school pupil performance data.
- Benchmarking of financial data against that of other schools
- Analysis of pupil performance data for evidence of improvement for a given set of resources.
- OFSTED Inspection reports.
- Benchmark comparison of pupil performance data.
- Governors’ classroom and office observations.
- Governors’ committee meetings.
- Governors’ full meetings.
- Governors’ Annual Finance Review .
- Governors’ Annual School Improvement Plan Meeting

In the next three years the Governing Body will:

- Discuss “Best Value” at each Spring Term meeting of the Resources Committee.