

HINTON ST GEORGE

CHURCH of ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Let your light shine'



BEST VALUE STATEMENT

Frequency of Review:

This Review Date: July 2023

Next Review Date: July 2024

Signed _____

on behalf of the Governing Body

1. What is Best Value?

Best value is about obtaining Value for Money (VFM), it is not geared towards accepting the lowest cost, but is about getting the right balance between quality and cost. The three elements of VFM are:

- **Economy: minimising the costs of resources used.**
- **Efficiency: relationship between outputs and the resources used to produce them.**
- **Effectiveness: extent to which objectives have been achieved.**

The Board of Governors is accountable for the way in which the school's resources are allocated to meet the objectives set out in the school's improvement plan. Governors should secure the best possible outcome for students in the most efficient, effective and economic way. This will lead to continuous improvement in our students' progress and achievement. Governors will take due regard to the four principles of best value:

- **Challenge** – Regularly review the functions of the school and challenge. Is the school's performance high enough? Do our students make enough progress? Why and how is a service provided? Do we still need it? Can it be delivered differently? What do parents want?
- **Comparison** – Monitor outcomes of the students and financial performance. How does the school's pupil performance and financial performance compare with all schools? How does it compare with local similar schools? Develop appropriate actions based on analysis and benchmarking against similar schools
- **Consultation** – Consult appropriate stakeholders before major decisions are made. How does the school seek the views of stakeholders about the services the school provides? How can it forge more effective partnerships with outside bodies?
- **Competition** – Promote fair competition through quotations and tenders. How does the school secure efficient and effective services? Are services of appropriate quality and are they value for money?

2. The Governors' Approach

The Governors and the School Management will apply the principles of best value when making decisions about:

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

Governors and the School Management will:

- Benchmark with similar schools using data provided by the LA and the DfE, including, ASP, IDSR, Data Dashboard as well as networking and sharing information and good practice with other schools
- Challenge proposals, examining for effectiveness, efficiency, and economy e.g. Pupil achievement targets
- Require suppliers to compete on grounds of cost and quality, suitability of products and provision of services

This will apply in particular to:

Staffing: Governors will take a strategic view on staffing; School managers will deploy the workforce to provide best value in terms of quality of teaching, quality of learning, adult-pupil ratio, and curriculum management.

Use of Premises: Governors and school managers 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, e.g. The Pod and the Outside Classroom.

Use of Resources: Governors and school managers will deploy sufficient equipment, materials and services which support good quality outcomes for the school's students.

Teaching: Governors and school managers will review the quality of curriculum provision and quality of teaching to provide parents and students with:

- A curriculum which meets the requirements of the National Curriculum and the needs of students
- Teaching which builds on previous learning and has high expectations of children's progress and achievement

Learning: review the quality of pupils' learning, by cohort, class and group, to provide teaching which enables children to achieve nationally expected progress, e.g. monitoring progress against annual pupil achievement targets.

Purchasing: Governors and school managers will develop procedures for assessing need and obtaining goods and services that provide "best value" in terms of suitability, efficiency, time, and cost. Measures in place include:

- Competitive tendering procedures;
- Procedures for accepting "best value" quotes, which are not necessarily the cheapest (e.g. suitability for purpose and quality of workmanship);
- Procedures which minimise office time by the purchase of goods or services under £2,000 direct from known, reliable suppliers (e.g. stationery and small equipment) Governors and school managers will not waste time and resources:
 - On investigating minor areas where few improvements can be achieved
 - To make minor savings in costs

- By seeking multiple quotes for minor supplies and services.
- The pursuit of minor improvements on 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 valuable areas.

Staff and Pupils' Welfare: review the quality of the school environment and the school ethos, in order to provide a supportive environment conducive to learning and recreation.

Health & Safety: review the quality of the academy environment and equipment, carrying out risk assessments where appropriate, in order to provide a safe working environment for pupils, staff and visitors.

3. Monitoring

These areas will be monitored for best value by:

1. In-house monitoring by the Headteacher
2. Target setting meetings between the Headteacher and teaching team
3. Annual Performance Appraisals
4. Annual Budget Planning and regular monitoring by Governors and SLT.
5. Visits by the School's Effectiveness Advisor (SEA)
6. Analysis of school student's performance data
7. Analysis of financial benchmarking data
8. Analysis of Pupil Premium data
9. Ofsted Inspection Reports
10. School self-evaluation
11. School Development Plan
12. Governors' monitoring e.g. – Monthly meetings, Headteacher's termly report, regular planned visits, policy reviews.

The Governing Body will continue to:

- hold an annual Standards Meeting to set targets for improving pupil achievement, and lead to the development of the annual School Development Plan.
- discuss "Best Value" at the relevant Full Governing Body meeting and review the "Best Value" statement.

- consider 'Best Value' when arranging internal and external maintenance contracts.
- work with the L.A. consultant to advise on maintenance of the schools' buildings during the annual Building Condition Survey .
- obtain tenders and take advice on any large-scale refurbishment of the premises