



St Chad's CofE Nursery and Infant School

Best Value Statement

School Leader: M Richardson

Link Governor: Rev'd A Ward

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Introduction

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?

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 LA 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

The Governors Head of School, SLT, 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.

The Governors Head of School, SLT, will:

- make comparisons with other/similar schools using data provided by DDAT, the LA and the Government, e.g. RAISEonline, quality of teaching & learning, levels of expenditure, benchmarking.
- challenge proposals, examining them for effectiveness, efficiency, and cost, e.g. setting of annual pupil achievement targets, expansion to 3-form entry,
- Work collaboratively with local schools; e.g. Hardwick Primary School, DDAT, DTSA, HUB to share resources and expertise.
- require suppliers to compete on grounds of cost, and quality/suitability of services/products/backup, e.g. use of Frameworks ESPO, YPO, Crown Services.
- consult individuals and organisations on quality/suitability of service we provide to parents and pupils, and services we receive from providers, e.g. pupil reports, assigned inspector, Ofsted, New Communities Team, DDAT, Local Authority.

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

The Governors Head of School, SLT, and School Business Officer:



- 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

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.

Staffing

DDAT, Governors, Head of School SLT 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

DDAT, Governors, Head of School SLT 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. school hall.

Use of Resources

DDAT, Governors, Head of School SLT will deploy equipment, materials and services to provide pupils and staff with resources which support quality of teaching and quality of learning.

Teaching

DDAT, Governors, Head of School SLT will review the quality of curriculum provision and quality of teaching, to provide parents and pupils with:

- a curriculum which meets the requirements of the National Curriculum, National Literacy Strategy and National Numeracy Strategy, the LA Agreed RE Syllabus, and the needs of pupils
- teaching which builds on previous learning and has high expectations of children's achievement

Learning

DDAT, Governors, Head of School SLT will review the quality of children's learning, by cohort, class and group, to provide teaching which enables children to achieve nationally expected progress, e.g. setting of annual pupil achievement targets.

Purchasing

DDAT, Governors, Head of School SLT 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:

- 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 £1000 direct from known, reliable suppliers (e.g. stationery, small equipment)

Pupils' Welfare

DDAT, Governors, Head of School SLT will 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



In partnership with YMD Boon, DDAT, the Governors, Head of School SLT will review the quality of the school environment and equipment, carrying out risk assessments where appropriate, in order to provide a safe working environment for pupils, staff and visitors.

Monitoring

These areas will be monitored for best value by:

1. In-house monitoring by the Head of School and Curriculum Managers, e.g. classroom practice, work sampling
2. Termly target setting meetings between the Head of School and Curriculum Managers
3. Annual Performance Management
4. Annual Budget Planning
5. Head of School's monthly financial review
6. Termly visits DDAT School Improvement Officer
7. Termly visits by DDAT Finance Adviser
8. Analysis of school pupil performance data, e.g. SATs results, standardised test results, Academies, LA schools, similar schools
9. Analysis of Academies, LA pupil performance data, e.g. school profile data
10. Analysis of academies financial data , against bench mark data for all schools, ,Academies, LA schools, similar schools
11. Analysis of DCSF pupil performance data, e.g. RAISEonline
12. Ofsted Inspection reports
13. Governors' termly committee meetings
14. Governors' full termly meetings
15. Governors' Annual Finance Review
16. Governors' Annual SATs Target Setting Meeting
17. Governors' Annual Development Plan Meeting

In the next three years the Governing Body will:

- hold an annual performance plan meeting to set targets for improving pupil achievement.
- hold an annual development plan meeting.
- discuss "Best Value" at each Autumn Term meeting of the Finance Committee.
- review their "Best Value" statement at each Spring Term meeting.
- obtain assessment management surveys.

Confirmation the Best Value Statement in respect of St Chad's C of E (VC) Nursery and Infant School has been discussed by the Governing Body

Example of Best Practice:

School requested tenders from outside agencies to provide staff absence insurance and purchased the best value quotation increasing days before claims can be submitted and increasing welfare support for all insured staff.

ICT provision reviewed including broadband, support purchased Mercury AVS with support Hardwick Primary ICT Manager.

Review of service agreements for cleaning products and equipment against ESPO Framework Collaboratively working with Hardwick Primary School has brought in leadership support to sustain school during long term absence of Head of School. Both schools are sharing expertise to develop and enhance teaching and learning across schools.

Staffing structure reviewed annually to build in capacity in school to improve the personalisation of learning and feedback by:



- improving lunchtime provision and behaviour support throughout the day by covering with qualified full time staff and appointment of staff qualified to deliver sporting provision at lunchtime and after school with grant monies for extending family engagement.
- Deployment of staff reviewed to maximise capacity to meet the needs of the children with qualified staff during teaching time.
- Sharing Leadership has reduced staff costs whilst leading to improvement in the school management and the ofsted interim inspection in October reported school to show significant progress in addressing the weaknesses identified.
- Ensuring best value with a decreasing school budget.