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Best Value Statement

Confirmation the Best Value Statement in respect of the Footprints Federation has been discussed by the Governing Body

Agreed: March 25th 2020

To be reviewed: Spring 2021

Signed Chair of Governors

Signed Chair of Finance

Signed Federation Strategic Leader

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 and economic?

The Governors' Approach

The Governors, Strategic Leader, Senior Leadership teams and the Federation Assistant Head for Business and Management 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.

Governors, Strategic Leader, Senior Leadership teams and the Federation Assistant Head for Business and Management will:

- make comparisons with other/similar schools using data provided by the LA 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, and quality/suitability of services/products/backup arrangements
- consult individuals and organisations on quality/suitability of service we provide to parents and pupils, and services we receive from providers

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.

Governors, Strategic Leader, Senior Leadership teams and the Federation Assistant Head for Business and Management

- 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

Governors, Strategic Leader, Senior Leadership teams and the Federation Assistant Head for Business and Management will deploy staff to provide best value in terms of quality of teaching, quality of learning, adult-pupil ratio and curriculum management, given available resources.

Use of Premises

Governors, Strategic Leader, Senior Leadership teams and the Federation Assistant Head for Business and Management 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

Governors, Strategic Leader, Senior Leadership teams and the Federation Assistant Head for Business and Management will deploy equipment, materials and services to provide pupils and staff with resources which support quality of teaching and quality of learning.

Teaching

Governors, Strategic Leader and Senior Leadership teams will review the quality of curriculum provision and quality of teaching, to provide parents and pupils with:

- a curriculum which meets national requirements and the needs of pupils
- teaching which builds on previous learning and has high expectations for children's achievement.

Learning

Governors, Strategic Leader and Senior Leadership teams will review the quality of children's learning to provide teaching which enables children to achieve nationally expected progress, e.g. setting of annual pupil achievement targets.

Purchasing

Governors, Strategic Leader, Senior Leadership teams and the Federation Assistant Head for Business and Management 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 certain goods or services under £500 direct from known, reliable suppliers, such as YPO.

Learning Environment

Governors, Strategic Leader, Senior Leadership teams and the Federation Assistant Head for Business and Management 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

Governors, Strategic Leader, Senior Leadership teams and the Federation Assistant Head for Business and Management 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 resource monitoring by the Senior Management Team, Phase Leaders, Federation Assistant Head for Business and Management and Bursar
2. Regular monitoring of progress towards agreed annual targets
3. Annual Performance Management
4. Annual Budget Planning
5. Review of monthly monitoring reports by Strategic Leader, Headteacher, Federation Assistant Head for Business and Management and Bursar
6. Analysis of pupil performance data
7. Analysis of financial data against benchmark data for LA schools and similar schools
8. Analysis of DCSF pupil performance data
9. Ofsted Inspection reports
10. Curriculum Link Governors' visits to School
11. Governors' sub-committee meetings
12. Governors' Full Governing Body meetings

The Governing Body is committed to achieving best value for the school and will:

- discuss "Best Value" at the Spring Term meeting of the Finance Committee.
- review their "Best Value" statement at each Spring Term meeting.
- ensure that "Best Value" is applied to all contracts both with the LA and with external providers, including ensuring all bought in contracts are reviewed at least every three years
- obtain assessment management surveys, e.g. Display Energy Certificate, Fire and Water assessments.