



# Best Value Statement

Date: September 2024

Due for Review: September 2025

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This statement confirms the best value principles adopted by the Governors and school managers. Best value will be included annually as an agenda item at the first meeting of the Resources committee in each academic year, when the Best Value statement will be reviewed and agreed as part of the Financial Procedures Policies and terms of reference.

The Local Committee is accountable for the way in which the school's resources are allocated to meet the objectives set out in the schools' development plan. 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?

Best value goes beyond the traditional *value for money* principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness. Best value is about continually reviewing, challenging and improving the use of resources in a way that leads to:

- The raising of education standards
- Continuous improvement

## The Governors' Approach

Governors and school managers will challenge assumptions by:

- Regularly reviewing and questioning performance, school routines and processes to ensure they are in line with the School Development Plan.
- Consider if there are better ways to achieve the desired results and if current methods are the most economical, efficient and effective.
- Consider who the stakeholders are and if school aims are in their best interests.
- Question whether procedures are competitive compared with possible alternatives.

Gathering local views and forging purposeful partnerships with outside bodies does not only support continuous improvement, but also secures efficient and effective services. At various points in the school's management cycle, the governors and school managers will consult, as appropriate, with the following stakeholders:

- Pupils, Parents, Governors
- Teaching and Support staff, professional associations, the LA and Diocese
- The local community, neighbouring schools, suppliers

Being competitive means making sure the school is providing or buying the appropriate service at the best possible price.

Governors and school will:

Promote fair competition through quotations and tenders to ensure that goods and services are secured in the most economic, efficient and effective way.

Review financial administration procedures, including competitive tendering, to ensure the system is appropriate.

Question historic practice, e.g. is one supplier used regardless of price. Review contracts regularly and before the renewal date to ensure best value.

Governors and school managers will ensure that:

Best value is reviewed annually (and more often if possible) at Governors Meetings and staff meetings.

At the Spring Resources Committee Meeting, the Committee will:

- Discuss the Best Value Statement, amend as appropriate and be signed by the Headteacher and Chair of Governors for the next financial year.

Headteacher .....

Chair of Governors .....

Date .....

Date .....