

# St Laurence Church Infant School

## Best Value Statement



Approved By:

Finance, Staffing and Site Committee

Last Reviewed on:

March 2021

Next review due by:

March 2022

## **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 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?

## **The Governors' approach**

The Governors and school managers 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 and school managers will:**

- make comparisons with other/similar schools using data provided by the LA and the Government
- require suppliers to compete on grounds of cost, and quality/suitability of services/products
- 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

NB 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 or 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 and school managers 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***

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 and learning, for support services and for communal access to central resources.

### ***Use of Resources***

Governors and school managers will deploy equipment, materials and services to provide pupils and staff with resources which support quality of teaching and quality of learning.

### ***Teaching***

Governors and school managers 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
- Collective Worship which promotes the school's foundation
- teaching which builds on previous learning and has high expectations of children's achievement

### ***Learning***

Governors and school managers will review the quality of children's learning, by cohort, class and group, to provide teaching which enables children to achieve nationally expected progress.

### ***Purchasing***

Governors and school managers 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 eg 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 eg stationery, small equipment

### ***Pupils' Welfare***

Governors and school managers 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 and school managers 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***

The above areas will be monitored for **best value** by:

- analysis of school pupil performance data
- analysis of data provided by ASP
- monitoring of teaching and learning by Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, SENCO, EYFS Leader and Subject Co-ordinators, through activities such as lesson observation, learning walks, book sampling and pupil discussions
- OfSTED reports

*"Everyone to learn and grow with God."*

- analysis of SEND provision
- analysis of Pupil Premium provision
- annual appraisal and performance management
- annual budget planning
- Governing Body and Governing Body Committee meetings, including financial review, pupil progress, quality of teaching, adoption and progress of the School Development Plan
- visits by the DRB Bursar
- analysis of financial data eg against bench mark data for all schools, LA schools, similar schools

In subsequent years the Governing Body will:

- consider **best value** at all times
- discuss **best value** annually at a Finance Committee meeting
- review their **best value** annually at a Finance Committee meeting
- buy in professional support to oversee and advise on all major works and improvement projects

November 2005

Reviewed	June 2008, May 2009, June 2010
Revised	June 2011
Reviewed	June 2012, June 2013
Revised	June 2014, June 2015
Reviewed	June 2016
Revised	November 2017
Reviewed	March 2019, March 2020, March 2021