



ACADEMY VALUE FOR MONEY STATEMENT 2013

CLEVES ACADEMY TRUST COMPANY NUMBER 07403271

I accept that as accounting officer of Cleves Academy Trust I am responsible and accountable for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. We are aware of the guide to academy value for money statements published by the Education Funding Agency and understand that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

We set out below how we have ensured that the academy trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during the academic year.

What is value for money?

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?
- **Compare** – How does the school's pupil performance and financial performance compare with all schools? How does it compare with academies of similar size and characteristics of Cleves?
- **Consult** – Cleves will seek the views of stakeholders about the services the school provides
- **Compete** – Cleves will ensure that it secures efficient & effective services and that there are economic and of appropriate quality.

The School's approach to achieving value for money

The governors and school leadership team will apply the principles of *best value* as outlined above 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 the pupils

- ✓ The awarding of contracts and services that support the teaching and learning within the school.

The governors and school leadership team will:

- Make comparisons with other/similar schools using data provided by the government, e.g. raise online, quality of teaching and learning, levels of expenditure
- Challenge proposals, examining them for effectiveness, efficiency and cost, e.g. setting of annual pupil achievement targets
- Require suppliers to compete on the grounds of cost, and quality of services/products/backup in accordance with the academy's best value policy
- Consult individuals and organisations on the quality/suitability of service we provide to parents and pupils, and services we receive from suppliers.

This will apply in particular to:

- Staffing
- Use of premises
- Use of resources
- Quality of teaching
- Purchasing
- Pupils' welfare
- Health and safety

The governors and school leadership team

- 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.

How will the School ensure that it achieves value for money?

The Governors and school will monitor all areas of curriculum and financial performance through the following methods

- In-house monitoring by the headteachers and other senior leaders e.g. classroom practice, work sampling

- Termly target setting meetings between the headteachers and curriculum leaders
- Weekly briefing meetings to review overall performance
- Analysis of school performance data e.g. raise on-line
- Ofsted Inspection Reports
- Governors cycle of review of policies
- Annual appraisal procedures
- Annual Budget Planning process which ensures that the budget planning is driven by the School Development Plan
- Regular meetings between headteachers and the school business manager
- Review of the monthly budget monitoring
- Governors review of management accounts at finance committee meetings
- Relevant reports from the academy's Responsible Officer.

What has the school done to achieve best value in 2012/13 Financial Year?

The governing body has continued to ensure there are sufficient internal controls over the day to day management of the school's resources, applying rigorous tendering requirements. These areas have also been monitored during the monthly checks provided by the school's appointed auditors.

Future considerations regarding best value:

- Following the recent retirement of the business manager, a full review of all policies and procedures is planned, which will encompass a review of current practices and the implementation of any procedural improvements deemed necessary by the headteachers and governors.
- This will include a full review of all external contracts. The headteachers and governors will continue to look at ways to maximise income generation at the school.

Signed: 

Name: Mrs J Grafton

Joint Accounting Officer

Date: 