

Stanley Green Infant Academy

VALUE FOR MONEY STATEMENT

I accept that as accounting officer of Stanley Green Infant Academy I am responsible and accountable for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. I am 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.

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

1. 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?

2. The Governors' Approach

The Governors and the Senior Leaders will apply the principles of best value when making decisions about:

1. the allocation of resources to best promote the aims and values of the school.
2. the targeting of resources to best improve standards and the quality of provision.
3. the use of resources to best support the various educational needs of all pupils.

Governors, and the Senior Leaders, will:

4. make comparisons with other/similar schools using data provided by the LA and the Government, quality of teaching & learning, levels of expenditure
5. challenge proposals, examining them for effectiveness, efficiency, and cost, e.g. setting of annual pupil achievement targets, expansion to 4-form entry,
6. require suppliers to compete on grounds of cost, and quality/suitability of services/products/backup.
7. 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 resources
- quality of teaching and learning
- purchasing
- personal development and welfare
- health and safety
- monitoring
- school development plan

Governors and the Senior Leaders: 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/valuable areas.

Staffing

Governors and the Senior Leaders will deploy staff to provide best value in terms of quality of teaching, quality of learning, adult-pupil ratio, and curriculum management.

Use of Resources

Governors and the Senior Leaders will:

1. deploy equipment, materials, services, grants and targeted funding to provide pupils and staff with resources which support quality of teaching and quality of learning.
2. 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. the library

Quality of Teaching and Learning

Governors and the Senior Leaders will review the quality of curriculum provision and quality of teaching and learning, to provide parents and pupils with:

1. a curriculum which meets the requirements of the National Curriculum, the LA Agreed RE Syllabus, new SEN Code of Practice and the needs of pupils
2. teaching which builds on prior learning and has high expectations of children's achievement

Governors and the Senior Leaders will monitor and evaluate the quality of children's learning by cohort, class and group, to ensure teaching enables children to achieve or exceed age related expectations.

Purchasing

Governors and the Senior Leaders 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:

1. competitive tendering procedures for accepting "best value" quotes, which are not necessarily the cheapest (e.g. suitability for purpose and quality of workmanship)
2. procedures which minimise office time by the purchase of goods or services under our agreed sum direct from known, reliable suppliers (e.g. stationery, small equipment)

Personal Development and Welfare

Governors and staff will review the values based ethos for providing a supportive culture for learning, behaviour and emotional well-being for pupils, staff and the local community

Health & Safety

Governors and the Senior Leaders 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 and evaluation by the Principal, Senior Leaders and Subject leaders, e.g. school values for learning and behaviour, quality first teaching, pupil's learning and achievement, parent engagement
2. Termly pupil progress meetings between the Principal and Senior the Senior Leaders
3. Annual Performance Management
4. Annual Budget Planning
5. Governors' termly committee meetings
6. Governors' full termly meetings
7. Governors' Annual Finance Audit and the School Self-Evaluation Form (SEF)
8. Governors' Annual Self Review and Development Plan Meeting

School Development Plan

Key Priorities for the School Development Plan for the next school year:

1. Leadership at all levels, drives greater accountability to improve outcomes for all pupils, especially disadvantaged.
2. Make more teaching, learning and informed use of assessment outstanding.
3. Improving pupil outcomes in communication and writing reducing the achievement gap for disadvantaged.

Signed:



Name: Mrs Angela Malanczuk

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date: 15th June 2015