

Value for Money Statement

Organisation name: HOYLAND COMMON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Company number: 8654591

Year ended 31 August 2014

I accept that as accounting officer of HOYLAND COMMON PRIMARY SCHOOL 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.

Hoyland Common Primary

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Improving Educational Results:

We have ensured that resources are directed where they are most needed and most effective in meeting educational requirements, for example by:

- Targeting resources in line with the School Improvement Plan (SIP) priorities, including:
- Recruitment of an additional teacher to support in Year 1 for a term and a TLR for Curriculum, Teaching and Learning Innovation
- Recruitment or redeployment of specialist TAs to support the identified needs,
- Professional development for Early Years Foundation Stage staff to embed and develop practitioner knowledge.
- Professional development for Teaching Assistants to effectively support the School Provision Map.
- Initiatives to accelerate the progress of all groups of children (with a focus on pupils on PP pupils).
- Developing the assessment, tracking and monitoring processes to ensure data is used to inform planning, target interventions and support differentiation, including regular internal and Senior Leadership Team meetings to review progress and impact of interventions for different groups of pupils.
- Developing new staff Performance Review and Appraisal processes for effective monitoring of performance in line with the revised Pay Policy.

The effectiveness of these strategies can be seen in improved pupil outcomes, staff observations and preparations for delivery of a new curriculum.

Financial Governance and Oversight:

Our governance arrangements include regular monitoring by the Governors and their committees, including the Finance and General Purpose Committee. They receive regular financial reports and ask relevant questions as evidenced in the minutes. The work of these committees is further informed by regular Responsible Officer reports following monitoring visits undertaken by a SBM from Shafton Primary Academy and support from Harris and Co Accountants.

Better Purchasing:

Examples of steps taken to ensure value for money when purchasing include:

- Exploring alternative purchasing options both on-line and direct through suppliers to find the best value.
- Implementing a tender process for significant purchases and/or contracts, for example the Insurance contract.
- The School Business Manager has been influential in driving down costs through better procurement and negotiation throughout 2013-14, including resources, IT equipment and repair and residential trip costs.
- All Contracts are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they are value for money.

Better Income Generation:

Examples of steps to maximize income include:

- A range of school staff providing consultancy and support services to other local schools and the Local Authority.
- Mentoring trainee teachers and college student, including GTP and PGCE placements.
- The school's banking arrangements ensure that where cash flow allows, monies are transferred into a higher interest account.

Reviewing Controls and Managing Risks:

The F&GP Committee, School Business Manager, budget holders and the Senior Leadership Team have reviewed regular budget reports, including future recommendations. This has ensured that spending is within budget and forward plans are agreed and implemented when there has been any variance. Actions taken to manage risk include the purchase of an appropriate level of insurance cover, following consultation with the CPC broker service. Professional advice (for example from the HR and legal service providers) has also been sought when needed.

Future Objectives:

We recognise the need to continue developing relationships with other academies and/or local schools, in order to benefit from economies of scale in procuring products and services, developing staff and sharing knowledge, skill and expertise.

Signed

Name Tom Banham

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date

Name: Mr Thomas Banham

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date: 19 Jan 2015