



BEST VALUE STATEMENT 2021/2022

This statement is reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current regulations

Approved/reviewed by	
Date of review	March 2021
Date of next review	March 2022

BEST VALUE STATEMENT 2020/2021

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's development plans. 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/carers 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 the school managers, will:

- make comparisons with other/similar schools using data provided by the LA and the Government, quality of teaching & 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 grounds of cost, and quality/suitability of services/products/backup
- consult individuals and organisations on quality/suitability of service we provide to parents/carers 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

Governors and school managers:

- 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.

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. Staff absence will be monitored in line with the absence management policy and action taken where appropriate. Cover costs will be monitored and minimised whilst maintaining a safe environment for staff and pupils.

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 & 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/carers and pupils with:

- a curriculum which meets the requirements of the Department for Education and the needs of pupils
- teaching which builds on previous learning and has high expectations of children's achievement.

Learning

Governors and school managers will review the quality of pupil's learning, by cohort, class and group, to provide teaching which enables pupils to achieve nationally expected progress, e.g. setting of annual pupil achievement targets.

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:

- competitive tendering procedures (e.g. for goods and services above £10,000)

- procedures for accepting “best value” quotes, which are not necessarily the cheapest (e.g. 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 (e.g. stationery, small equipment)
- Use of purchase card to take advantage of discounted prices through online purchasing.

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

These areas will be monitored for best value by:

1. In-house monitoring by the Headteacher and curriculum managers, e.g. classroom practice, work sampling
2. Termly target setting meetings between the Assistant Headteacher and curriculum managers
3. Annual Performance Management
4. Annual Budget Planning
5. Headteacher monthly financial review
6. Half termly visits by the LA Finance Adviser
7. Analysis of school pupil performance data, e.g. G.C.SE results, standardised test results
8. Analysis of LA pupil performance data
9. Analysis of LA financial data, e.g. ORACLE reports, against bench mark data for all schools, LA schools, similar schools
10. Ofsted Inspection reports
11. Governors’ observations of Learning
12. Governors’ termly committee meetings
13. Governors’ termly full FGB meetings
14. Governors’ Annual Finance Review/Control Assurance
15. Governors’ Monitoring of Residential Provision
16. Governors’ Annual Development Plan Meeting

The Governing Body will also:

- Hold an annual performance plan meeting to set targets for improving pupil achievement.
- Be part of the schools development planning process.
- Discuss “Best Value” at each Autumn Term meeting of the Finance Committee.
- Review their “Best Value” statement at each Spring Term meeting.
- Consider best value when arranging maintenance and building contracts including internal and external redecoration contracts.
- Obtain tenders and advice on the installation of any large scale refurbishments of the premises.
- To work with the LA obtain asset management surveys.

Confirmation that the Best Value Statement in respect of Lindsworth School has been discussed by the Governing Body

Signed by:

Chair of Governors: Date:

Headteacher: Date:

Agreed at the Governing Body Meeting on:

Minute Reference: