

Best Value Statement

Approved	FGB	Responsibility	Resources Committee
Review periodicity	3 years	Audience	Public – school website



Created March 2008

Approved Sept 2010

Approved Sept 2012

Approved & changed to 3 year review cycle Sept 2014

Reviewed Sept 2017

Introduction

The Governors of Greenfields Junior School are committed to achieving Best Value in all decisions made. The concept of Best Value was introduced in the Local Government Act 1999 and is a statutory requirement for local authorities.

Purpose

The principles of Best Value are applied to secure continuous improvement in this school and are:

- **COMPARE:** Compare how our school's performance compares with that of other so that we have a firm financial basis for moving the school forward. The Resources Committee will undertake an annual review of information available which provides statistical evidence of a comparison of the school's income and expenditure in the Summer Term when the new budget is agreed.
- **CHALLENGE:** Regularly review the services provided to the school, challenging how and why services are provided and setting targets and performance indicators for improvement. The Resources Committee will undertake a termly review of income and expenditure in line with its Terms of Reference.
- **COMPETE:** Promote fair competition through comparison of quotations to ensure that goods and services are secured in the most economic, efficient and effective way. The Headteacher will ensure that all day-to-day expenditure is planned and committed in a controlled manner such that Best Value is achieved. All major items of expenditure will be subject to review by the Resources Committee in line with the limits set out in its Terms of Reference. The School Budget is subject to the review and approval of the Full Governing Body prior to submission.
- **CONSULT:** Consult appropriate stakeholders before major decisions are made. All major decisions that commit the school to significant expenditure will be reviewed and approved by the Full Governing Body. The Resources and Curriculum Committees may refer any expenditure decisions within their control to the Full Governing Body should there be any concern over Best Value.

In deciding spending priorities we will:

- Consider local/national priorities, often financially supported (eg Pupil Premium)
- Use self-evaluation and inspection outcomes to target resources in line with the School priorities
- Challenge existing patterns of expenditure to identify possible savings and alternative use of resources.
- Question how resources are allocated across the budget:
 - Is the spending short or long term?
 - Will the spending change over time?
 - Is the spending sustainable?
 - How does proposed spending fit in with other plans?
 - Will the quality of provision in this area or in others be adversely affected?
- Ensure full consultation with staff and parents if significant changes to provision are proposed
- Challenge the use of resources by those managing delegated budgets.
- Challenge whether any aspect of the school's provision could be improved.
- Challenge the deployment of all staff to ensure their skills are being used to maximise pupils' learning.
- Challenge the allocation of funding for staff professional development.
- Compare the quality, cost and impact of services purchased from outside providers, including the LEA; particularly Service Level Agreements.

Responsibilities

Our spending is guided by the School Improvement Plan which is monitored in several layers:

- The Governing Body monitors the effectiveness of the overall plan ☒
- The Headteacher monitors the effectiveness of the overall plan and reports to the Governing Body each term through the Headteacher's report. ☒
- The Curriculum Committee and subject managers monitor their action plans using agreed success criteria.

At Greenfields we will take steps to ensure we receive the funding to which we are entitled so that income is maximised. The Best Value Statement will be considered each year during the budget planning cycle. The progress of the annual budget plan will be reviewed in the context of the Best Value statement to secure continuous improvement at Greenfields School.