

# St Matthias Church of England Primary School

Headteacher Mrs Claire Davies

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## **BEST VALUE STATEMENT**

### **Introduction**

The Governing Body of St. Matthias is accountable for the way in which school resources are allocated to meet the objectives set out in the School Development Plan. 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 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, e.g. RAISE, 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, e.g. provision of computer suite, redecoration
- consult individuals and organisations on quality/suitability of service we provide to parents and pupils, and services we receive from providers, e.g. Sex and Relationships Education, pupil reports, assigned inspector, Ofsted etc
- ensure that any changes in legislation are taken into consideration.

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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.

## ***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 and learning, for support services, and for communal access to central resources, e.g. the library.

## ***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***

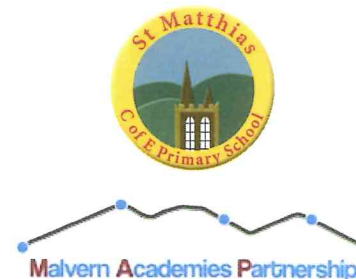
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Governors and school managers will review the quality of curriculum provision and quality of teaching, to provide parents and pupils with:

- a curriculum which meets the requirements of the National Curriculum, National Literacy Strategy Primary National Strategy, Agreed Syllabus for RE, 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 children's learning, by cohort, class and group, to provide teaching which enables children to achieve nationally expected progress, e.g. setting of annual pupil achievement targets, 2 national curriculum levels between Years 3 and 6.

## ***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:

- purchasing procedures within Financial Regulations (e.g. limits of spend requiring quotations or tender)
- procedures for accepting "best value" quotes, which are not necessarily the cheapest (e.g. suitability for purpose and quality of workmanship)

## ***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 Head Teacher and curriculum managers, e.g. classroom practice, work sampling.
2. Termly target setting meetings between the Head Teacher and curriculum leaders
3. Annual Performance Management
4. Annual Budget Planning
5. Head Teacher's monthly financial review
6. Analysis of school pupil performance data, e.g. SATs results, standardised test results against other schools (Raise online/Fischer Family Trust)

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7. Analysis of pupil performance data
8. Analysis of financial data
9. Ofsted Inspection reports
10. SIAS reports
11. Governors' visit reports
12. Governors' committee meetings
13. Governors' report to Statutory Accounts
14. Target Setting

In the next three years the Governing Body will:

- discuss school targets and the school development plan for raising pupil achievement each Autumn in a full Governing Body meeting
- employ an appropriate consultant to advise when embarking on large scale refurbishment, large scale maintenance or extensions of the schools' buildings to ensure best value is achieved
- obtain tenders for any large scale refurbishment, maintenance or extensions of the premises
- ensure appropriate consideration is given to best value on the review of tenders by the Resource and Audit Committee
- monitor key school systems / processes i.e. Staff Appraisal, use of Pupil Premium, Safeguarding , Health and Safety measures etc as appropriate

## Confirmation the Best Value Statement has been discussed by the Governing Body

Signed by:

Chair of Governors: ..... *Brehan* ..... Date: *19/3/14* .....

Head Teacher: ..... *C Davies* ..... Date: *19.3.14* .....

Agreed at the Governing Body Meeting on: ..19.3.14..... Minute Reference: ..12c.....