



# Holmer Green Senior School

## Best Value Statement

January 2016



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### 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 students, 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 student performance and financial performance compare with other schools and academies?
- **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 and similar schools using data provided by the LA and the Government, eg. quality of teaching and learning, levels of expenditure
- challenge proposals, examining them for effectiveness, efficiency and cost, eg. setting of annual student achievement targets
- require suppliers to compete on grounds of cost, and quality and suitability of services, products and backup, eg. provision of computer suite, redecoration
- consult individuals and organisations on quality and suitability of service we provide to parents and students, and services we receive from providers, eg. Sex and Relationships Education, careers guidance, student reports, Ofsted, maintenance, goods and services

This will apply in particular to:

- staffing
- use of premises
- use of resources
- quality of teaching
- quality of learning
- purchasing
- students' 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-student 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, eg. the library.

### **Use of Resources**

Governors and school managers will deploy equipment, materials and services to provide students 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 and students with:

- a curriculum which meets the needs of students
- 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, eg. setting of annual student 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 (eg. 3 quotes for goods and services above £1,000 and follow EU tendering procedures where thresholds require)
- procedures for accepting best value quotes, which are not necessarily the cheapest (eg. 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 (eg. stationery, small equipment)

### **Students' 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 students, staff and visitors.

### **Monitoring**

These areas will be monitored for best value by:

1. In-house monitoring by the Headteacher and curriculum managers, eg. classroom practice, work sampling
2. Termly target setting meetings between the Headteacher and curriculum managers
3. Annual Performance Management

- 4. Annual Budget Planning
- 5. Analysis of school student performance data
- 6. Analysis of LA student performance data
- 7. Analysis of National financial data, eg. against bench mark data for other schools and academies
- 8. Analysis of DfE student performance data
- 9. Ofsted Inspection reports
- 10. Governors' visits
- 11. Governors' termly committee meetings
- 12. Governors' full termly meetings
- 13. Governors' Annual Finance Review
- 14. Governors' Annual Target Setting Meeting
- 15. Governors' Annual Development Plan Meeting

In the next three years the Governing Body will:

- hold an annual performance plan meeting to set targets for improving student achievement.
- hold an annual development plan meeting.
- discuss Best Value at each autumn term meeting of the Finance Committee.
- consider best value when arranging internal and external redecoration contracts.
- employ a maintenance consultant to advise on maintenance of the schools' buildings.
- obtain tenders following EU tendering procedures

Confirmation the Best Value Statement in respect of Holmer Green Senior School has been discussed by the Governing Body.

Signed by:

Chair of Governors: ..... Date: .....

Reviewed at the Governing Body Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2016

To be reviewed: May 2019