



Best Value Statement

Last Reviewed	May 2025
Next review	May 2026
Persons responsible	SLT & School Business Support Manager
Governor committee	S&C and F&P

Best Value Statement

The Governing Body is accountable for the way in which the school's resources are allocated to meet the needs of the school community, as set out in the annual School Improvement Plan. They need to secure the best possible outcome for pupils, in the most effective way, at a reasonable cost. This will lead to continuous improvement in the school's achievement and services

The Governing Body are committed to achieving Best Value in all decisions made. We use the four principles of Best Value (highlighted below) as they apply to securing continuous improvement in our school and will:

- Regularly review the functions of the school, **challenging** how and why services are provided and setting targets and performance indicators for improvement
- Monitor outcomes and **compare** performance with similar schools and within the school
- **Consult** appropriate stakeholders before major decisions are made
- Promote fair **competition** through quotations and tenders to ensure that goods and services are secured in the effective and efficient way.

The Role of the Governing Body and Staff

The Governing Body and staff 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 quality of provision
- The use of resources to best support the various educational needs of all pupils

Governors and staff will:

- Make comparisons with other/similar schools using data provided by the LEA and government departments (e.g. Figures Speaking for Themselves, DFE benchmarking data and Kent published data)
- Challenge proposals, examining them for effectiveness, efficiency and cost (setting annual performance targets, impact and provision of support staff, capital projects)
- Require suppliers to compete on grounds of cost, and quality/suitability of services/products/backup (e.g. water coolers, ground maintenance)
- Consult individuals and organisations on quality/suitability of the service we provide to parents and pupils, and services we receive from providers (e.g. monitoring by School Improvement Advisor and OFSTED, specific policies are reviewed by staff and governors and questionnaires are sent out to parents about school and extended school provision)

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 staff:

- 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 on costs
- Our Finance Policy states when it is appropriate to obtain quotations

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 the Leadership Team will deploy staff to provide best value in terms of quality of learning and teaching, adult to pupil ratio and curriculum management.

Use of Premises

Governors and school managers will consider the allocation and use of teaching areas, support and communal areas to provide the best environment for learning and teaching, for support services and for communal access to central areas.

Use of Resources

Governors and school managers will deploy equipment, materials and services to provide pupils and staff with resources which support the quality of teaching and learning.

Learning

Governors and teaching staff will evaluate the quality of children's learning by cohort, year group and identified groups to develop quality teaching to achieve at least nationally expected progress, e.g. setting annual pupil achievement/attainment targets, in order for pupils to reach at least year group expectations with a high percentage of pupils achieving Greater Depth.

Teaching

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

- A curriculum which meets national requirements and the needs of pupils
- Teaching that builds on previous learning and has high expectations of pupil achievement

Pupils' Welfare

Governors and all staff will review the quality of the school environment and the school ethos, in order to provide a supportive environment conducive to learning and recreation.

Purchasing

Governors and school managers will develop procedures for assessing need, and obtaining goods and services which will provide best value in terms of suitability, efficiency, time, and cost. Measures already in place include:

- Competitive tendering procedures are followed as laid down in the Budget Manual (see finance Policy)
- Procedures for accepting best value quotations/estimates which are not necessarily the cheapest (e.g. suitability for purpose or known quality of workmanship)
- Procedures which minimise office time by the purchase of goods via the internet using the school purchase cards
- Using Kent County Supplies as a starting point for most curriculum and office supplies, as best value principles have already been applied to products offered in the catalogue
- For purchases over £5,000, quotations are sought for best value purposes before purchasing

Health and Safety

Governors and staff will review the quality of the school environment and equipment. Staff/ Contractors will carry out risk assessments where appropriate, in order to provide a safe working environment for pupils, staff and visitors. Risk assessments will be shared with Governors.

Monitoring

These areas will be monitored for best value by:

1. Standards of teaching and learning in accordance with the School Improvement Plan and relevant policies by the Headteacher and curriculum managers e.g. Lesson observations, work scrutiny, appraisals and 'deep dives'
2. Annual target setting meeting with the Chair of Governors
3. Target setting and Pupil Progress meetings four times a year between the Headteacher, Inclusion Team and Classroom staff
4. Annual Performance Management reviews
5. Pay Panel review of recommendations for teacher pay awards
6. Headteacher Appraisal Panel to review Headteacher performance – quality assured by an Improvement Advisor from the Local Authority
7. Annual budget planning
8. Monthly budget monitoring – Headteacher's review
9. Analysis of financial data e.g. End of year ORACLE report, against LEA benchmarking data
10. Analysis of pupil performance data e.g. Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA) and EYFS profile, Y1 statutory Phonics test, optional end of Key Stage 1 assessments for Year 2, Multiplication Screening Check, statutory end of Key Stage 2 tests for Y6, CAT Tests in Year 5. Appropriate data analysed against all schools and LA schools
11. OFSTED reports
12. SEF sections reviewed by staff and at sub-committee meetings when appropriate
13. Governors' sub-committee meetings at least three times per year
14. Governor visits to school (specific to areas of the School Improvement Plan and Governors Day each year)

15. Governors regularly communicate with parents by publishing meeting minutes, information on the school website, newsletters and through attendance at consultation meetings
16. Governor's annual Health and Safety review
17. School Improvement Plan monitoring through Headteacher report

In the next three years the Governing Body will:

- use the financial planner to ensure best value principles are adhered when reviewing services and resources
- Discuss implications of data analysis using Kent published data and other sources to support understanding of standards/achievement issues.
- Implement action points of the Governor self-review and skills audit to enhance effectiveness of the governing body
- Discuss/review the Best Value Statement annually at the first Finance and Premises sub-committee meeting of the academic year
- Engage with EIS (KCC support services) to advise when considering replacement of computer hardware to ensure best value.

Signed by:

Chair of Finance & Premises: Rob ChewterDated:.....

Chair of Standards & Curriculum: June CookeDated:.....

Headteacher: Peter HipkissDated:.....

Chair of Governors: Rob ChewterDated:.....