



Cleves School
Learning Together

Cleves Academy Trust
Value for Money Statement 2014
Company number: 07403271

I accept that as accounting officer of Cleves Academy Trust I am responsible and accountable for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. We are aware of the guide to academy value for money statements published by the Education Funding Agency and understand that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

We set out below how we have ensured that the academy trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during the academic year.

What is value for money?

Value for money is about achieving the best possible educational and wider societal outcomes through the economic, efficient and effective use of all the resources in the trust's charge.

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?
- **Compare** – How does the school's pupil performance and financial performance compare with all schools? How does it compare with academies of similar size and characteristics of Cleves?
- **Consult** – Cleves will seek the view of stakeholders about the services the school provides.
- **Compete** – Cleves will ensure that it secures efficient and effective services and that there are economic and of appropriate quality.

The School's approach to achieving value for money.

The governors and school leadership team will apply the principles of best value as outlined above 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 the pupils
- The awarding of contracts and services that support the teaching and learning within school.

What the school has done to achieve best value in 2013/14 Financial Year:

The governing body has focused on auditing, developing and implementing internal financial controls to ensure consistent and rigorous management of the school's resources which included the management and review of risks.

Cleves Academy Trust carried out a tender process to appoint new auditors to assist in the monitoring of the Trusts position along with exploring and generating income through the hire of school facilities to the benefit of the local community.

The trust has also focused on improving educational outcomes through:

- Targeted improvement by reviewing the staffing structure to deploy staff to targeted areas such as Leadership.
- Focusing on supporting individual pupils to support their needs to raise attainment. This has included investment in the Learning Development Team.

Areas for development:

With the appointment of new key members of staff, the focus for the 2014/15 financial year will be:

- Induction of new staff to fulfil key roles and responsibilities ensuring value for money.
- Full review of staffing model to ensure high educational outcomes and standards.
- To ensure progress of all pupils through initiatives and targeted support to raise attainment
- A full review of the Grounds and ICT external contracts.
- Reviewing operations to maximise resources including new initiatives, collaboration and better purchasing.
- Review efficiency of school through benchmarking against other schools and academies.

Signed: *C. Hodges*

Name: *C HODGES*

Mr C Hodges, Accounting Officer

Date: *4-12-14*