

Poplar Adolescent Unit – Education

BEST VALUE STATEMENT 2020

Introduction

The Management Committee is accountable for the way in which the school's resources are allocated to meet the objectives set out in the School's Development Plan. Management Committee Members 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?

Management Committee Members 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 Local Authority 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 Management Committee Members' Approach

The Management Committee Members 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.

Management Committee Members, and the School Managers, will:

- make comparisons with other / similar schools using data provided by the Local Authority 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.

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.

Management Committee Members 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

Management Committee Members 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

Management Committee Members and School Managers will consider the allocation and use of teaching areas, support areas and communal areas, to provide the best environment for teaching & learning, for support services, and for communal access to central resources, e.g. the library.

Use of Resources

Management Committee Members 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

Management Committee Members 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, the Local Authority Agreed Religious Education Syllabus, and the needs of pupils.
- teaching which builds on previous learning and has high expectations of children's achievement.

Learning

Management Committee Members 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.

Purchasing

Management Committee Members 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 (e.g. for goods and services above £50,000)
- procedures for accepting "*best value*" quotes, which are not necessarily the cheapest (e.g. suitability for purpose and quality of workmanship)
- procedures which minimise office time by the purchase of goods or services under £5,000 direct from known, reliable suppliers (e.g. stationery, small equipment).
- In accordance with the Schools Financial Regulations.

Pupils' Welfare

Management Committee Members 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

Management Committee Members 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 of Education and Curriculum Managers, e.g. classroom practice, work sampling.
2. Termly target setting meetings between the Head of Education and Curriculum Managers.

3. Annual Performance Management.
4. Annual Budget Planning.
5. Head of Education's monthly financial review.
6. Termly visits by the Local Authority School Effectiveness Partner.
7. Analysis of School Pupil Performance Data, e.g. standardised test results, Local Authority schools and similar schools.
8. Analysis of Local Authority Pupil Performance Data.
9. Analysis of Local Authority Financial Data, e.g. Department for Education's Consistent Financial Reporting Benchmarking website.
10. Analysis of Department For Education's Pupil Performance Data, e.g. RAISE.
11. Ofsted Inspection Reports.
12. Management Committee Members' termly classroom observations.
13. Management Committee Members' termly Committee Meetings.
14. Management Committee Members' full termly meetings.
15. Management Committee Members' Annual Finance Review.
16. Management Committee Members' Annual Development Plan Meeting.

In the next three years the Management Committee will:

- hold an Annual Performance Plan Meeting to set targets for improving pupil achievement.
- hold an Annual Development Plan Meeting.
- review their "**Best Value**" Statement annually and discuss how "**Best Value**" principles are applied within the school.
- consider **best value** when arranging internal and external redecoration contracts.
- obtain tenders and a Consultant's advice on the installation of an IT suite, and any large scale refurbishment of the premises.
- obtain Assessment Management Surveys .

Confirmation the Best Value Statement in respect of Poplar Adolescent Unit has been discussed by the Management Committee

Signed by:

Chair of Management Committee Members:

Date:

Head of Education:

Date:

Agreed at the Management Committee Meeting on:

Minute Reference: