

Value for Money Statement

Academy trust name: Holmer C of E Academy

Academy trust company number: 07850551 (England and Wales) Ref 47737

Year ended 31 August 2014

I accept that as accounting officer of Holmer C of E Academy, I am responsible and accountable for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. I am 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.

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

Improving educational results:

We have ensured that resources are directed towards improving educational opportunities for all our children by:

- Funding support for the provision of daily reading
- Providing the best possible teaching and support staff in all areas
- Targeting support to assist the achievement of all individuals and all groups of pupils
- Tracking and reviewing all pupil progress and ensuring that interventions are smart, effective and resulting in progress.
- Pupil premium spending has resulted in Narrowing the Gap and improved outcomes, this is illustrated by the report on our website
- Collaborating with a soft federation of schools to acquire bespoke cpd for staff
- Raising our achievements in reading writing are above floor standards.
- Significantly increased level six performance in maths at KS2

The effectiveness of these strategies was confirmed by our Raise online data and pupil tracking.

Financial governance and oversight:

Our governance and oversight are strong and include regular contact with our accountants and scrutiny of the financial position at 6 meetings of the Finance Committee per year:

- Regular monitoring of accounts takes place by the finance committee
- Spending proposals are costed and compared to ensure best value and then considered by the finance committee
- The budget position is discussed regularly to ensure decisions are made after considering the short and long term view
- Contracts are renegotiated where possible and collaboration with other schools ensure economies of scale and best value.
- Purchasing decisions are always based on requests for discounts and challenging providers to provide a best price.
- Contracts are reviewed and compared with other options before renewal
- School decisions are benchmarked against options available to other schools locally
- Through prudent and cost effective spending the school is in a position to make further spending on buildings improvement
- Some income is acquired by various lettings and holiday clubs.

New initiatives:

- Hosting our local ICT curriculum consultant and providing a venue for training will provide income and increased cpd opportunities for the school
- Offering holiday club facilities for 79% of school holidays will improve our offer to stakeholders
- The school has recognised increasing demand for places and prudently made bids to provide additional accommodation through the CMF and has built two new classrooms and renovated its Victorian buildings as a consequence

- Giving children the chance to attend Forest Schools as a result of training our staff

Future objectives:

- Acting on decisions to increase the senior leadership group to make a team with the capacity to support the school as it expands
- The school is in a position to use its capital to benefit the pupils and needs to ensure spending meets the needs of current pupils, provides financial security for the future and ensure that levels of staffing can be maintained in the long term.
- Investment of surplus balances while waiting to start building projects is an area to develop this year
- Review of Risk Register in the current financial year.

Signed: ...*J R Cecil*.....

Name:Judith Cecil.....

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date:Dec 2014.....