

Burton Agnes C of E Primary School



Best Value Statement

Date of last Review: October 2012

Review in: June 2013

Signed: _____ (Chair of Governors)
 _____ (Headteacher)

Burton Agnes CE Primary School

Best Value Statement

Introduction

The Governing Body is accountable for the way in which the school's resources are allocated to meet the school's objectives. Governors need to secure the best possible outcome for students, in the most efficient and effective way, at a reasonable cost.

What Is Best Value?

Governors will apply the three 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 students performance and financial performance compare with all schools? How does it compare with LA schools?
- Compete - How does the school secure efficient and effective services? Are services of appropriate quality, economic?

The Governors' Approach

In all these matters Governors will be especially careful of the distinction between the role of Governors to guide strategic direction of the school and the role of the Headteacher and SLT to lead and manage the school.

The Governors, school leaders and managers will apply the principles of best value when making decisions about:

- the allocation of resources that best promote the aims and values of the school.
- the targeting of resources that best improve standards and the quality of provision.
- the use of resources that best support the various educational needs of all students.

Governors, school leaders and managers, will:

- make comparisons with other/similar schools using data provided by the LA and the Government.
- challenge proposals, examining them for effectiveness, efficiency, and cost.

- require suppliers to compete on grounds of cost, and quality/suitability of services/products/backup.

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. A cost of approximately £500 will be considered as the benchmark for this action There will be standing item on the budget monitoring agenda for these matters to be raised if they have occurred.

Staffing

Governors will consider the strategic way that school managers deploy staff to provide best value in terms of quality of teaching and quality of learning.

Use of Premises and Resources

Governors will consider the strategic way that school managers deploy the physical resources of the school in terms of quality of teaching and quality of learning.

Teaching and Learning

Governors will consider the strategic way that school managers evaluate the curriculum and the quality of teaching and learning so that the school provides:

- a curriculum which meets the requirements of the National Curriculum, National Strategy, the LA Agreed RE Syllabus, and the needs of students
- teaching which builds on previous learning and has high expectations of children's achievement.

Purchasing

Governors will consider the strategic way that school managers develop procedures for obtaining goods and services which provide "best value" in terms of suitability, efficiency, time, and cost. Measures already in place include:

- 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 £1,500 direct from known, reliable suppliers (e.g. stationery, small equipment).
- Obtain three quotes for purchases / services over £5,000
- competitive tendering procedures (e.g. for goods and services above £50,000)

Student and Staff 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 the learning of all members of the school community.

Health & Safety

Governors will ensure that school managers delegate the review of the quality of the school environment and equipment, the carrying out of 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 Head Teacher and curriculum managers, e.g. classroom practice, work sampling
2. Annual Budget Planning
3. Monthly Budget monitoring
4. Analysis of school student performance data,
5. Analysis of financial data, e.g. bench mark data for similar schools
6. Ofsted Inspection reports

The Governing Body will:

- Review their "Best Value" annually in the Finance Committee meeting
- Hold regular budget monitoring meeting which are sub committees of the full governing body. The minutes of this meeting will be available to governors
- The key points of this meeting will be reported to the full Governing Body

This policy should be reviewed annually on June 2013