

# Balcombe C E (C) School

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## Best Value Statement

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Adopted by Governors: 2010

Reviewed: Feb 2010  
Mar 2012  
Nov 2014  
Feb 2019, Nov 2020

Next Review: Nov 21

## BEST VALUE STATEMENT

### Introduction

The governing body is accountable for the way in which the school's resources are allocated to meet the objectives set out in the school's development plans.

Governors need to ensure the school is securing the best possible outcome for pupils, in the most efficient and effective way, and at a reasonable cost.

The annual review of this statement along with the budget will ensure that the principles outlined below are followed and there is continuous improvement in the school's achievements and services.

### What Is Best Value?

Governors will apply the four principles of **best value**:

1. **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?
2. **Compare** - How does the school's pupil performance compare with all schools in both West Sussex and nationally and how does financial performance compare with all schools in West Sussex? How does it compare with LA schools? How does it compare with similar schools?
3. **Consult** - How does the school seek input from stakeholders about the services the school provides?
4. **Compete** - How does the school secure efficient and effective services? Are services of appropriate quality and economical?

### The Governors' Approach

The Governors and school managers (school managers are represented by the Bursar and Senior Leadership Team) 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;
- 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.

Governors and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT are represented by the Headteacher and the Assistant Headteachers) will:

- make comparisons with other/similar schools using data provided by the LA and the Government; e.g. quality of teaching and learning, benchmarking, levels of expenditure;
- challenge proposals by examining them for effectiveness, efficiency and cost; e.g. setting the annual pupil achievement targets;
- require suppliers to compete on grounds of cost and quality / suitability of services / products / backup; e.g. provision of building works, redecoration, computer equipment;

- consult individuals and organisations on quality / suitability of service we provide to parents and pupils and services we receive from providers; e.g. school improvement support, catering, pupil reports, Ofsted, WSCC property maintenance and service level agreements (SLAs)
- avoid time and resources ill spent on:
  - on investigating minor areas where few improvements can be achieved and administration is substantial;
  - to make minor savings in costs;
  - by seeking tenders for minor supplies and services.

In the context of **best value**, the Governors and the Senior Leadership Team will apply the abovementioned approach to the following areas:

### ***Staffing***

- To deploy staff to provide **best value** in terms of quality of teaching, quality of learning, adult-pupil ratio, curriculum Leadership and administration.

### ***Use of Premises***

- Consider the allocation and use of teaching areas, support areas and communal areas, to provide the best environment for teaching and learning, for support services and for communal access to central resources, e.g. the library.

### ***Use of Resources***

- To deploy equipment, materials and services to provide pupils and staff with resources which support quality of teaching and quality of learning.

### ***Teaching***

- 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 LA agreed RE syllabus, and the individual needs of pupils;
  - teaching which builds on previous learning and has high expectations of children's achievement.

### ***Learning***

- Review the quality of children's learning, by cohort, class and group, to provide teaching which enables children to achieve nationally expected progress.

### ***Purchasing***

- 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 £5,000)
  - 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 £1000 direct from preferred and/or known, reliable suppliers (e.g. stationery, small equipment)

### ***Pupils' Welfare***

- 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***

- 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. Learning and teaching incorporating the appraisal process; (This is interpreted as support staff annual appraisals and teacher lesson observations to identify and validate best value).
2. Annual Performance Management of Leadership.
3. Annual Budget Planning.
4. Analysis of school pupil performance data.
5. Analysis of financial data against benchmark data for similar schools.
6. Analysis of DfE pupil performance data.
7. Ofsted Inspection reports.
8. Governors' termly committee meetings.
9. Full Governing Body termly meetings.
10. Governors' Annual Finance Review.

In the short to medium term (within the next three years 2019 to 2021) the Governing Body will:

- review the ***Best Value Statement*** each Autumn term meeting of the Finance and Staffing Committee, and at the following meeting of the Full Governing Body;
- consider the ***best value*** when arranging internal and external redecoration contracts; for example:
  1. the project to refurbish the staff toilets and installation of a toilet within the Lake classroom;
  2. the project to replace and/or refurbish three (3) flat roofs (with an approximate cost of £82k);
- discuss and approve targets, particularly for disadvantaged groups; for example the one year employment of a SEN teaching assistant;
- consider the ***best value*** when arranging tenders for the purchase and installation of a children's inbuilt bank slide;

- consider the **best value** when arranging tenders for any refurbishment of the premises in line with the scheme of delegation;
- monitor spending and provision as detailed in the governors' annual scheme of work (per the PSW committee);
- employ WSCC property maintenance advisers on the maintenance of the schools' buildings.

Confirmation that the **Best Value Statement** in respect of Balcombe C E Primary school has been discussed by the Full Governing Body.

Signed by:

Chair of Governors:..... Date: .....

Headteacher:..... Date: .....