

Value for Money Statement

Academy trust name: Beaver Road Academy Trust

Academy trust company number: 8698831

Year Ended 31st August 2014

I accept that as accounting officer of Beaver Road Primary School 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 tax payer resources received.

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

Beaver Road Primary School is committed to:

1. Raising student attainment and improving progress.

Attainment

- The overall average points score in 2014 was 30.5 which were significantly above the national average by 1.8. Overall results have improved slightly by 0.1 since 2013. Results have been significantly above the national average for the past 5 years.
- The maths average points score in 2014 was 30.8 and was significantly above the national average by 1.8. Maths results fell by 0.3 in comparison with the 2013 position. Results have been significantly above the national average for the past 5 years.
- The Reading average points score in 2014 was 30.5 which were significantly above the national average by 1.5. This shows a 0.7 improvement in comparison with 2013. The results have been significantly above for 3 of the past 4 years.
- The Writing average points score in 2014 was 30.0 which were significantly above the national average by 2.1. This shows an improvement of 0.4 in comparison with the 2013 position. Results have been significantly above average for 3 of the past 4 years.
- The English grammar, punctuation and spelling (SPAG) average points score in 2014 was 30.7 and was significantly above the national average by 2.1. Results have fallen by 0.3 compared with 2013.
- The percentage attaining L4+ was significantly above average for reading and SPAG and above average for maths and for writing.
- The percentage attaining L5+ was significantly above average for reading; writing, maths and for SPAG.

Groups

- The performance of the boys was above the girls for the **combined maths, reading and writing** by 0.5 and well above boys nationally by 2.3. Girls were above girls nationally by 1.4.
- The performance of the our 15 FSM pupils was well below our non FSM pupils for the **combined maths, reading and writing** by 6.5 and well below other FSM pupils nationally by 2.1.
- The performance of the our 21 EAL pupils was well below our non EAL pupils for the **combined maths, reading and writing** by 3.4 and below other EAL pupils nationally by 0.4.
- The performance of the our 6 SEN (SA and SA+) pupils was below our non SEN pupils for the **combined maths, reading and writing** by 8.7 and well below other SEN pupils nationally by 2.2.

Progress

- Value added information suggests that progress between KS1 and KS2 was significantly above the average overall and significantly above average for maths, writing and for reading.

- The percentage of pupils making 2 levels progress was above average for reading by 7% above for maths by 5% and above average for writing by 2%.

Beaver Road Academy Trust has begun embedding a new tracking system for individual pupils in light of the recent curriculum changes. This tracks attainment and progress against the End of Year Expectations from Year 1 to Year 6. It follows the EYFS format. As a result, Beaver Road Primary School has continued to use its assessment systems to continually raise achievement.

We regularly compare ourselves to other schools nationally and we are committed to closing the achievement gap for all groups of children.

At Beaver Road Primary School we constantly review the quality of teaching and curriculum provision to ensure that teaching and learning is based around the individual needs of our pupils and builds on previous learning. Our emphasis is on both excellence and enjoyment.

2. Robust governance and oversight of Academy Trust finances

The Academy has a suitable qualified Responsible Officer (RO). The RO reviews key financial policies, systems and procedures, including the use of tenders and presents reports in compliance to the academy's Business Manager, Headteacher and Governing Body.

The Academy receives support throughout the year from One Education Finance Support on compliance and accounting practices and has appointed external auditors.

The Academy's Trustees and Governors approve the budget each year and is mindful of the need to balance expenditure against income to ensure that the Academy Trust remains a 'going concern'. The Governing Body also receive and approve the annual accounts and the external Auditors Management Report.

3. Ensuring the operation of the Trust shows good value for money and efficient and effective use of resources.

Beaver Road Primary School requires all suppliers to compete on grounds of cost and quality of products. The Academy actively seeks out the best products at the best price; regardless of how much Beaver Road Primary School aims to spend.

All orders are viewed by the Headteacher or Deputy Head Teacher and the Academy School Business Manager to ensure that money is being utilised and allocated wisely.

For any order of £2000 or over the Academy will obtain three quotes. Successful companies will be chosen on grounds of price, quality and previous track record.

The Academy is always mindful that minor improvements or savings are not cost effective if the administration involves substantial time or costs. Time wasted on these minor improvements and savings can also distract management from more important or valuable areas. The School therefore uses well known suppliers for small orders (e.g. stationary, small equipment).

The Academy staffing structure is reviewed annually to ensure the most appropriate provision for our pupils. This ensures that value for money is maximised in terms of quality of teaching and learning, curriculum management and ensuring the correct adult-pupil ratios.

The Academy has an asset register which manages the allocation of resources in terms of costing, effectiveness and depreciation.

The School targets its use of the Pupil Premium so that the School's most deprived pupils have the opportunity to raise their individual levels of attainment resulting in improved educational outcomes for all.

Beaver Road Primary School is a National Support School and the Headteacher a National Leader of Education. The School is commissioned by both Local Authority and Academy Trusts to support other schools experiencing difficulties or challenges.

The Academy also shares good practice with a number of local schools which helps to drive up standards and keep costs to a minimum.

The Academy runs before and after school care for pupils, as well as wraparound nursery care. This provides the academy with a reliable revenue stream whilst maximising income generation for the trust.

Beaver Road Primary School benchmarks financial performance against other academy trusts to demonstrate that the Academy provides good value for money.

Tina Smith
Academy Trust Accounting Officer
3rd December 2014