



Value for Money Statement

Company number: 08182064
Year ended 31 August 2014

CHANGE Schools Partnership is accountable for the way in which the Trust's resources are allocated to meet the objectives set out in the Trust's development plans. Directors 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 Trust's achievements and services

Directors and the Senior Leadership Team apply the principles of best value when making decisions about

- the allocation of resources to best promote the aims and values of the Trust.
- 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.

Directors, Trust Managers and external auditory bodies

- make comparisons with other / similar academies using data provided by the LA and the Government, e.g. quality of teaching & learning and 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.

This applies in particular to

- staffing
- use of premises
- use of resources
- quality of teaching
- quality of learning
- purchasing
- pupils' welfare
- health and safety

The Trust has worked collaboratively with other schools, sourcing goods and services such as IT support from a local high school, which has provided an efficient service and excellent value for money.

The Trust has made good use of Pupil Premium. This has been used to ensure that the targeted groups of children have received additional support and use of facilities and groups they might not otherwise be able to access. Some of the strategies used for Pupil Premium Funding have been

Pastoral Intervention to include

- Pastoral Care Manager
- counselling,

- behaviour support
- family liaison
- attendance / punctuality
- social groups
- taxi costs

Learning Intervention to include

- Tailored intervention groups
- Learning Mentor
- Speech & Language

Enrichment / Engagement to include

- Funding for extracurricular activities
- Funding for educational visits

Resources to include

- ICT
- Specialist resources to support specific learning needs

Staff Training to include

- Whole school training on personalised learning
- Quality assessment and feedback

Some of the other measures taken by the Trust to ensure quality provision are

- Monitoring in-house school meals to provide improved nutritional meals at better value
There has been much focus on provision of meals this year, due to the introduction of universal free school meals, and this has resulted in a full equipment and menu review. This included a survey of parents, to help to evaluate uptake and how best to meet the needs of the children.
- Provision of internal and external clubs to improve pupil confidence and performance
In addition to a rich and varied curriculum, NGPS offers children the opportunity to participate in a variety of after-school clubs, including sports, cookery, performing arts, French and craft.
- Income generation through the use of school facilities
The Trust is currently undertaking a full review of most productive use of school facilities, with a view to producing business plans for substantial income generation via use of premises. Additionally, Cann Hall Primary is in the process of researching nursery provision which will extend the use of the school substantially.
- Savings on large contracts
The Trust tries to achieve economies of scale wherever possible. Most recently, there has been a full review of financial software, to maintain best value whilst ensuring that reporting is consistent throughout the Trust, to allow for greatest efficiency and to build capacity for the future.
- Improving Educational Outcomes
The Trust had the following objectives to achieve improved educational outcomes for children
 - To ensure that Cann Hall Primary School is removed from 'Special Measures' and makes effective progress towards being at least a 'good' school
 - To ensure that Notley Green Primary School makes effective progress to place it in the best position to be judged at least 'good' at its next inspection

- To narrow the gap between the achievements of those pupils entitled to the Pupil Premium and their peers.
- To confirm and embed governance structures, policy and procedure

The Trust used the following strategies to realise these objectives:

- School to school support in developing high quality teaching for learning
- Strong focus on formative assessment practices
- Meta-cognitive strategies to enable children to develop a 'growth mindset' and effective learning skills
- High quality professional development via school to school work, involvement in local delivery groups and other networks/providers
- Priority of phonics teaching to develop early reading skills
- Pupil Premium spending plans based on research and local need to address achievement gaps
- Improved IT facilities – e.g. wireless network, laptops, netbooks, ipads,
- Working groups to review governance structures and create a revised scheme of delegation

Quantifying improvements:

- Pupil achievement data across the Trust shows improvement of educational and holistic outcomes for all groups of children at the end of Key Stages. Cann Hall Primary no longer requires "Special Measures" as confirmed by their Ofsted grading in June 2014. Governance is now secure and increasingly effective in its impact.
- For the financial period the Trust operated within budgetary constraints.

Stuart Ellis
Accounting Officer
CHANGE Schools Partnership