



Bishop Fox's

A Business and Enterprise Academy School
High Standards & High Expectations

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Value for Money Statement

Academy Trust Name: BISHOP FOX'S ACADEMY

Academy Trust Company Number:

7660968 Year ended 31st August 2016

This has been reviewed and there are no amendments to make. I accept that as accounting officer at Bishop Fox's 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:

The Academy has endeavoured to ensure that educational standards continue to improve for the benefit of students and wider society and that all students have the opportunity to raise their individual levels of attainment. This has been achieved as follows:

Targeted improvement:

Staffing: The Academy has reviewed its staffing structure in light of pupil premium monies and curriculum management, particularly in the core subjects. We have higher than average staff costs compared to the national average with low staff turnover. Staffing levels have increased alongside higher funding levels.

Teaching: With teaching observation and on-call, we are regularly reviewing the quality of curriculum provision and quality of teaching to provide parents and students with a curriculum which meets national requirements.

Resources: Our Academy ensures that students and staff have resources which support the quality of teaching along with safety and wellbeing.

Focus on individual pupils:

As well as the students at either end of the spectrum, the quality of teaching has been looked at in respect of SEN and Gifted and Talented as well as differentiation for everyone.

This has included:-

- New student tracking software (SISRA)
- A wide range of interventions to support student progress and achievement such as Easter Schools, 1:1 mentoring, additional English and Mathematics teaching for small groups and individuals
- A focus on strategies to improve teaching and learning
- Lead teachers initiative
- Small classes for children not yet achieving a C grade in English or Mathematics
- Nurture provision for Year 7s to support vulnerable students and provide individual learning packages

Collaboration:

In working with the TLP we try to work with colleagues not only to share costs and deliver good practice.

The Academy is part of both the Somerset Association of Headteachers as well as a small Academy Heads Group from schools across the South West which work together collaboratively on a wide range of issues to raise achievement. A good example of work done in this area was around developing a new pay policy which was implemented consistently across all of the Academies.

New initiatives:

Our Astroturf which is now open was the largest capital expenditure and reflects the need to enhance our sporting facilities in order to improve facilities and skill levels.

FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNANCE:

The Trust's system of financial governance has included strong oversight by the trustees and accounting officer, in the form of:

- The Academy's Financial and Regulations and Accounting Policies
- Annual Budget Planning
- Monthly management accounts
- Termly Academy Status meetings
- Termly Responsible Officer reports
- Regular review of the Academy's register

Better purchasing:

Services and contracts have been appraised or renegotiated to get the best mix of quality and effectiveness for the least cost to ensure they are fit for purpose. All contracts are regularly reviewed on expiry. All services are reviewed on an annual basis and are subjected to scrutiny at the Directors' Finance and Premises Committee. Other arrangements are:

- Competitive tendering for all purchases of goods and services over £35,000
- Three quotes provided for many purchases of goods and services

