

Value for Money Statement

Academy trust name: Hermitage Primary School

Academy trust company number: 08872698

Year ended 31 August 2014

I accept that as accounting officer of Hermitage 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 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 Outcomes

Our Key Stage 2 results continue to be above national average and 93% of pupils achieved level 4 or above in maths and reading with 73% achieving level 5 in reading.

Continual curriculum development ensures all pupils have the opportunity to raise their individual levels of attainment to increasingly high standards. Significant opportunities beyond the curriculum in subjects such as music and PE are leading to outstanding levels of attainment in an enriched curriculum.

We have a clear tracking system which is scrutinised by the headteacher each term. Staff are held to account for the progress of each pupil on a termly basis and confirm that interventions have been appropriate and effective. The staffing structure relating to targeted support for pupils are regularly reviewed by teachers alongside the headteacher to ensure the needs of individual children are identified and addressed.

Performance management, lesson observation and opportunities to work with colleagues to develop teaching within school ensure effective, high quality teaching and learning is taking place throughout school. Monitoring of this is rigorously undertaken by our senior leadership team.

Pupil Premium funding is increasingly raising the attainment of the associated pupils. A detailed breakdown is available on our website.

Collaboration within our local cluster of schools and with two Wilmslow schools is leading to increased opportunities for us to develop the quality of our provision and teaching.

Ensuring Financial Governance and Oversight

We strive to ensure that the school is using its resources effectively to meet the needs of all pupils. The annual budget plan is set with clear links to School Development Plan priorities in order to maximise the impact of continuous improvement.

There is strong oversight by the Trustees and the accounting officer of the Academy's thorough, explicit financial systems. The school employ a Responsible Officer to oversee the accounting operation and report independently to governors throughout the year.

Our Governing Body has a strong finance committee, with members who have considerable financial and management experience. Termly budget review takes place to enable Governors and the accounting officer to regularly discuss and ensure value for money is being achieved.

We have been able to begin to make improvements to the furniture and fabric of our building, introducing new ICT equipment and the replacement of adventure playground equipment.

Increased attention is now given to the review of all contracts to ensure the academy's interests are fully met and value for money is achieved.

The Academy has taken advantage of the opportunities to explore and generate additional income, and has submitted a bid for CIF funding to make significant improvements to the existing kitchen and to replace a mobile classroom that is no longer fit for purpose with two new brick-built classrooms for EYFS alongside extensions to the existing KS1 classrooms providing much more suitable learning environments.

Name: ...Karen Wilson

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date:18/12/2014