



Value for Money Statement

Academy trust name: Harrow High School

Academy trust company number:7695709

Year ended 31 August 2014

I accept that as accounting officer of Harrow High 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.

Value for Money Statement

1 Effectiveness through improved educational performance

The School Improvement Plan has targeted resources to ensure an increased proportion of the school budget has been used on teaching and learning. This has contributed to another year of strong examination results and educational outcomes for school learners. Pupil Premium and other funding sources have been used to fund a range of interventions to improve the outcomes of the most disadvantaged learners. There is regular review of the effectiveness of each of these interventions.

Key indicators include;

53% of learners gaining 5 A*-C inc Eng & Maths
48% of pupil premium learners gaining 5 A*-C inc Eng & Maths
A Level qualification success rate 97%
A Level Average Point Score 221.5
92% of learners gained places at university with 1 learner in the Yr 13 going out to work, 2 on apprenticeships and 2 deferred their places.

The school was inspected by OFSTED in March 2014 achieving a grade of GOOD.

2 Efficiency through financial governance and management

There is robust financial governance and oversight including the following;

- Financial regulations and procedures recently reviewed
- Written delegations annually reviewed and signed

- Purchasing procedures based on clear separation of duties and a requirement for written quotations and tenders when specified thresholds are reached
- Regular budget monitoring including comprehensive monthly management accounts
- Financial planning and Cash-flow Forecasting.
- Business continuity planning and regular review of the risk register
- Lettings and charges policy annually reviewed
- Investment policy based on an appropriate balance between risk and reward
- Policies covering gifts and hospitality rigorously enforced
- Regular self-assessment based on FMGS
- Finance training for governors and staff with significant financial responsibilities
- Use of timetabling and other data to ensure the use of teaching and accommodation resources are optimised
- Regular updating of property strategy to ensure accommodation is suitable and any future improvements are prioritised appropriately
- Pay policies are used that are underpinned by the use of national pay scales for teachers and job evaluation for support staff posts
- A full programme of audit assurance work agreed by governors, delivered by external auditors, with follow-up through Finance & Staffing Committee
- Use is made of specialist advice including legal, property and actuarial services where appropriate and justified on cost grounds

3 Economy through working collaboratively to share best practice and drive down costs

The school actively participates in a wide range of collaborative initiatives;

- Member of Harrow Collegiate Teaching School Alliance
- Extensive programme of CPD delivered across Harrow secondary schools
- The school started a good practice group with similarly effective schools across the country. This has led to some excellent sharing sessions and further developments in these schools
- Member of sixth form collegiate allowing students to undertake studies at a number of different schools contributing to more efficient class sizes and greater student choice
- Collaborative procurement programme managed by School Business Managers covering a range of services including catering, cleaning, financial software, audit, energy, property management, banking, HR and payroll services
- Shared services including project management and financial advice
- Member of Crescent Purchasing Consortium accessing contracts for insurance and other goods and services
- Benchmarking with other Harrow secondary schools and other families of schools
- Member of The Jubilee Academy, a new alternative provision school opened in Harrow in September 2013

4 The school actively promotes the use of the building. Community groups, education providers and sports clubs regularly hire rooms providing a good income stream for the school as well as benefiting the local community.

Signed:

Name: Paul Gumble

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date: 10/12/14