

Value for Money Statement

Organisation name: Park High School

Company number: 7689613

Year ended 31 August 2017

As Accounting Officer, the Headteacher has the responsibility for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The Accounting Officer considers how the academy trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the Board of Governors where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where available.

The Accounting Officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- installing a new telephone system whereby all calls to landlines and mobiles are free
- agreeing a reduced contract for printing and copying with Canon on a framework as recommended by the ESFA, reducing the cost of contracts from over £100,000 per annum to under £23,000.

In making decisions about value for money the Governors have considered:

Effectiveness

Efficiency

Economy

Each is dealt with separately below.

Effectiveness through improved education performance

The school focuses on student achievement with the following key indicators:

- Excellent examination results at KS4 and KS5
- Excellent teaching supported by a rigorous performance management process to monitor teacher effectiveness. Support is in place for teachers failing below that standard.
- An Ofsted judgement of 'Outstanding' in May 2013.
- Excellent and well-resourced student support with strong links between home and school.
- Excellent behaviour and attendance. Attendance rates consistently high – 96% in 2016/17.
- Excellent progression rates to University.

Efficiency through financial governance and management

There is a robust financial governance and oversight including the following:

- Annual review of financial regulations, procedures and delegations.
- Purchasing procedures based on clear segregation of duties and a requirement for quotation and tenders when specified thresholds are reached.
- Purchasing frameworks are used when appropriate.

- Regular budget monitoring including monthly management reports.
- Three-year financial planning.
- Pay policies that are underpinned by use of national pay scales.
- Business Continuity Plan in place and reviewed annually.
- Regular review of the Risk Register.
- Regular review of premises strategy to ensure accommodation is suitable and any future improvements prioritised.
- A full programme of external assurance work delivered by external auditors which is followed up by the Audit Committee.
- Use is made of specialist advice, including legal, property and actuarial services where appropriate and justified.

Economy through working collaboratively to share best practice and reduce costs

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

- Collaborative procurement programme across Harrow schools covering a wide range of services such as; catering, HR, payroll, financial software, legal, property management, insurance and legal services.
- Member of Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate allowing students to undertake studies at a number of different schools contributing to more efficient class sizes and greater subject choice.
- Shared services including project management and financial advice.
- Member of the Harrow Collegiate Teaching School Alliance and the Canons Park Teaching School Alliance which allow access to an extensive programme of CPD delivered across all Harrow schools.
- Benchmarking with other Harrow schools and other families of schools.

Name: Mr Emlyn Lumley

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date: 12th Dec 2017