

Value for Money Statement

Academy trust name: The Robert Drake Primary School

Academy trust company number: 7686371

Year ended 31 August 2017

I accept that as accounting officer of The Robert Drake Primary School I am responsible and accountable for ensuring that the academy 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 Skills 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 use of its resources has provided good value for money during the academic year.

During 2016-2017 the school development priorities were;

Key Priorities	Raising standards in writing Assessment
Developments	Developing the role of the Subject Manager Monitoring the impact of Sport Premium Monitoring Pupil Premium pupils Extension to the administration area Replacing the flat roof Ensuring progress is monitored across all year groups Improving attainment across all year groups Developing the EYFS outside area Enhancing the provision of IT resources Funding one to one tuition sessions Enhancing staff CPD including succession planning Extending the range of before and after school clubs Generated income from external lettings.

- We continue to ensure that the staffing structure reflects the changing needs of the school. Learning Mentor roles continue to have a major impact on management of behaviour and provide social and emotional support for pupils.
- The school has provided staff with the necessary CPD training to update their knowledge and skills, to implement new curriculum and to ensure succession

planning. Bespoke training and new learning opportunities such as School Direct ITT, Outstanding Teacher Programme and SERCO PQSI Ofsted Training ensure best practice is used to provide better outcomes for teaching and learning.

- One to One tuition is funded from the delegated budget. Pupils from years 4, 5 and 6 continue to benefit from sessions tailored to their individual need.
- Targeted resources and extra staffing have been put in place to ensure that pupils have appropriate interventions and support in order to reach high standards in English and Mathematics.
- Termly pupil progress meetings have meant that the school has been able to monitor each child's progress and respond appropriately to changing needs.
- EYFS have been enhancing the facilities on the outside area to improve teaching and learning opportunities.
- The school employs specialist consultants i.e. solicitor, auditor, surveyor and health and safety advisor to ensure that we target resources wisely and effectively.
- The school was successful in its bid to replace roof lights and flat roofing across those areas not covered by the previous project.
- Planned maintenance projects were completed satisfactorily. Rationalisation of costs and organisation ensured that minor maintenance projects were completed on time and within budget.
- The school continues to make good use of the food technology area to support learning. All key stages take part in practical cooking sessions.
- The school has continued to develop provision for instrumental tuition by extending the opportunities to learn an instrument and to take examinations.
- The school has managed to upgrade eleven classrooms with SMARTBOARD technology and continues to seek funding opportunities to enhance IT resources.
- There has been a sustained increase in overall attendance levels. Early intervention and development of strategies means that the school can continue towards achieve our targets.
- The school has continued its partnership with the BATIC Trust. This collaboration provides for targeted support across all teaching phases and staff teams.

- Both halls are used for a programme of external lettings for adult classes in yoga and zumba.
- The school continues to work closely with the 'Friends' of The Robert Drake Primary School. Their practical and financial support enables the pupils to benefit from creative opportunities such as workshops, visitors from sport and creative arts, and new resources for the pupils to use.

To continue to be successful in terms of outcome and added value the school refers to the development plan, budget plan, maintenance schedule and other key documents. Regular benchmarking is undertake across a range of projects.

The school continues to ensure strong financial responsibility. Budget reports and projected financial outturns are provided. Finance staff work closely with the Headteacher, R O and external auditor to ensure integrity is maintained.

Continuing to Achieve

- To continue to ensure that the curriculum is constantly evolving to meet the needs of the pupils.
- To continue to develop assessment procedures in line with the curriculum to maintain outstanding outcomes.
- Progress continues to be above the national expectations and the school continues working towards raising the level of attainment. Extra resources, interventions, staffing and expertise are being allocated to facilitate future improvements.
- Upgrading IT resources continues to be an important tool to the enhancement of teaching within all groups. The school endeavours to build on this programme.
- To continue to seek funding opportunities to improve the facilities for all pupils.

Future Development

- We did not manage to secure funding for the extension to administration area. Planning permission is granted and we will be looking at other sources to fund this project.

Date: 29th November 2017

Name: C. A. Redpath

Academy Trust: Accounting Officer