

Value for Money Statement

Organisation name: Broadoak Mathematics and Computing College

Company number: 7872725

Year ended 31 August 2014

I accept that as accounting officer of Broadoak Mathematics and Computing College 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.

The Academy Trust is committed to:-

1. Raising student attainment

The Academy has moved into its second year of operation and has sustained student numbers so that it is full in all year groups. We are oversubscribed in number for 3 year groups due to appeals and students moving into the catchment. We currently have 906 students on roll; planned admission numbers (PAN) is 180.

In 2014 41% of students achieved 5 A*-C grades or more including English and Maths, and 78% achieved 5+ A.

While the school is offering no excuses for these results, there are a number of mitigating factors:

- The cohort had a very long 'tail' and lacked a critical mass of middle ability students. This was a year group difficult to 'get on board' with regard to a sustained approach to learning.
- A school with the demographic and social profile of Broadoak is likely to be hit most by the recent changes in the GCSE examination system: the end of speaking and listening in English; the introduction of linearity (with particular impact on Science and Maths)
- The same teaching teams have delivered results on a rising trend in the last three years, suggesting that such external factors have had a disproportionate effect.

There is no evidence to suggest that these results will be repeated in 2015: with a more balanced cohort and additional, more rigorous monitoring the school is keeping to its target of 55% for 5 A*-C (E&M)

To ensure that standards are continually assessed, the Academy operates a programme of team review where all aspects of a team's performance are reviewed. Findings go on to inform performance management and development planning. Learning walks are an established part of sharing good practice, as are paired lesson observations. Underperformance of teams and individuals is addressed rigorously.

Outstanding attendance continues to be strength of the College and in 2013-2014 was 94.5%.

The College bid for, planned and ran an extremely successful summer holiday programme including a two week school for disadvantaged students. There was a 94% attendance from all eligible students. Parental feedback was glowing, and some hard to reach parents came into the College for the first time and the transition process for vulnerable students was much enhanced

2. Robust governance and oversight of Academy Trust finances

The Trustees examine the financial health formally every term, reviewing performance against budgets and overall expenditure by means of regular update reports at all Finance & Premises Committee meetings. The Trustees also regularly review cash flow forecasts and ensure sufficient funds are held to cover all known and anticipated commitments.

The Board of Trustees have appointed an internal auditor from the Local Authority whose role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the academy's financial systems. On a quarterly basis, the internal auditor reports to the board of trustees on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities.

The Finance and Premises Committee receive termly monitoring reports detailing compliance with the Scheme of Delegation. The Trustees approve the budget each year and are mindful of the need to balance expenditure

against income to ensure the Academy Trust remains a 'going concern'. The Trustees also receive and approve the Annual Accounts and the External Auditors Management Report.

3. Ensuring the operation of the Trust demonstrates good value for money and efficient and effective use of resources

The Academy regularly benchmarks financial performance against other academy trusts to demonstrate that the Trust provides good value for money.

Tender exercises are regularly undertaken to ensure that high value contracts are assessed against the marketplace on a regular basis to ensure that long term contracts (3 to 5 years) remain competitive.

During the period the Academy completed the work on two all-weather sports' pitches, complete with floodlights; financed from our own budget. We have put several bids into the ACMF fund but without success.

Following completion of the sports project the grounds maintenance contract was re-tendered. The specification was updated to meet the changed requirements of the Academy. The new contract was awarded from 1st August 2014.

The Academy has kept its staffing structure under review and deployed staff efficiently to support the curriculum targeting areas in need of improvement.

The Academy Trust works with other schools collaboratively to ensure that procurement costs are kept to a minimum e.g. Duke of Edinburgh Scheme, Work Experience Health and Safety Checks.

4. Maximising income generation

The Academy explores every opportunity to generate income through hire of Academy facilities. Income is also generated from small grant applications which help to support the wider curriculum.

Income generation has increased this year following the opening of the new external sports facilities.

5. Reviewing controls and managing risks

The Academy Senior Leadership Team review expenditure within each budget heading annually and make adjustments based on the effectiveness of strategies introduced in previous years, curriculum offer and any new strategies identified in the Academy Development Plan.

The Academy has a formal risk management process to assess business risks and to implement risk management strategies. This process involves identifying the types of risk the Academy faces, scoring and prioritising the risks in terms of their potential operational and financial impact, assessing the likelihood of occurrence and identifying means of mitigating the risks. A Risk Register is maintained and reviewed on a regular basis.

Name: Ms Shelagh Pritchard
Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date: 01 Dec 2014