



Birmingham Federation
Maintained Nursery Schools

Allens Croft Nursery School

Jakeman Nursery School

Shenley Fields Nursery School

Lillian De Lissa Nursery School

Newtown Nursery School

St Thomas Nursery School

Adderley Nursery School

Gracelands Nursery School

Highfield Nursery School

Executive Head Teachers : David Aldworth, Mandy Cryan and Sharon Lewis

www.bfmns.sch.life

BEST VALUE STATEMENT

2022-2023

The Birmingham Federation of Maintained Nursery Schools follow the policies and procedures from Birmingham City Council and Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) which includes the Government's Prevent Strategy.

BEST VALUE STATEMENT 2022-2023

Introduction

The governing body is accountable for the way in which the BFMNS resources are allocated to meet the objectives set out in the individual school development plans. Governors need to secure the best possible outcome for pupils, in the most efficient and effective way, at a reasonable cost. This supports continuous improvement in the school's achievements and services

What Is Best Value?

Governors will apply the four principles of **best value**:

- **Challenge** - Is the school's performance high enough? Why and how is a service provided? Do we still need it? Can it be delivered differently? What do parents want?
- **Compare** - How does the school's pupil performance and financial performance compare with all schools? How does it compare with LA schools? How does it compare with similar schools?
- **Consult** - How does the school seek the views of stakeholders about the services the school provides?
- **Compete** - How does the school secure efficient and effective services? Are services of appropriate quality, economic?

The Governors' Approach

The Governors and the federation/school leadership team will apply the principles of best value when making decisions about:

- the allocation of resources to best promote the aims and values of the school/federation
- the targeting of resources to best improve standards and the quality of provision.
- the use of resources to best support the various educational needs of all pupils.

Governors, and the federation/school leadership team, will:

- make comparisons with other/similar schools using data provided by the LA and the Government, e.g. Raise on Line, Fischer Family Trust Data, quality of teaching & learning, levels of expenditure
- challenge proposals, examining them for effectiveness, efficiency, and cost, e.g. setting of annual pupil achievement targets
- require suppliers to compete on grounds of cost, and quality/suitability of services/products/backup, e.g. refurbishment of toilets, redecoration

- consult individuals and organisations on quality/suitability of service we provide to parents and pupils, and services we receive from providers, e.g. pupil reports, SIP, Ofsted, Direct Services (cleaning)

This will apply in particular to:

- staffing
- use of premises
- use of resources
- quality of teaching
- quality of learning
- pupils' welfare
- health and safety

Governors and federation/school leaders:

- will not waste time and resources on investigating minor areas where few improvements can be achieved
- will not waste time and resources to make minor savings in costs
- will not waste time and resources by seeking tenders for minor supplies and services

The pursuit of minor improvements or savings is not cost effective if the administration involves substantial time or costs. Time wasted on minor improvements or savings can also distract management from more important or valuable areas.

Staffing

Governors and the federation/school leadership team will deploy staff to provide best value in terms of quality of teaching, quality of learning, adult-pupil ratio, and curriculum management.

Use of Premises

Governors and the federation/school leadership team will consider the allocation and use of teaching areas, support areas and communal areas, to provide the best environment for teaching & learning, for support services, and for communal access to central resources.

Use of Resources

Governors and the federation/school leadership team will deploy equipment, materials and services to provide pupils and staff with resources which support quality of teaching and quality of learning.

Teaching

Governors and the federation/school leadership team will review the quality of curriculum provision and quality of teaching, to provide parents and pupils with:

- a curriculum which meets the requirements of the National Curriculum, National Literacy Strategy and National Numeracy Strategy, the Birmingham Agreed RE Syllabus, and the needs of pupils
- teaching which builds on previous learning and has high expectations of children's achievement
- in early years this is the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum.

Learning

Governors and federation/school leaders will review the quality of children's learning, by cohort, class and group, to provide teaching which enables children to achieve nationally expected progress, e.g. setting of annual pupil achievement targets.

Purchasing

Governors, EHT's, the strategic business manager and school business managers will develop procedures for assessing need, and obtaining goods and services which provide "best value" in terms of suitability, efficiency, time, and cost. Measures already in place include

- competitive tendering procedures
- securing economies of scale and procuring as a federation
- procedures for accepting "best value" quotes, which are not necessarily the cheapest (e.g. suitability for purpose and quality of workmanship)
- procedures which minimise office time by the purchase of goods or services under £1000 direct from known, reliable suppliers (e.g. stationery, small equipment)

Pupils' Welfare

Governors and school leadership team will review the quality of the school environment and the school ethos, in order to provide a supportive environment conducive to learning and recreation.

Health & Safety

Governors and school leadership team will review the quality of the school environment and equipment, carrying out risk assessments where appropriate, in order to provide a safe working environment for pupils, staff and visitors.

Monitoring

These areas will be monitored for best value by:

1. In-house monitoring by the EHT's, strategic business manager, school business manager and senior leaders e.g. contracts, services, classroom practice, work sampling
2. One business pot for all 9 schools for core Services
3. Regular meetings between the EHT's and DHT's
4. Regular meetings with Strategic SBM and SBM's
5. Service Provider Review Mtgs
6. Annual Performance Management
7. Strategic Finance Support via drb (fortnightly visits)
8. Cluster Finance Mtgs
9. Annual Budget Planning
10. Dashboard Analysis and KPI's
11. EHT report to Governors + external Finance consultant report/cost centre report)
12. Analysis of school pupil performance data, analysis within clusters
13. Ofsted Inspection reports
14. Governors' termly local scrutiny board meetings (Federation)
15. Governors' full termly meetings (Federation)
16. Governors' School Development Plan Meeting
17. LA Monitoring

In the next three years the Governing Body will:

- Continue to ensure economies of scale and VfM by procuring as a Federation
- Promote fair competition via quotations/tenders to ensure that goods and services are secured in the most economic, effective and efficient manner
- Ensure reports/proposals and any recommendations for new contracts are scrutinised/challenged by the FGB for best value and quality.
- Continue to monitor and challenge all service providers to ensure the highest standards of delivery/provision/best value/quality.
- Adhere to procurement regulations and procurement thresholds.
- Seek support from the LA Procurement team for large high value contracts that are likely to meet / exceed the procurement thresholds
- Build on the success of the Federation Business Pot – purchasing power for Federation wide services/contracts
- Maximise income from lettings/room bookings
- Review the School Development Plan
- Discuss "Best Value" at each Spring Term meeting of the Local Committee as part of budget setting process.
- Review the "Best Value" statement at each Spring Term meeting.

- Obtain advice on any large scale refurbishment of the premises.

Confirmation that the Best Value Statement in relation to the Birmingham Federation of Maintained Nursery Schools has been discussed by the Governing Body

Signed by:

Chair of Governors:  Date: 23/3/22

Executive Headteacher:  Date:

Agreed at the Governing Body Meeting on: