

Value for Money Statement

Academy trust name: HELLESDON HIGH SCHOOL

Academy trust company number: 7982312

Year ended 31 August 2014

I accept that as accounting officer of **Hellesdon 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.

The academy has continued to improve the learning environment for all students by ensuring that adequate and innovative resources are available for delivery of the curriculum. The academy has improved students educational outcomes in many ways and this has included work undertaken through the schools Trust status with the Theatre Royal Norwich. By working collaboratively with the Theatre Royal we have been able to raise boy's achievement through theatre workshops and other specialist activities. This link has also increased the opportunities available for students studying Drama and those interested in other aspects of theatre, such as lighting and sound technology as well as theatre management.

By increasing the number of Leading Practitioners and deploying their skills through a planned programme of staff development we have increased the number of good to outstanding lessons delivered. This has helped target areas of the curriculum in need of development in providing this very specific support.

Through rigorous monitoring and assessment individual students are identified as requiring one to one support and relevant programmes have been put into place, delivered by well trained staff. Catch-up classes are also run on a weekly basis covering all subjects and student attendance is non-negotiable.

Gifted and talented students have also benefitted from planned intervention to stretch their skill sets in specific subjects. Student's aspiration has been raised by work undertaken with undergraduates and post-graduates from the University of East Anglia and by visiting universities in the Russell group.

In the past year the academy has worked with other outstanding high schools, taking part in training programmes. Heads of department have worked collaboratively with colleagues from outstanding schools to share good practice. This has also extended to the Leadership Team who have worked with the management team of an outstanding high school.

The academy has extended the qualifications available in Hair and Beauty and Construction. The curriculum from September 2014 will include Health and Social Care. In providing these courses we are meeting current workforce requirements as well as making considerable cost savings, with students learning on-site which also gives us oversight of quality control. As these vocational courses progress beyond Level 2 they will help reduce the number of students likely to become NEET (not in education, employment or training).

Pupil Premium students continued to benefit from targeted support and evidence of 'narrowing the gap' is seen in the 2013/14 data with a 17% reduction in the 5 A*-C EM of the HHS Pupil Premium students versus national (all students).

The 2013/14 published best entry GCSE scores for 5 A*-C including English and Maths, ranked the academy as second highest in the county at 72%.

Attendance for 2013/14 was above national average at 95.2% and the number of students who were classified as persistent absent, continued to decrease. This was achieved through a consistent, whole school approach and earlier intervention strategies being employed.

Financial Governance and Oversight – the Finance and Audit Committee have played an important role in the decision making process and have brought challenge where appropriate. This was foremost when considering alternative HR & Payroll provider, investment of funds and future planned expenditure. The academy will achieve considerable savings of approximately £60,000 over the next three years with the change of HR & Payroll provider. The committee have been informed of all matters that impact on school income and expenditure and were able to measure the impact of whole school strategies such as the impact of Pupil Premium, through data presented. The committee have also been made aware of how the school's income and expenditure match the current requirements of the SIDP, with emphasis on moving the school from 'good' to 'outstanding'.

Following review of other service costs the academy has changed the contract for waste removal and together with cost savings made regarding grounds maintenance, we estimate a five year saving of £45,000.

The academy was successful in applying to the EFA for an ACMF grant and in due course will receive £510,000 to enable replacement roof and windows to the main

teaching block and roof to the PE block. Work undertaken through the ACMF bid has been managed by specialist consultants; 'Surveyors to Education' and all legal and Health and Safety requirements have been met, therefore limiting any pecuniary or litigation risk to the academy.

The academy has liaised with other academies to continue with "Peer to Peer" monitoring arrangements and from Autumn 2014 this will include collaboration with Notre Dame, Reepham and Sheringham. This will also help the academy in sharing best practice with other 'good' and 'outstanding' academies as well as provide the opportunity to carry out benchmarking activities.

Following a request from the Local Authority the Headteacher was asked to become Executive Headteacher of a high school, placed in 'Special Measures' for the Spring and Summer Term 2014. As a result of this intensive support the school achieved a significant increase in their GCSE 5 A*-C including English and Maths for summer term 2014. Hellesdon High School received financial reimbursement from the Local Authority in recognition of the actual cost of this support.

Signed:

Name:

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date: