



Value For Money Statement

**Company Number
07527128**

Year ended August 2021

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the way in which the Trust's resources are allocated to meet the objectives set out in the annual and longer-term development plans. Trustees need to secure the best possible outcomes for students, in the most efficient and effective way, at a reasonable cost. This will lead to continuous improvement in the Trust and its schools' achievements and services.

There are four principles of best value:

- **Challenge** - is the overall performance high enough? Why and how is service provided? Can it be delivered differently, and improved upon?
- **Compare** - how does the Trust ensure its schools' financial and student performance compares favourably or better than other schools?
- **Consult** – how does the Trust and its schools seek the views of stakeholders on school services?
- **Compete** - how does the Trust and its schools secure efficient, effective and quality services? Is the School getting value for money from suppliers?

The Trustees and Senior 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 Trust;
- 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 students.

The four principles of *best value* will be applied when making decisions about:

Staffing

Staff will be deployed across the Trust to provide *best value* in terms of quality of teaching, quality of learning, teacher-student ratio, and curriculum management. This will apply to the associate staffing structure to ensure that roles deployed meet the needs of the organisation. Where applicable and practicable, resources may be considered for utilisation across schools within the Trust.

Use of Premises

Consideration will be given to the allocation and use of teaching areas, support areas and communal areas, to provide the best environment for teaching and learning, support services and central resources.

Use of Resources

Equipment, materials and services will be deployed to provide students and staff with resources that support quality of teaching and quality of learning.

Teaching and Learning

The quality of curriculum provision, teaching and learning is kept under review to provide parents and students with a curriculum which meets the needs of our students as well as the requirements of the National Curriculum, and the requirements of the examination boards.

The quality of our students' learning will be supported by high-quality teaching enabling our students to achieve the highest standards and make appropriate levels of progress.

Purchasing

Procedures are in place for assessing need and obtaining goods and services that provide *best value* in terms of suitability, efficiency, time and cost. These include competitive tendering procedures for goods and services where appropriate, and procedures for accepting *best value* quotes and purchasing certain goods or services from known, reliable suppliers. Reference should be made to the latest Finance Manual for details.

Students' Welfare

The quality of the school environment and ethos will be reviewed to provide a supportive environment, conducive to learning and recreation.

Health & Safety

The quality of the school environment and equipment is kept under review, carrying out risk assessments where appropriate, in order to provide a safe working environment for students, staff and visitors.

Monitoring

Examples of monitoring for best value implemented within the Denbigh Alliance Trust and its schools include:

- Regular monitoring of financial and operating performance versus plans and in-year objectives by the Senior Leadership Team, Faculty and Department heads.
- Annual Performance Management of staff
- Annual Budget Planning, monitoring and reporting to Trustees, showing variances and determining a full year forecast outturn versus budget
- CEO and Heads of Schools monthly financial review of management accounts versus budgets
- Trustees' Annual Finance Review and approval of the annual accounts
- Internal Scrutiny audits conducted and reported to Trustees annually
- Analysis of school student performance data
- Analysis of DfE student performance data e.g. RAISEonline
- OfSTED inspection reports
- Minutes of Full Board of Trustees' Committees
- Planned review of financial and operating policies, taking account of updates in rulings as directed by ESFA/Dept of Education.

The Board of Trustees will:

- Confirm Trust and School targets for student achievement and progress at the Autumn meeting;
- Discuss "Best Value" at the Autumn term meeting of the Operations committee meeting and review their "Best Value" statement at the Spring term Operations committee meeting.

I accept that as Accounting Officer of The Denbigh Alliance, I am responsible and accountable for ensuring that the 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 above how I have ensured that the Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during the academic year.

Andy Squires, CEO and Accounting Officer, August 2021



signed



dated