



**Inspiring  
Learners**

MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

# Best Value Policy

*Date renewed: Feb 2024*

*Date of next review: Feb 2027*

## 1. Introduction

The Trust Board and the Local Governing Body are accountable for the way in which the Trust's resources and each individual school's resources are allocated to meet the objectives set out in the trust and school development plans. Governors endeavour to secure the best possible outcomes for pupils, in the most efficient and effective way, at a reasonable cost. This will lead to continuous improvement in the trust and school's achievements and services.

## 2. Scope

Best Value Policy applies to Inspiring Learners Multi Academy Trust, and all of its member academies.

This policy is valid for 3 years from the date of approval.

## 3. What is Best Value?

Trustees and Governors will apply the four principles of best value:

**Challenge** – Is the trust/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 trust/school's pupil performance and financial performance compare with all schools? How does it compare with similar schools?

**Consult** – How does the trust/school seek the views of stakeholders about services the trust/school provides?

**Compete** – How does the trust/school secure efficient and effective services? Are services of appropriate quality?

## 4. The Trustees/Governors' Approach

4.1 The Trustees/Governors and school leaders will apply the principles of best value when making decision about: the allocation of resources to best promote the aims and values of the trust/school 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

4.2 Trustees, Governors and the school leaders will:

- make comparisons with other / similar schools using data
- challenge proposals, examining them for effectiveness, efficiency and cost
- require suppliers to compete on grounds of cost, and quality / suitability of services / products / backup
- consult individuals and organisations on quality / sustainability of service we provide to parents and pupils and services we receive from providers

4.3 This will apply in particular to:

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

## **5. Staffing**

The Trustees, Governors and school leaders will deploy staff to provide best value in terms of quality of teaching, quality of learning, adult-pupil ratio and curriculum management.

## **6. Use of Premises**

The Trustees, Governors and school leaders will consider the allocation and use of teaching areas and communal areas, to provide the best environment for teaching & learning for support services.

## **7. Use of Resources**

The Trustees, Governors and school leaders will deploy equipment, materials and services to provide pupils and staff with resources which support the quality of teaching and learning.

## **8. Teaching**

The Trustees, Governors and school leaders will review the quality of curriculum provision and quality of teaching, to provide parents and pupils with:

- a curriculum which meets the needs of pupils
- teaching which builds on previous learning and has high expectations of children's achievement

## **9. Learning**

The Trustees, Governors and school leaders will review the quality of children's learning, by cohort, class and group, to provide teaching which enables children to achieve well

## **10. Purchasing**

The Trustees, Governors and school leaders 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 (at least 3 quotes for goods over £5,000)
- formal tendering procedures for expenditure over £75,000
- accepting “best value” quotes, which are not necessarily the cheapest
- procedures which minimise office time by the purchase of goods or services under £1000 direct from known, reliable suppliers (e.g. stationery)
- procedures that drive efficiencies such as Trust procurement where appropriate.

## **11. Pupils’ Welfare**

The Trustees, Governors and school leaders will review the quality of the school environment and the school ethos, in order to provide a supportive environment conducive to learning and recreation. We will ensure that all provision promotes equality of opportunity for all children and ensure all new resources promote inclusion.

## **12. Health and Safety**

The Trustees, Governors and school leaders 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.

## **13. Monitoring**

These areas will be monitored for best value using key performance indicators and tracking as follows:

- In-house monitoring of teaching, learning and the curriculum
- Annual Appraisal
- Annual Budget Planning (1 year and 3 year forecasts)
- Executive Headteacher’s at least termly financial review for Trustees
- Analysis of schools’ performance data
- OFSTED Inspection reports
- Trustee and Local Governing Body meetings
- Local Governing Body committees