

Value for Money Statement

Academy trust name: The Dominic Barberi Multi Academy Company

Academy trust company number: 08453966

Year ended 31 August 2013

*I accept that as Accounting Officer of **The Dominic Barberi Multi Academy Company** 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 Board of Directors is ultimately accountable for the way in which resources are allocated to meet the company's objective of securing the best possible outcome for pupils and staff, in the most efficient and effective way whilst ensuring value for money to achieve improvement in each school's achievements and services.

The DBMAC applies the four principles of best value:

- **Challenge** – The DBMAC challenges itself to ensure that pupil performance satisfactory and that there clear reasoning as to why and how it provides an individual service.
- **Compare** – The DBMAC compares pupil performance and financial performance with other Multi Academies, LEA schools and checks how this performance compares across its own schools.
- **Consult** – The DBMAC seeks the views of stakeholders about the services it provides.
- **Compete** - The DBMAC secures efficient and effective services which are of appropriate quality and that are economic.

The Directors delegate operational responsibility for achieving best value to the individual School Committees which apply the principles set out above when making decisions such as:

- The allocation of resources to best promote the aims and values of the school and the DBMAC as a whole.
- The targeting of resources to best improve standards and the quality of provision.
- the use of resources to best support the varied educational needs of all pupils.

The School Committee:

- Makes comparisons with other/similar schools using data provided by the LEA and the Government, e.g. benchmarking tools, quality of teaching & learning, levels of expenditure
- Challenges proposals, examining them for effectiveness, efficiency, and cost, e.g. setting of annual pupil achievement targets
- Requires suppliers to compete on grounds of cost, and quality/suitability of services/products/backup.
- Consults individuals and organisations on quality/suitability of service we provide to parents and pupils, and services we receive from providers.

Staffing

Staff are deployed to provide best value in terms of quality of teaching, quality of learning, adult-pupil ratio, support services and curriculum management. Sharing of expertise is an essential part of a Multi Academy.

Use of Premises

The allocation and use of teaching areas, support areas and communal areas are carefully considered to provide the best environment for teaching and learning, for support services, and for communal access to central resources.

Use of Resources

Equipment, materials and services are deployed to provide pupils and staff with resources which support quality teaching and learning.

Teaching

Directors and School Committees review the quality of curriculum provision and of teaching, to provide pupils with:

- a curriculum which exceeds national requirements
- teaching which builds on previous learning and has high expectations to achieve the best possible added value for each child.

Learning

The quality of children's learning is reviewed by cohort, class and group, to provide teaching which enables children to achieve the best possible progress.

Financial Control

The DBMAC Accounting Finance and Resources policy ensures that systems of financial control are maintained and developed to conform with the requirements of propriety, regularity and of sound financial management. It is essential that these systems operate effectively to meet the requirements of the Master Funding Agreement with the SofS.

The DBMAC follows the general principles of:

- **probity**, it must be demonstrable that there is no corruption or private gain involved in the contractual relationships of the DBMAC.
- **accountability**, the DBMAC is publicly accountable for its expenditure and the conduct of its affairs.
- **fairness**, that all those engaged by the DBMAC are dealt with on a fair and equitable basis.

Pupils' Welfare

The quality of the school environment is reviewed regularly in order to provide a supportive environment conducive to teaching, learning and recreation.

Health & Safety

Directors and School Committees ensure that the schools within the DBMAC are exceeding the statutory expectations of health and safety, carrying out regular risk assessments and immediately acting on any recommendations in order to provide a safe environment for pupils, staff and visitors.

Monitoring

Best value will be monitored through:

1. In-house monitoring by the Principal and senior staff e.g. classroom practice, work sampling.
2. Target setting meetings between the Principal and subject leaders.
3. Staff Appraisal.
4. Annual Budget Planning
5. Regular finance review (at each Director and School Committee meeting)
6. Visits by internal and external auditors
7. Analysis's of school pupil performance data against similar schools and Analysis of financial data against bench mark data.
8. Analysis of pupil performance data
9. OFSTED Inspection reports
10. School Committee termly committee meetings
11. Board of Directors termly meetings
12. Committee and Directors Annual Finance Review

Signed:

Name: J S Hussain

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date: 19-12-13