

Value for Money Statement

Academy trust name: The Swanage School

Academy trust company number: 07613612

Year ended 31 August 2014

I accept that as accounting officer of The Swanage 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.

1. Raising student attainment.

The Swanage School has implemented a rigorous process for monitoring student progress and achievement. This enables effective identification of specific needs and the establishment of appropriate interventions to ensure every student is able to achieve their full potential.

There is an extensive programme of lesson observations, peer feedback and training to ensure high levels of teaching and learning. The Swanage School has set a deliberately ambitious target is to be among the top tier of Dorset schools, judged both by the progress they make and by the percentage of students who leave with five A*-C GCSE passes including English and Maths.

2. Robust governance and oversight of Academy Trust finances

The Governors have appointed a suitably qualified Responsible Officer from the Governing Body to meet regularly with the Business Manager to oversee internal audit and compliance with financial procedures. The Finance and Premises Committee receives half termly reports on budgets and has oversight of compliance with the Scheme of Delegation, and the budget setting process ensuring the appropriate balance between necessary expenditure and the need to remain a 'going concern'. The full Governing body approves annual budget and receives and approves Accounts and Auditors Management Letter.

3. Ensuring the operation of the Trust demonstrates good value for money and efficient and effective use of resources

Works, supplies and services have no requirement for multiple quotes if they are estimated to cost less than £2,000

Works, supplies and services estimated to cost more than £2,000 but less than £10,000 require to seek 3 written quotations attached to the purchase request form.

Works, supplies and services estimated to cost more than £10,000 but no more than £100,000 required to seek 4 written quotations

Works, supplies and services estimated to cost more than £100,000, 5 tenders assessed through a formal procurement panel.

4. Reviewing controls and managing risks

The Headteacher and Business Manager regularly review the budget, considering expenditure against each cost centre and addressing significant variance. Monitoring reports are submitted to the Finance Committee half termly for review.

The Risk Register is an agenda item on the Finance & Premises Committee and is regularly reviewed by the senior management team to ensure risks are appropriately assessed and managed.

Name: Tristram Hobson

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date: 10th December 2014