

# Value for Money Statement

**Organisation name: ROOKS HEATH COLLEGE**

**Company number: 7687178**

**Year ended 31 August 2014**

I accept that as accounting officer of ROOKS HEATH COLLEGE 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.

Rooks Heath College  
Company registration number 7687178 (England and Wales)

## Value for Money (VfM) Statement

This VfM statement must be submitted to the Education Funding Agency alongside the annual accounts for the academy

For the year ended 31 August 2014, I accept that as accounting officer of Rooks Heath College I am responsible and accountable for ensuring that the college 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.

## What is Value for Money?

Governors have applied the following when assessing value for money:

- Challenge - Is the college'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 college's student performance and financial performance compare with all schools? How does it compare with LA schools? How does it compare with similar schools?
- Compete – How does the college secure efficient and effective services? Are services of appropriate quality, and are they economic, sustainable and ethical?
- Consult – How does the college seek the views of stakeholders about the services the college provides?

## The Governor's Approach

In making decisions about value for money the main areas that governors have considered are

Effectiveness  
Efficiency  
Economy  
Ethics

Each is dealt with separately below

Effectiveness through improved educational performance

The college focusses on student achievement with the following key indicators

- Excellent examination results at KS4 with 54% of students achieving A\* to C with English and Maths. The college has sustained improvement and is broadly in line with the national headline figure. This was very pleasing considering the change to exams and even more so when the same figure fell by 6.6 % nationally. Once again Rooks Heath achieved excellent progress measures in English (80%) and Maths (72%) that were above the national picture.
- Excellent examination results at KS5 with 68.9% A\* to C grades and 100% pass rate A\* To E. The AS and A2 ALPS reports with a Value Added analysis with an A2 ALPS T Score of 3 in 2014, was deemed as excellent and inside the top 25% of schools. The AS ALPS T score was a 2 which is deemed as Outstanding.
- Targeted use of Pupil Premium funding to close the gap.
- A well-resourced ICT strategy to ensure that new technologies are harnessed to improve learning. Sixth form B-Tec students to have their own personal tablet computer on loan from the college. Teacher computers have been rolled out to ensure a more efficient start to each lesson.
- Excellent teaching. A robust and rigorous Performance Management process to measure teacher effectiveness. 85% of teachers 2013/14 judged to be 'Good' or 'Outstanding' through Performance Management process. Support in place for teachers falling below that standard. Equivalent Performance Management process for associate staff.
- Excellent and well-resourced student support, strong links between home and college.
- Extensive suite of professional development opportunities both in house and accessed through Harrow Collegiate Teaching Schools Alliance. 15 Rooks Heath teachers currently participating in HCTSA leadership courses with many others having completed the courses previously.
- An Ofsted judgement of Outstanding in all five categories in July 2012, the college's third successive grade 1 inspection.
- 96% attendance by the student body.
- A very broad curriculum offer at KS4 including Latin, Photography, and Design Technology to GCSE, several minority languages examined at GCSE level, as well as 22 A level subjects and 7 BTecs in the 6th Form
- Excellent facilities including a theatre, recording studio, ICT suites, science laboratories, technology rooms, dance studio, and an expanding wireless network.
- Art exhibitions displaying students' work. 100s of students participating in musical events throughout the year. Over 200 trips within the college year.
- Excellent behaviour with a strong emphasis on impeccable manners, immaculate appearance and hard work. Very high expectations of the students.
- Excellent progression rates to university, many to the top universities, including Oxford and Cambridge.
- Strong links with the local community and many opportunities for students to demonstrate leadership and active citizenship.
- Happy students who are very proud of their college.

The above has contributed to us attaining an OFSTED Grade of outstanding in all categories following inspection in July 2012.

Efficiency through financial governance and management

There is robust financial governance and oversight including the following;

- Financial regulations and procedures recently reviewed
- Written delegations annually reviewed and signed
- Purchasing procedures based on clear separation of duties and a requirement for written quotations and tenders when specified thresholds are reached
- Regular budget monitoring including comprehensive monthly management accounts
- Two year financial planning and cash-flow forecasting
- Business continuity planning and regular review of the risk register at governing Body and Committee meetings
- Charging policy annually reviewed
- Investment policy based on an appropriate balance between risk and reward
- EPM suite of policies covering gifts and hospitality rigorously enforced
- Governors and staff complete a Register of Interests and Related Parties forms annually
- Finance training for governors and staff with significant financial responsibilities
- Use of timetabling and other data to ensure the use of teaching and accommodation resources are optimised
- Capital funding bids completed to ensure accommodation condition is improved
- Pay policies are used that are underpinned by the use of national pay scales for teachers and associate staff posts
- A full programme of audit assurance work agreed by governors, delivered by external auditors, with follow-up through the Audit Committee
- Use is made of specialist advice including legal, property and actuarial services where appropriate and justified

on cost grounds

Economy through working collaboratively to share best practice and reduce costs

The college actively participates in a wide range of collaborative initiatives;

- Member of Harrow Collegiate Teaching School Alliance
- Extensive programme of CPD delivered across Harrow secondary schools
- Member of sixth form collegiate allowing students to undertake studies at a number of different schools contributing to more efficient class sizes and greater student choice
- Collaborative procurement programme managed by Principal Finance Officers covering a range of services including catering, cleaning, financial software, audit, energy, property management, banking, HR and payroll services
- Shared services including project management and financial advice
- Member of Crescent Purchasing Consortium accessing contracts for insurance and other goods and services
- Shared engagement of apprentices covering business support functions across participating schools
- Benchmarking with other Harrow secondary schools and other families of schools
- Member of The Jubilee Academy, a new alternative provision school opened in Harrow in September 2013

Ethics through policies which respect people and the environment

The college will apply a suite of HR Policies which will seek to ensure all parties employed by and for the college are treated with respect and have rights with regard to employment including the rights to working hours that comply with national laws, equal opportunities, recognised employment relationship, freedom from intimidation and to a safe and healthy working environment.

The college will also apply an Environmental and Sustainable Development Policy when looking at the resourcing and maintenance of the college.

Accounting Officer Name: Dr John Reavley

Accounting Officer signature:.....

Date: .....

**Name:** Dr John Reavley  
**Academy Trust Accounting Officer**

**Date:** 19 Dec 2014