



Hertswood Academy

Aim High • Achieve Excellence

Value for Money Statement

Hertswood Academy

Academy trust company number: 7992852

Year ended 31 August 2014

I accept that as chief accounting officer of Hertswood Academy 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.

Improving Educational

Results have continued to improve at key stage three with 87% of students achieving a level 5 or higher in both maths and English. At level 6 both subjects have recorded a 10% increase over the past 2 years with 55% and 59% of students respectively achieving this level.

KS4 Headlines

2014 saw the best ever results at key stage 4 and 5 and third consecutive rise in results. This particularly reflects improvements in the maths faculty and again the vast majority of subjects enjoyed results of over 60% A*-C. Results for our most able rose including 2 students achieving 7 A*s, the best ever achieved at each key stage. In spite of a smaller cohort of more able students the proportion of A* and A grades at GCSE was 20% of the total compared to 19% last year and 21% nationally.

KS5 Headlines:

In the sixth form our A level results were particularly strong. The average point score per entry of 208 is the highest yet seen in the school. Our 8 A* grades represent the greatest number of A* grades yet seen. The highest achieving student achieved 3 A*s and 10 students have gained places at Russell Group universities. In the majority of BTEC subjects the vast majority of grades remained at merit, distinction or distinction*.

These results are due to the hard work and whole school approach to raising the achievements of our students. To support everyday lessons we ran workshops with visiting speakers and held extra

revision sessions at weekends. Small group sessions were targeted at specific students as part of our intervention programme.

The Academy tracks the achievements of all students. Each term grade collections are taken and this identifies which students need extra support. Provisions for these students are reviewed to ensure they are being effective.

The attendance of students has improved from 89.95% in 2011-12 to 92.8% in 2012-13.

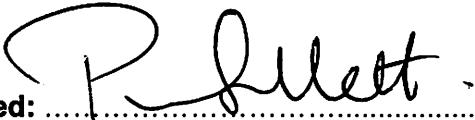
Financial Governance and Oversight

The Academy has a dedicated Resources Committee whose purpose is to take a strategic view on financial, premises and personnel matters and review and monitor performance in these areas. The committee are presented with monthly budget monitoring reports. The Academy employs the services of its auditors to provide a Responsible Officer (RO). The RO reviews the Academy's financial policies, systems and procedures, including procurement and reports on compliance termly to the Governors. The Academy's yearly accounts are audited by the accountants and approved by the Governing Body.

The Academy regularly reviews its suppliers for value for money. Any significant contracts or services are subject to a tender process.

The Academy reviews its budget and outturn figures to comparable schools in the area to ensure that identifies any potential areas for savings.

The Academy is part of the Meller Educational Trust and is seeking to collaborate with other academies in the trust to make savings through economies of scale and shared services.

Signed: 

Name: Peter Gillett
Academy Trust Chief Accounting Officer

Date: 18/12 . 2014