



Talavera Junior School

BEST VALUE STATEMENT

Document Name: Best Value Statement

Latest Review: Jan 2022

Next Review Planned: Jan 2024

Signed: _____ (Policy Owner)

Print Name: _____

Review Date: _____

Signed: _____ (Governor Approval)

Print Name: _____

Approval Date: _____

Talavera Junior School
Best Value Statement

The governors of Talavera Junior School, recognising the relentless and often conflicting pressures of budgetary constraint and demands for demonstrable continuous improvement, intend to apply "Best Value" principles to all activities within the school. Not least will these be followed in the setting and management of the budget, the allocation and management of all resources and the continuous search for cost-effectiveness in all aspects of the school.

Following DfES guidelines we will

1. Regularly assess and CHALLENGE all items of expenditure as to how they contribute to the school improvement plan and financial criteria laid down by the governors;
2. CONSULT with the headteacher and the finance officer, curriculum managers and others as appropriate, on needs, resources and the most effective way of bringing them together. There will be regular consultation with the LA, particularly on budget allocations and the availability of extra funding from all and any sources;
3. COMPETE for the provision of the most effective services, seeking competitive quotations and other means of containing costs. The governors intend, for the time being, to continue to buy in the proven effective full service agreement services from the LA; and
4. COMPARE the performance of the school, on a regular basis and in all areas (target setting, performance management, SEN audit, etc), with other Hampshire schools of a similar profile to Talavera and with local and national statistical results. Particular comparisons will be made with the level of the budget against others, the principal activities to which it is devoted and the ways in which monies spent within Talavera Junior School achieve optimum results as measured by SATS results, the School Improvement Plan and overall pupil and staff morale

Schools are public funded bodies and must comply with Hampshire County Council (HCC) financial regulations, contract standing orders and the local government code of conduct. <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/constitution.htm/>

HCC financial regulations identify the financial responsibilities of County officials as part of Constitution. The Schools' Manual of Financial Practice and Procedure is the online practical guide.

Contract Standing Orders set out the legal limits and administrative procedures that must be followed in relation to procurement and award of contracts, providing a framework while making purchasing decisions. They also provide a means of safeguarding the reputation of the County Council and its staff from any implication

of dishonesty and corruption. These CSOs supplement the officers' code of conduct, and a failure to comply will normally be regarded as a disciplinary offence. Care must be taken at all times to ensure that nothing is done which is discriminatory, improper or which distorts competition. CSO 2.6

Contracts of a full term (or if not fixed, four years aggregate value is assumed):

Value less than £25k	the approved framework agreement should be used or if not suitable, three written quotations obtained.
Value less than £100k	the approved framework agreement should be used or if not suitable, at least three tenders obtained.
Value £100k or greater but less than EU threshold	the approved framework agreement should be used or if not suitable, at least five tenders obtained. EU limits reviewed annually.
Value in excess of EU threshold	EU directive procedures must be followed

In all cases, best practice would be to seek advice from the Procurement team. Procurement Best practice Guide is available via the EFS website at www.hants.gov.uk/efs