



Rossett School

Success for everyone

Value for Money Statement

Academy Trust Name: Rossett School, Harrogate

Academy Trust Company Number: 07664288

Year ended: 31 August 2014

I accept that as Accounting Officer of Rossett School Harrogate 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 principal objective and activity of Rossett School is to provide a first class education for students of different abilities with an emphasis on offering a broad and balanced curriculum that meets their needs and aspirations. The main educational objectives for targeted improvement for the academic year ended 31st August 2014 are as follows:

- **KS4 outcomes above the national average.** 85% of our students achieved 5 more or A*-C passes (national average 66%). 70% of students achieved 5 or more A*-C passes including English and Maths (national average 53%). In English 79% of students made three levels of progress (national average 74%). In Maths 78% of students made three levels of progress (national average 69%) 32% of students achieved the EBACC. This is against a national average of 23%. 25% of all grades were A* or A (national average 23%)
- **Post 16 performances above national average.** At A level candidates achieved an average of 204 QCA. Of 103 Sixth Form students leaving the school at the end of their studies 59 went to University.

Rossett School continues to focus on closing the gaps in progress and attainment between differing groups of students by offering a wide range of personalised support for all year groups. The school collects regular data covering academic achievement and assessment of attitudes to learning to ensure the most effective interventions are introduced to meet the needs of each learner. Students benefit from one-to-one intervention, targeted small group support, revision classes and a large number of external curriculum provisions. Student performance across the board including most able, SEN and pupil premium is at least or above the national average and in many cases is significantly above the national average.

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We continue to actively work with our primary feeder schools and work with other educational providers through the Red Kite Teaching School Alliance to share good practice in order to continually improve standards at the most efficient cost. In our capacity as a Red Kite Alliance school the academy provides support and guidance to other educational establishments.

We have appointed four outstanding teachers to Assistant Head and Associate Assistant Head positions during the year. Their focus is to raise quality and standards in teaching together with restructuring the schools' curriculum to reflect the announced government changes to key stage 4 and 5 examination structure and content.

The Academy Trust's Governing body has a strong overview of the financial management of the school budget, funding and internal audit findings. Separate committee meetings exist for Resources and Finance and Audit to promote transparency and accountability for all financial aspects of the Trust.

The concept of value for money is prevalent through all faculties within the school and all budget holders continually strive to achieve best value for all purchasing requirements. We have reviewed a number of our supply routes such as catering supplies, equipment maintenance and telephone costs to lower our on-going overhead cost. The School also opened an interest-bearing deposit account during the year to improve returns on surplus funds.

All the major capital projects commenced in the previous academic year have been completed. These, together with the annual Ipad roll-out were undertaken through a rigid tender process.

We continue to seek opportunities to generate additional and reliable sources of revenue. The Extended schools programme continues to grow. It brings a welcome interface with our local community, including our primary feeder schools alongside an income stream for the school. At the end of the year we finally concluded discussions with Harrogate Borough Council which has resulted in a fully integrated Sports Centre provision for the benefit of the school and local community. It is expected that this new arrangement will generate additional revenue which can be re-invested into the sports provision.

Rossett School has now completed its third year as an academy and continues to adapt to both the increased autonomy and controls that this brings. The school's leadership team continually seek to improve our use of the limited resources available ensuring these are aligned to the school's improvement priorities.

Governors and auditors (both internal and external) are encouraged to challenge our work with a view to ensuring we efficiently focus on those areas which best serve our students educational and wider societal needs.

Signed: _____ Date: ___16/12/2014_____
Name: H Woodcock
Academy Trust Accounting Officer