

Every Child, Every Day, Every Future

Best Value Statement 2025 **Governing Body of Hook Infant School**

The Governing Body of Hook Infant School is committed to ensuring that all resources, financial, human and physical are used effectively, efficiently, and ethically to deliver the highest possible standards of education and care for our pupils. In line with Department for Education (DfE) guidance and Ofsted expectations, we uphold the principles of Best Value by:

Strategic Spending Priorities

We prioritise spending that:

- Directly improves pupil outcomes, particularly in early literacy, numeracy, and wellbeing.
- Supports inclusive education, ensuring all children, regardless of background or ability, can thrive.
- Invests in staff development, recognising that skilled, motivated staff are central to high-quality provision.
- Maintains a safe, stimulating learning environment, including digital infrastructure and outdoor learning spaces.

Resource Allocation and Financial Oversight

To ensure resources are allocated fairly and effectively:

- We align all spending decisions with the School Development Plan and pupil needs.
- We scrutinise budget proposals and monitor delegated budgets to ensure value for money.
- We challenge whether any aspect of provision could be streamlined or reduced without compromising quality.
- We evaluate the cost-effectiveness of contracts, services, and procurement, seeking competitive quotes and benchmarking where appropriate.

Governance and Accountability

Our governance practices ensure transparency, challenge, and continuous improvement:

- **Full Consultation:** We engage with staff, parents, and stakeholders before approving major changes to school provision.
- **Budget Oversight:** We rigorously challenge delegated spending to ensure alignment with strategic priorities.
- **Staff Utilisation:** We regularly review how staff are deployed, ensuring their skills are used to deliver **maximum benefit to pupils' learning**.
- **Impact Evaluation:** We monitor spending outcomes using pupil data, staff input, and external reviews.
- **Regulatory Compliance:** We follow all statutory financial guidelines and uphold strong internal controls.

Continuous Improvement

We are committed to:

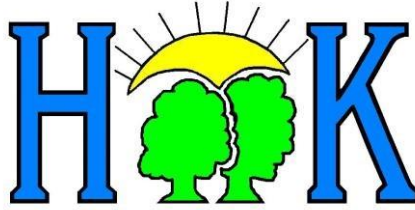
- Reviewing our financial strategy annually considering changing needs and national priorities.
- Learning from best practice across the sector and acting on recommendations from internal and external audits.
- Ensuring that our decisions reflect our core mission: to provide a nurturing, high-quality education that lays the foundation for lifelong learning.

Financial Monitoring of Individual Plans

Individual plans are reviewed and monitored from a financial perspective through two key dimensions:

1. Income Streams

- **Grant Funding:** includes allocations from national and local government sources, targeted to support specific educational priorities.
- **Local Cost Centres:** income is tracked through designated cost centres (cost centre 2723), ensuring accurate attribution and transparency.



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2. Expenditure Categories

- Staffing: Covers salaries, supply costs and professional development, ensuring staffing aligns with strategic goals and pupil needs.
- Resources & Consumables: Includes learning materials, classroom supplies, and other operational necessities.
- Contracts & Services: Encompasses outsourced services, maintenance agreements, and specialist support, all evaluated for cost-effectiveness and impact.
- Most of our spend is guided by the Hook Infant School Development Plan, which is monitored in a number of ways:
 - a. The Governing Body monitor the effectiveness of the overall plan
 - b. The Head Teacher monitors the effectiveness of the overall plan and reports regularly on progress against the plan
 - c. The Head Teacher has delegated spend to the value of £5000
 - d. Subject co-ordinators monitor their action plans with the aim of achieving their success criteria

By embedding Best Value into our governance, Hook Infant school ensures that every decision supports our pupils' success, our staff's effectiveness, and our community's trust.

Review governance

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Signed: *Alison Collier*
Chair of Resource committee

Date September 2025

Date for next review: September 2026