

CHELLINGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND FEDERATION



Happiness Through Wisdom

“Gold there is, and rubies in abundance, but lips that speak knowledge are a rare jewel.”

Proverbs 20:15

**St. Lawrence VA Primary School /
Christopher Reeves VA Primary School**

BEST VALUE STATEMENT

February 2024

Review Date: February 2026

Introduction

The Chellington Federation Church of England Federation is a Christian learning environment at the heart of its communities. We promote care and respect, and expect high standards in all aspects of Federation life.

As a Church of England Federation, the schools promote a friendly, caring, family ethos where everyone works as a team to support each other across all areas of school life thus encouraging Happiness through Wisdom - *“There is gold and a multitude of rubies; but the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel.” Proverbs 20:15*

In each school, we aim to build communities clearly based on Christian values. At Christopher Reeves, the whole community is encouraged to ‘Live our Values’ being strong and courageous to follow God’s love and stand steadfast. *“Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, for the Lord, your God, will be with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9*

At St Lawrence we encourage all children to ‘Let Their Light Shine’ through the core values of hope (Letting our light shine gives us hope for the future.), courage (We have courage to Let our Light Shine.) and perseverance (When we persevere our light can shine). *“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5: 14-16*

This policy, and its associated procedures and protocols, is based on these key principles.

The governing body is accountable for the way in which the school’s resources are allocated to meet the objectives set out in the school’s development plans. Governors need to secure the best possible outcome for pupils, in the most efficient and effective way, at a reasonable cost. This will lead to continuous improvement in the school’s achievements and services.

What is Best Value?

Governors will apply the four principles of **best value**:

- **Challenge** – are the schools’ 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 schools’ pupil performance and financial performance compare with all schools? How does it compare with LA schools? How does it compare with similar schools?
- **Consult** – How do the schools seek the views of stakeholders about the services the school provides?
- **Compete** – How do the schools secure efficient and effective services? Are services of appropriate quality, economic?

The Governors’ Approach

The Governors of The Chellington Federation will apply the principles of best value when making decisions about:

- the allocation of resources to best promote the aims and values of the schools
- the targeting of resources to best improve standards and the quality of provision
- the use of resources to best support the various educational needs of all pupils

Governors, and school managers, will:

- make comparisons with other/similar schools using data provided by the LA and the Government, e.g. quality of teaching & learning, levels of expenditure
- challenge proposals, examining them for effectiveness, efficiency, and cost, e.g. setting of annual pupil achievement targets

- require suppliers to compete on grounds of cost, and quality/suitability of services/products/backup, e.g. provision of computer trolley, redecoration/refurbishment
- consult individuals and organisations on quality/suitability of service we provide to parents and pupils, and services we receive from providers, e.g. Sex and Relationships Education, pupil reports, assigned inspector, Ofsted, energy providers

This will apply in particular to:

- staffing
- use of premises
- use of resources
- quality of teaching
- quality of learning
- purchasing
- pupils' welfare
- health and safety

The pursuit of minor improvements or savings is not cost effective where the administration involves additional time or costs. Time wasted on minor improvements or savings can also distract management from more important or valuable areas. Concentration of time and cost should be focussed on major projects/improvements/acquisitions.

Governors and school managers:

- will not waste time and resources on investigating minor areas where few improvements can be achieved
- will not waste time and resources to make minor savings in costs
- will not waste time and resources by seeking tenders for minor supplies and services

Staffing

Governors and school managers will deploy staff to provide best value in terms of quality of teaching, quality of learning, adult-pupil ratio and curriculum management.

Use of Premises

Governors and school managers will consider the allocation and use of teaching areas, support areas and communal areas, to provide the best environment for teaching and learning, for support services and for communal access to central resources, e.g. the library

Use of Resources

Governors and school managers will deploy equipment, materials and services to provide pupils and staff with resources which support and improve quality of teaching and benefit the quality of learning.

Teaching

Governors and school managers will review the quality of curriculum provision and quality of teaching, to provide parents and with, at a minimum:

- a curriculum which meets the requirements of the National Curriculum 2014
- teaching which builds on previous learning and has high expectations of children's achievement
- Sets Christopher Reeves and St Lawrence on the path to becoming exemplar schools recognised for the quality of teaching, achievements and environment

Learning

Governors and school managers will review the quality of children's learning by cohort, class and group, to provide teaching which enables children to achieve better than nationally expected progress.

Purchasing

Governors and school managers will develop procedures for assessing need and obtaining goods and services which provide 'best value' in terms of suitability, efficiency, time and cost. Measures already in place include:

- Competitive tendering procedures (e.g. for goods and services above £10,000)
- Procedures for accepting 'best value' quotes, which are not necessarily the cheapest (e.g. suitability for purpose and quality of workmanship)
- Procedures which minimise office time by the purchase of goods or services under £2000 direct from known, reliable suppliers (e.g. stationery, small equipment)
- Procedure of 2 quotes for goods and services under £500
- Procedure of 3 written quotes for goods and services between £2,000 - £10,000

Pupils' Welfare

Governors and school managers will review the quality of the schools' environment and the schools' ethos, in order to provide a positive supportive environment conducive to learning and recreation.

Health and Safety

Governors and school managers will review the quality of the schools' environment and equipment, carrying out risk assessments where appropriate, in order to provide a safe working environment for pupils, staff and visitors.

Monitoring and Evaluation

These areas will be monitored for best value by:

1. In-house monitoring by the Executive Headteacher and Subject Leaders, e.g. classroom practice, work sampling
2. Termly target setting meetings between the Executive Headteacher and Subject Leaders
3. Annual Performance Management
4. Annual Budget Planning
5. Analysis of DfE pupil performance data, e.g. ASP
6. Ofsted inspection reports
7. SIAMS inspection reports
8. Governor classroom observations
9. Governors' termly committee meetings
10. Governors' full meetings (at least termly)
11. Governors' Annual Finance Review

In the next three years the Governing Body will:

- Hold an annual performance plan meeting to set targets for improving pupil achievement
- Regularly review the school development plan
- Consider best value when arranging internal and external redecoration/works/contracts
- Obtain asset management surveys

Confirmation:

This policy has been reviewed and agreed by the Governing Body on 1st February 2024 and will be renewed in February 2026.

If you require a hard copy of this policy, please contact the school office.