GRESHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

BEST VALUE STATEMENT

June 2026

Reviewed: June 2026
Next review due: June 2028

REASONS FOR THE POLICY

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 Improvement Plan. 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?

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

- **Challenge** - Is the School's 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 school's 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 does the school seek the views of stakeholders about the services the school provides?
- **Compete** - How does the school secure efficient and effective services? Are services of appropriate quality, economic?

AIMS OF THE POLICY

The Governors, Headteacher and Leadership Team will apply the principles of *best value* when making decisions about:

- the allocation of resources to best promote the aims and values of the school.
- 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, Headteacher and Leadership Team will:

- make comparisons with other/similar schools using data provided by the LA and the Government, e.g. Benchmarking, quality of teaching & learning, levels of expenditure
- challenge proposals, examining them for effectiveness, efficiency, and cost, e.g. setting of annual pupil achievement targets, possible expansion,
- require suppliers to compete on grounds of cost, and quality/suitability of services/products/backup, e.g. provision of computer suite, redecoration
- consult individuals and organisations on quality/suitability of service we provide to parents and pupils, and services we receive from providers, e.g. assigned inspector, Ofsted, maintenance consultant, borough Energy Group.

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
- spend/budget allocations

Governors, the Headteacher and Leadership Team:
- 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

The pursuit of minor improvements or savings is not cost effective if the administration involves substantial time or costs. Time wasted on minor improvements or savings can also distract management from more important or valuable areas.

Staffing
Governors, the Headteacher and Leadership Team 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, the Headteacher and Leadership Team will consider the allocation and use of teaching areas, support areas and communal areas, to provide the best environment for teaching & learning, for support services, and for communal access to central resources, e.g. the library.

Use of Resources
Governors, the Headteacher and Leadership Team will deploy equipment, materials and services to provide pupils and staff with resources which support quality of teaching and quality of learning.

Teaching
The Headteacher and Leadership Team will review the quality of curriculum provision and quality of teaching, to provide parents and pupils with:
- a curriculum which meets the requirements of the EYFS Curriculum, National Curriculum, the LA Agreed RE Syllabus, and the needs of pupils
- teaching which builds on previous learning and has high expectations of children's achievement

Learning
Governors, the Headteacher and Leadership Team will review the quality of children's learning, by cohort, class and group, to provide teaching which enables children to achieve a minimum of nationally expected progress, e.g. setting of annual pupil achievement targets.

Purchasing

Governors, the Headteacher and staff 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:

- Quotations are required for goods and services above £8,000 and up to £14,999.00)
- Competitive tendering procedures to be sought above £15,000.
- 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 £1000 direct from known, reliable suppliers (e.g. stationery, small equipment)
- Only the Headteacher is allowed to sign for orders up to a maximum of £8000 (with the exception of Catering invoices which is up to £15,000). Deputy head or authorised signatory of leadership team can also sign up to £8,000 as per authorisation limits.

Pupils' Welfare

Governors, the Headteacher and staff will review the quality of the school environment and the school ethos, in order to provide a supportive environment conducive to learning and recreation.

Health & Safety

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

IMPLEMENTING AND MONITORING THE POLICY

These areas will be monitored for best value by:

- In-house monitoring by the Headteacher and curriculum managers, e.g. classroom practice, work sampling, book scrutiny
- Termly target setting meetings between the Headteacher and curriculum managers and class teachers via 'Pupil Progress Meetings'
- Annual Teacher Appraisal and Performance Management for support staff
- Annual Budget Planning
- Headteacher's monthly financial review
- Termly visits by the LA Link Adviser
- Monthly visits by the school's Finance Adviser
- Analysis of school pupil performance data, e.g. SATs results, standardised test results, LA schools, similar schools, Pupil Premium
- Analysis of LA pupil performance data, e.g. School Data Pack reports
- Analysis of LA financial data, e.g. ORACLE reports, against bench mark data for all schools, LA schools, similar schools
- Analysis of DfE Pupil performance data, e.g.
    - Ofsted Inspection reports
    - Governors' termly classroom observations
    - Governors' monthly Governing Body meetings
    - Governors' Annual Finance Review

- Governors' Annual SATs Target Setting Meeting
- Governors' Annual Development Plan Meeting
- Parent questionnaires
- OFSTED Parent Review

EVALUATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE POLICY

The Governing Body will:

- hold an annual performance plan meeting to set targets for improving pupil achievement.
- hold an annual development plan meeting.
- discuss and review their "Best Value" statement annually.
- consider best value when arranging internal and external redecoration contracts.
- refer to a maintenance consultant or the relevant LA department to advise on maintenance of the schools' buildings.
- obtain tenders and a consultant's advice on the installation of any large scale refurbishment of the premises.
- obtain assessment management surveys.

Confirmation that the Best Value Statement, in respect of Gresham Primary School, has been agreed, approved and ratified by the Governing Body:

Signed by:

Chair of Governors: Kim Durling Date: 10/06/2026

Headteacher: Karen Steele Date: 10/06/2026

Approved at the Governing Body Meeting on: 10/06/2026