

**JOHN SPENDLUFFE
TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE**



**VALUE FOR MONEY
STATEMENT 2018**

Value for Money Statement

Academy trust name: JOHN SPENDLUFFE TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE

Academy trust company number: 7683660

Year ended 31 August 2018

I accept that as accounting officer of John Spendluffe Technology College 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 & Skills 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.

Improving Educational Results

We have ensured that resources and funding have been directed where most needed to meet the educational needs of our pupils. The Academy has shown success again in overall educational results in Summer 2018 with strong basics figure for a school of our type. The past cohort presented with significant challenges and 5 outliers were identified by the school – although the current political climate does not enable these to be removed from our figures. As a school with increasing PP, significant mobility and the removal of the more able HAPs we can demonstrate that the data below represents the hard work of staff with this year group. Summer born children represented 46% of the cohort, a disproportionate number of males and significant mobility. Analysis has shown that staff forecasting is accurate and it is interesting to note that the current cohort are already presenting more positive data than that obtained in the summer.

The data must also be read in the context of the changes in assessment structure that disproportionately affects secondary modern schools. The decline in points available for grades of C equivalent and below results in a disproportionate reduction in the A8 values for a secondary modern school. The P8 calculation is less valid where a component of the cohort has been filtered out. This results in the need to consider the following:-

LAPs -0.06 UCI 0.63

MAPs -0.26 UCI 0.08

HAPs -0.79 UCI -0.31

The secondary modern loses a significant proportion of the more able HAPs. Therefore the impact on this group of students is not unexpected given the uneven performance of maths and English at KS2 and the higher estimates for English over maths until a FPS of 5.3 or greater is seen from KS2. Students with a FPS of 5.3 or over are likely to have passed their 11 plus and not be in a secondary modern school.

The key figures for the Academy are:

Progress 8: -0.39 (with an upper confidence limit of -0.13)

Attainment 8: 39.07

Basics: 50% at standard pass (grade 4) and 20% at strong pass (grade 5)

Ebacc: 11% at standard pass (grade 4) and 3% at strong pass (grade 5)

John Spendluffe Technology College continues to develop and monitor the proven system for tracking student progress across all year groups and their achievement provide the basis for early, effective and appropriate intervention in key subject areas. The Academy also provides additional targeted support for students by running weekend, half term and Easter revision sessions to ensure the students are reaching their full potential.

The Senior Leadership team at the Academy closely monitors the performance of both teaching and support staff under their line management areas of responsibility by following clearly outlines performance management processes. This ensures that appropriate training, support and actions are taken to address any weaknesses in performance or that career and professional development is put in place should they wish to add to their current abilities.

Financial Governance

Our governance arrangements include regular monitoring from the Governing Body through termly meetings of the Finance & Buildings committee. These meetings are held three times per year, at which, committee members are given current and relevant financial information to ensure they are fully informed of the procedures, challenges and difficulties the Academy has gone through when making decisions on the day to day running of the school. Topics discussed at these meetings include decisions on both teaching and support staff recruitment and the rationale and affordability of the proposal, the supply of services and utilities to the students and site, purchasing of IT equipment, future building projects along with site maintenance work needing to be carried out.

The information supplied to the Committee is further enhanced by the work of the Responsible Officer which is fulfilled by the Academy's external auditors. They undertake Internal Assurance visits over the course of the year and review financial controls in key areas. A report is then issued to the Academy after each visit and is shared with the Finance Committee prior to the meeting so it can be analysed and brought for discussion when the meeting is held. John Spendluffe Technology College received support throughout the financial year from its external auditors on compliance and accounting procedures and followed the advice that was issued. JSTC is also governed by the content of the latest version of the Academies Financial Handbook.

Effective Purchasing

The limits and processes for department and budget heads are clearly defined within the Academy's Finance & Purchasing & Tendering Policies and therefore responsibility is delegated to budget holders for ensuring that value for money is sought within their area of responsibility.

Longer term contracts (e.g. two or three years) have been entered into to deliver value for money and to safeguard against potential rises within that time period. E.g. Energy suppliers, Grounds Maintenance and IT educational software such as GCSE Pod or SMID. The rationale for longer term contracts is to benefit from any discounts that may be on offer, provide consistency and build rapport with the provider and also to allow for longer term budget planning.

Examples of actions the school has taken to ensure value for money when undertaking purchases are:

- Consider different suppliers, even for small purchases, using the internet, sales representatives and supplier catalogues. E.g. for text book orders we use Amazon, Browns for Books, Waterstones and Umbrella Education to find the best price for each item
- Annual contracts are reviewed to ensure they are still fit for purpose and that they are being used for the optimum benefit of the Academy. E.g. Renegotiation of the Gas and Electricity supply with existing supplier was with the clear guidance that prices would need to be equal to or preferably lower than presently supplied otherwise business would be taken to a competitor firm. Our current energy supplier could not match the deal offered from a new supplier so a decision was taken to switch as this would save over £5,000 over the year.
- The school tendering policy ensures that tenders / quotations are obtained where appropriate to ensure value for money on all major expenditure. An example of this can be found within the tendering process when deciding which firm of contractors the school would engage with on CIF projects and the construction of the new classroom block. Quotations were obtained from three separate organisations to ensure the right specifications and prices were achieved.

Income Generation

The Academy looks to generate income from letting out the school premises wherever possible. The floodlit astro turf pitch is used by the local community sporting groups during weekday evenings. The main school hall continues to be used for a fitness class letting in the week as another minor income stream. JSTC hires out its open air swimming pool during the summer months to neighbouring primary schools. They use the swimming pool for swimming tuition during the school day.

JSTC remains the catering provider for four neighbouring, local authority maintained primary schools showing its commitment to collaborating with other schools wherever possible. The income levels achieved by the provision of meals to these primaries, in addition to the income received from the sale of meals to JSTC students. Levels of income have been shown as sustainable in previous years but dipped slightly in the 2017-18 financial year. Whilst we are still a popular choice with these schools, work needs to be done to increase sales and make this profitable for years to come.

The Academy diversified its core business a couple of years ago by moving into the field of undertaking Portable Appliance Testing for a few local primary schools showing further diversity to the income streams. Academy staff members have the relevant equipment and qualifications to fulfil this service and can assist the primaries by saving them time and money by having external firms undertake the work at a greater cost.

Any surplus monies that are at the Academy's disposal are actively managed by the College Business Manager and are invested in suitable interest bearing accounts with no risk to the capital.

Reviewing controls and Managing Risk

Monthly management reports are prepared by the Finance department to be reviewed and signed by the Headteacher and are shared at Finance committee meetings.

Budget holders are issued with a departmental summary of expenditure on a half termly basis so they can ascertain whether their proposed expenditure is affordable within that financial year.

The Academy's Risk Register is reviewed on an annual basis and considers social, financial and managerial risks to the organisation. John Spendluffe Technology College also engages the professional advice where necessary to reduce financial risks which may impact on the school. E.g. Legal firm retainer, HR Advice, Occupational Health, Lincolnshire Teaching School Alliance collaboration

Signed:



Name: Ms J Shorroch (Headteacher)

Academy Trust Accounting Officer

Date: 22 / 11 / 2018