

## Value for Money Statement

Academy Name: Neasden Primary School

Academy Number: 8682479

Year ended: 31<sup>st</sup> August 2014

The School converted to academy status in October 2013 as part of an umbrella trust. The school has formed a partnership as part of a group of 11 local schools called the ICA Schools' Partnership.

I set out below how I have ensured that the academy use of resources has provided good value for money during the academic year.

- Reviewed and increased staffing level to ensure children received high quality focused learning relevant to their needs and targeted improvement for the following academic year across the Academy. This also ensured one to one support for an children with special needs enabling them to access an adapted curriculum
- Pupils performance data published in July 2014 showed evidence of at least good progress for children across the school. Data shows that the achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and other pupils narrowed due to strategies put in place by the Academy
- Collaborative training with the ICA ensuring all staff receive high quality training from nationally recognised trainers at a much reduced rate; for example Chris Quigley Assessment without Levels, Talk for Writing and Development of the New Curriculum training has been undertaken by all staff in this school during the last academic year
- Secure financial management and effective planning and spending have led to pupils' performance data showing an upward improving trend over time
- Collaborative working with the ICA Partnership has achieved value for money with SSAs. The whole partnership buys in for much lower costs, for example the School Improvement SSA
- Appointed Partnership Manager for the ICA to facilitate and coordinate meetings and training as well as overseeing Partnership wide issues, allowing Academy staff to devote to improving outcomes for children
- Through rigorous tendering and appointment process the Academy in partnership with the ICA has ensured that outside agencies, such as the Academy's external Accountant, who support the Academy will adhere to the principles of Value for Money
- The Academy has financial assurance from, EFA FMGS Audit, External Audit and Responsible Officer reviews. All reports provide evidence to support secure and competent financial management
- The Academy has clear financial procedures in place. Financial Management Accounts are prepared monthly and reported to Governors. Spending is monitored robustly
- Purchase options are considered to ensure value for money and the competitive tendering procedure is followed. An example of this is in March 2014 the photocopier lease was reviewed making a saving of £7,784 annually, a £23,352 saving over the lease term of 3 years

Signed: 

Name: Nicola Loten

Date: 09/12/2014