

# Best Value Policy

Evolve Church Academies Trust



Approved by: [Name]

Date: [Date]

Last reviewed on: [Date]

Next review due by: [Date]

## **Rationale**

*Each Governing Body within the South Northamptonshire CEVA Multi Academy Trust is accountable for the way in which resources are allocated within their academy to meet the objectives set out in their 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. The Board of the South Northamptonshire CEVA Multi Academy Trust will review this annually.*

## **What Is Best Value?**

*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 other 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?*

## **The Governors and School Managers**

*The Governors and school managers 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.*

## **They will**

- *Make comparisons with other/similar schools using data.*
- *Challenge proposals, examining them for effectiveness, efficiency and cost.*
- *Require suppliers to compete on grounds of cost, quality and suitability.*
- *Consult stakeholders and organisations on quality and suitability of services provided to parents and children.*

## **They will not**

- *Waste time and resources to make minor savings in costs*
- *Waste time and resources by seeking tenders for minor supplies and services where preferred suppliers who regularly work for the school have shown themselves to provide a quality service at a competitive price. These preferred supplier's Best Value is checked at a minimum of every three years through the process of gaining quotes from other suppliers and comparisons made. These suppliers can be found in Appendix 1.*

*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 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 & 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 quality of teaching and quality of learning.*

## **Teaching and Learning**

*Governors and school managers 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 National Curriculum and the needs of pupils*
- *teaching which builds on previous learning and has high expectations of children's achievement.*

## **Purchasing**

*The Executive Head, Heads of Schools, Governors and school leaders will tender work and supplies in line with the guide lines in the Financial Handbook, using the set templates. These are as follows:*

1. *Goods and services up to £2000.00, discretion of the Head teacher*
  2. *Goods and services from £2000 up to £10,000. One quote from contractor on the preferred suppliers list, please see Appendix 1, this should be agreed with LGB and minuted. Template from MAT Financial handbook to be completed and signed by LGB*
  3. *Goods and services from £10,000 to £19,999, three quotes will be required and a template from MAT Financial handbook to be completed and signed by LGB.*
  4. *Goods and services from £20,000 to EU Threshold (Approx 111K) – **Medium value purchase** requiring adequate advertising for a minimum of 10 days to allow level of competition. Formal invitation to Tender Process must be followed and a template from MAT Financial handbook to be completed and signed by LGB.*
  5. *Goods and services from EU Threshold and upwards – **High Value Purchase** requiring full advertisement in OJEU (Official Journal of the European Union) and allowing 37 days thereafter for expressions of interest, with a template from MAT Financial handbook to be completed and signed by LGB.*
- *Purchase goods or services under £1000 direct from known, reliable suppliers (e.g. stationery, small equipment)*

## ***Pupils' Welfare***

*Governors and school leaders 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 and school leaders 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.*

## ***Monitoring***

*The following areas enable Governors and school leaders to monitor Best Value:*

- 1. Termly analysis of attainment and progress data*
- 2. Staff Appraisal*
- 3. Budget Planning*
- 4. Financial review by Headteacher reported to Governors, termly*
- 5. Financial benchmarking*
- 6. Analysis of school pupil performance data against all schools, LA schools, similar schools.*
- 7. Ofsted Inspection reports*
- 8. Accountancy and Audit reports for each academy within the MAT*
- 9. Accounting Officer review on behalf of the MAT.*

## ***Appendix 1- Preferred Suppliers by Academy***

### **St Loys CEVA Primary Academy**

CR Building Development  
Abthorpe Broadband Association  
ESPO  
Fine Haven Counselling  
Alan Japp (decorator)  
Cartwright Landscapes (grounds maintenance)  
Grayling Thomas (Architect)  
Oliver Fickling (QS)  
Nick Price (handyman)  
Stilp Property Services  
Frances Le Pla (Ofsted)  
Peter Nickoll (SIP)  
Marry Tulley (SIP)  
Geldards (solicitors)  
Curtis & Carder Services (heating)  
Thorn Electrical Ltd

### **Chacombe CEVA Primary Academy**

Adaptive IT  
Seckington and Whitehead (Builder)  
Town and Country  
MIP Property Ltd (Carpenter)  
Bee Tee Alarms  
Hubtel (Telephones)

Espo  
Escapes  
Martin Hirons (Decorator)  
JB Knowhow (Handyman)  
Frances Le Pla (Ofsted)  
Peter Nickoll (SIP)  
Mary Tulley (SIP)  
Geldards (solicitors)  
Secret Garden (Club provider)  
Rosie Clark (Club provider)  
Phil Lines (Club provider)  
Simply Education (Supply)  
Ward Henry  
Fuel Care  
Specialist Fire Products – Now known as Abbot Fire Group  
Alderwood Electrical

### **Culworth and Boddington CEVA Primary Academies**

Adaptive IT  
Aeths Ltd  
Dataphones  
D Andrews  
D&R Blinds  
Dolce  
Hope Education  
Integro Insurance  
Kent County Council (Laser)  
NMPAT  
Town & County Plumbing & Heating  
GM Lawrence (Electrician)  
Brian Lawrence (Builder)  
Mineral Star (Builder)  
Stuart Nicols Waste Disposal  
Bee Tee Alarms  
EMO Oil  
ESPO  
Frances le Pla  
Fuel Care  
Love ballet  
Magical Maths  
Mary Tulley  
National Wide Fuels  
Peter Nickol  
Phil Lines Coaching  
School Photography Co  
Strictly Education  
Panda Cleaning  
Foxy Cleaners  
Yes Office  
Northamptonshire Sport  
Premier Sport  
Paynes Nurseries

ADT Fire & Security  
ISE Fire Products  
Catteralls  
Cheney  
Claydon Fox  
Chenderit Minibus Hire  
Cartwright Landscapes  
Simon Lawton (Mobile Caretaking Service)  
Glass Northampton  
The Staff Room  
Simply Education