



# Visitors in School Policy

Policy created: March 2017

Policy review date: 3 years from date above

### **1. Aim**

To have in place a clear protocol and procedure, which is understood and implemented by all staff, Governors, visitors and parents. The ultimate aim is to ensure that students at our school can learn and enjoy extra-curricular experiences, in an environment where they are safe from potential harm.

### **2. Policy statement**

Visitors are very welcome to our school, however it is our school's responsibility to ensure that the security and well-being of our pupils is uncompromised at all times.

The school has a legal duty of care for the health, safety and wellbeing of all pupils and staff. This duty of care incorporates the duty to 'safeguard' all pupils from being subjected to any form of harm or abuse. It is the responsibility of the Governing Body and the Principal to ensure that this duty is implemented at all times.

In performing this duty, the Governing Body recognises that there can be no complacency where child protection and safeguarding procedures are concerned. The school therefore requires that **ALL VISITORS** (without exception) comply with the following policy and procedure.

### **3. Where and to whom the policy applies**

The school is deemed to have control and responsibility for its pupils anywhere on the school site, during normal school hours, during after school activities, and on school organised (and supervised) off-site activities.

The policy applies to:

- All external visitors entering the school site during the school day or for after school activities (including supply teachers/peripatetic tutors/sports coaches and topic related visitors e.g. authors, journalists)

- All Governors of the school
- All parents (including parent helpers)
- All pupils
- Other education related personnel (EA staff, Inspectors, health care professionals)
- Buildings and Maintenance Contractors

### KEY POINT:

No parent or visitor is allowed to make their way through the school at any time without an appointment.

## 4. Protocol and procedures

### 4.1 Parent Meetings with Teachers

- ◆ Before school, parents should give all messages regarding dinner money, absences, forgotten homeworks, their child being slightly unwell, etc. to the school office staff who will ensure the class teacher is informed. A visit to the teacher is not necessary for these issues.
- ◆ In urgent circumstances, a pre-school meeting with the teacher can be arranged. This will be arranged by the office staff. Other appointments can be arranged after 3pm upon request. Parents will be required to wear an approved visitor badge when moving through the school.
- ◆ Any adult not wearing an approved visitor badge will be politely challenged by staff and shown back to reception to obtain ID.

## 4.2 Planned visitors to the school

All visitors to the school may be asked to provide formal identification at the time of their visit

- Where possible the school office/ reception staff should be informed of all pre-arranged visitors to the school
- All visitors must report to the school office/ reception first and should not enter the school via any other entrance
- At reception, all visitors must state the purpose of their visit and who has invited them. They should be ready to produce formal identification if required
- All visitors will be asked to sign the Visitors' Record Book (which is kept by the school office/ reception at all times), making note of their name, organisation, who they are visiting, car registration
- All visitors will be required to wear an identification badge, the badge must remain visible throughout their visit
- All visitors should be made aware of whom the designated teacher for child protection is and that any safeguarding concerns should be reported to them.
- Visitors will then be escorted to their point of contact OR their point of contact will be asked to come to the school office/ reception to receive the visitor. The contact will then be responsible for them while they are on site
- On departing the school, visitors should leave via the school office and:
  - Enter their departure time in the Visitors' Record Book alongside their arrival entry
  - Return the identification badge to the school office/ reception

## 4.3 Unknown/ unplanned visitors to the school

- Any visitor to the school site who is not wearing an identity badge should be challenged politely to enquire who they are and their business at the school

- They should then be escorted to the school office/ reception to sign the Visitors' Record Book and be issued with an identity badge. The procedures in 4.2 then apply.
- In the event that the visitor refuses to comply, they should be asked to leave the site immediately and the Principal or VP should be informed promptly
- The Principal or VP will consider the situation and decide if it is necessary to inform the police
- If an unknown / uninvited visitor becomes abusive or aggressive, they will be asked to leave the site immediately and warned that if they fail to leave the school grounds, police assistance will be called for

## **5. Governors and regular volunteers/parent helpers**

- All Governors and parent helpers should follow the procedures as stated in 4.2
- New Governors will be made aware of this policy and be familiarised with the procedures as part of their induction. This is the responsibility of the Principal
- New parent helpers will be asked to comply with this policy at their Induction meeting with the Principal before coming into the school for an activity or class supporting role
- Parents may be permitted to assist on an ad hoc / occasional basis (e.g. giving a talk to a class about their hobby/ job/ faith) as long as they are not left unsupervised. The Principal must give permission before any such visit takes place.. Again all parents should follow the procedures as stated above 4.2

## **6. Contractors/ Workmen**

- Contractors/ workmen should follow the procedures set out in 4.2