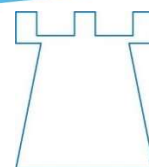


Visitors Policy



SHERIFF HUTTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Date of Policy Review: September 2021

Approved by the Governing Body

To be reviewed: September 2023

Responsibility: Headteacher

Aims of this Policy

The purpose of this policy and its associated procedures is to contribute towards the safeguarding of all children and staff both during and outside of school hours when they are on our site. The ultimate aim is to ensure that all children and staff learn and work in an environment where they are safe and free from harm.

Objectives of this Policy

The key objectives of this policy is to have in place a clear protocol and procedure for the admittance of external visitors to the school which is understood by all staff, governors, visitors and parents/carers and conforms to child protection guidelines and prevents unsuitable people from working with or accessing children and young persons in the school setting.

We have responsibility for the safety and well-being for all of our children anywhere on the school site, during normal school hours, during after school activities and on school organised (and supervised) off-site activities. This policy applies to:

- All teaching and non-teaching staff employed by the school
- All external visitors entering the school site during the school day or for after school activities (including peripatetic tutors, sports coaches etc)
- Governors
- Parents/carers
- Volunteers
- Children
- Local Authority staff
- Building & Maintenance Contractors

Protocol and Procedures

Visitors Invited to the School

Before a visitor is invited to the school, both the Headteacher and / or senior teacher are informed, with a clear explanation as to the relevance, purpose date and time of the visit. Permission must be granted by the Headteacher before a visitor is asked to come into school.

- Formal visitors representing the LA, businesses, contractors, outside agencies etc are required to present formal identification.
- All visitors enter the school building through the main door and report to the school administrator or member of staff upon arrival.
- All visitors must state the purpose of their visit and who has invited them or who they wish to see. They should be ready to produce formal identification.
- All visitors are required to sign the Visitors Record Book which is kept in reception at all times.
- All visitors are required to wear an identification badge.
- All visitors are given/shown a copy of the Visitor Information Leaflet detailing information about emergency evacuations procedures and protocol.
- Visitors are escorted to their point of contact OR their point of contact will be asked to come to reception to receive the visitor. The contact will then be responsible for them while they are on site.

On departing, visitors leave via reception and:

- Enter their departure time in the Visitors Record Book alongside their arrival entry.
- Return the identification badge to reception.

Unknown/Uninvited Visitors to the School

Any visitor to the school site who is not wearing an identity badge is challenged politely to enquire who they are and their business on the school site. They should then be escorted to reception to sign the visitors' book and be issued with an identity badge. The above procedures then apply.

In the event that the visitor refuses to comply, they are asked to leave the site immediately and an emergency response call is made if necessary. The Headteacher/ Senior Teacher (or another member of staff) will consider the situation and decide if it is necessary to inform the police.

If an unknown/uninvited visitor becomes abusive or aggressive, an emergency response call is made, and 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.

Lockdown procedures may then be followed.

Parent Visitors

Partnership with parents is a strong feature of Sheriff Hutton Primary School which the school wishes to preserve. At the same time, the safeguarding and wellbeing of pupils and staff must be maintained. The school has clear procedures for managing the movement of parents on the school site at the start and end of the school day and for controlling and monitoring their access to the classrooms.

Parents who visit the school site at times other than the start and end of the day are expected to report to the main office to make the purpose of their visit known. They will then be escorted to their point of contact or their point of contact will be asked to come to the school reception to receive them. The contact will then be responsible for them while they are on site and will escort them off the premises at the end of the visit. The visitor must not be allowed to move about the site unaccompanied.

If the parent needs to visit a classroom for any other reason they will be escorted by a member of the office staff or directed to a specific waiting area (for example, when attending parent conferences).

Exceptions to this are when there is a planned school or classroom event in which case school staff will be available to steward parent visitors around the school and to undertake all reasonable precautions to ensure that visitors to the school are genuine.

Governors and Volunteers

All governors and volunteers are required to have an enhanced DBS.

New governors are made aware of this policy and are expected to become familiar with its procedures as part of their induction. This is the responsibility of the Headteacher and the Chair of Governors.

New volunteers will be asked to comply with this policy by staff they first report to when coming into school for an activity or class supporting role.

CPD

As part of their induction, new staff are made conversant with this policy for visitors and asked to ensure compliance with its procedures at all times.

Linked Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with other related school policies: including:

- Child Protection
- Safeguarding
- Confidentiality
- Healthy and Safety
- Fire Safety

Monitoring and Evaluation

The suitability of all visitors invited into school to work with our children is assessed at the end of their visit and a decision made as to whether they may be asked to visit the school in future.