

Blagdon Nursery School



Home Visiting Policy

Statement of Intent

This policy is a statement of the principles, aims and strategies for the management of behaviour. It is intended to act as a reference point to inform all those involved with Blagdon Nursery School and Willows day Nursery.

The policy will only be effective when all practitioners use consistent and fair methods.

The Governors expect that practitioners, children, parents and visitors will behave appropriately and with respect for each other at all times.

We want the transition into Nursery School to be a happy one for children and their parents/carers. We believe that this can be achieved through building positive relationships between parents/carers and staff. Visiting parents and the children in their own homes, where they feel confident and comfortable, gives rise to the opportunity for sharing information and getting to know the child and their family.

Staff use the information gathered during the visit to plan for each child's needs when they start at school. Parents and children will have chance to meet the child's keyworker and have a familiar face when they come for their first session.

Aim of the policy

We recognise that parents are their children's first and most enduring educators. Forming relationships with parents and working closely with them is crucial for each child's learning and development. We do this in many ways, but believe that home visiting establishes a relationship where the school and parents can work together to support the child's learning and development.

It is our policy to visit the children at home prior to starting in the Nursery School. These visits are used to share information, provide an opportunity for parents to talk about their child, to allay fears and offer reassurance prior to the child starting, ask questions and get to know the child. It is not for judging parents and their parenting skills.

We believe there are many benefits including, establishing early positive contact, children seeing us in their own homes, meeting the people who are important to the child and reassuring parents and children about this important stage of nursery education.

Procedure

Once a place in the Nursery school has been accepted the parents will receive a letter informing them of a new parents meeting at the school and also the date when two members of staff will make the home visit.

Staff take the agreed admissions pack to complete with the parents and a photo album to share with the child.

During the visit

Staff will reassure the parents that the information received will only be used to support the child in school. Some information will be shared with other staff and the SENCO on a need to know basis only.

Should a family not be at home, a Blagdon post card is left asking the parents to contact us.

Obviously under Child Protection procedures, any disclosures or suspicions will be shared with the designated person on returning to school.

Staff will be professional at all times on the visits and give advice and information rather than personal opinions.

After the visit

All relevant paper work will be returned to school. Staff will share information with the appropriate staff as required. The individual home visits will not be discussed in the staff room.

Making Safe Home Visits

- At Blagdon 2 staff go on home visits together, one to do the paperwork and answer any questions and one to engage with the child and share the photographs
- Staff always let the office know where they are visiting and the order of the visits
- If there is a change in plan the staff will let the school know.
- Staff take a mobile phone and leave the details in the school office.
- Staff wear their name badges
- Staff are asked to think about their own safety and not go into a home if they feel unsure. They should ask for dogs to be put into a different room and should make sure that they are able to leave the premises quickly if needed.

Links to other policies:

Home Visiting Policy June 2017

Data sharing policy.

Home visiting policy

Date of policy: June 2017

Date of next review: June 2019

Signed by

J.Budge

Headteacher

Date: 04.06.17

E. Jackson

Chair of Governors

June 2017