



# **Educational Visits Policy**

Policy Updated: Spring 2016

Date for Review: Spring 2019

# Educational Visits Policy

## Contents

1	Introduction .....	3
2	Policy Statement .....	3
3	Statement of Safety Policy .....	3
4	Statement of Safety Organisation .....	3
4.1	Organisation and Responsibilities.....	3
4.2	Nominated Manager .....	4
4.3	Visit Coordinator (VC) .....	4
4.4	Visit Leader .....	4
4.5	Supervisory staff .....	5
5	Arrangements .....	5
5.1	Category A – Locally Approved Visits.....	5
5.2	Category B - Service Approved Visits.....	6
5.3	Category C Service & Local Authority Approved Visits.....	6
6	Equality, Diversity and Inclusion .....	6
7	Policy Review.....	7

## **1 Introduction**

This policy template is written in accordance with Nottinghamshire County Council's Visits Policy and Guidance 2011. It is essential that Nominated Managers, Visits Coordinators and the Visit Leaders are familiar with the contents of this policy and Nottinghamshire County Council guidance before planning excursions.

## **2 Policy Statement**

The Nominated Managers of **Brookside Primary School** accept their responsibility under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and subordinate health and safety legislation and acknowledge the requirement to ensure that participants are kept safe whilst on visits and journeys away from their normal place of attendance.

## **3 Statement of Safety Policy**

The Nominated Manager recognises that the participation of children and young people in a wide range of visits, journeys and experiences is important in promoting learning and development. As part of their responsibilities the Nominated Manager will take all reasonably practicable steps to ensure the health, safety and welfare of participants while travelling to, and engaged in, activities away from establishment whether provided by establishment or a contracted provider.

## **4 Statement of Safety Organisation**

### **4.1 Organisation and Responsibilities**

Responsibility for all visits rests with the Nominated Manager within individual establishments. The respective roles of each are outlined within Nottinghamshire County Council's Visits Guidance for Children and Young People.

The person named below will oversee and monitor this policy:

**Mrs Rachel Clark**

## **4.2 Nominated Manager**

The Nominated Manager will be responsible for ensuring that all visits and trips are planned, organised, controlled, monitored and reviewed in accordance to Nottinghamshire County Council guidance documents and relevant regulations.

Nominated Managers must authorise all visits and where applicable seek the approval of the Local Authority for Category C events.

The Nominated Manager will confirm the qualifications, training records and experience of the Group Leader who will lead the specific visit and the supervisory personnel, and will approve these people as suitable to lead/supervise the visit/s.

The Nominated Manager will agree, with a named Visit Coordinator (VC), the duties delegated to the VC or in absence of a VC fulfil this function themselves.

## **4.3 Visit Coordinator (VC)**

The Establishment Visits Coordinators are:

**Ann Brown and Emma Roberts**

They will undertake duties as agreed between themselves and the Nominated Manager. (Reference to common duties and responsibilities should be made contained within Nottinghamshire County Council's Visits Guidance).

The VC will be conversant with Nottinghamshire County Council's Visits Guidance as well as existing good practice, issued by Government Departments, National Governing Bodies and national interest groups (available as downloadable documents or hyperlinks within Nottinghamshire County Council's EVOLVE system).

## **4.4 Visit Leader**

The Visit Leader should be conversant with Nottinghamshire County Council's Visits Guidance, service specific guidance and corporate policy and will comply with these requirements.

The Visit Leader will liaise with the VC throughout the planning and preparation of their trip to ensure that any activities or events that may place staff or other participants at significant risk are assessed and that safety measures are in place prior to the trip taking place.

The Visit Leader will ensure that all parents of children on their trip are provided with all required information, which may include risk

assessment information, and that any questions raised are answered prior to the trip taking place.

The Visit Leader named for each visit will have overall responsibility for that visit whilst it is underway.

The Visit Leader will be fully familiar with emergency procedures and contact numbers.

#### **4.5 Supervisory staff**

All staff assisting with supervision on any trip will be conversant with the Nottinghamshire County Council's Visits Guidance and the specific risk assessment/s for that event.

All staff will ensure that the requirements of any risk assessments, risk control procedures and safe systems are followed.

All staff will ensure that once the trip has started, where any previously unforeseen hazards or risks are identified; they are brought to the attention of the Visit Leader.

Staff will feed back information to the Visit Leader to enable a full review of the trip to be completed.

### **5 Arrangements**

It is especially important that staff use the most up to date guidance when planning and executing visits away from their normal place of work. The online visit planning and approval system (EVOLVE) has been developed to facilitate this and is regularly updated.

Establishments must use this system or implement alternative arrangements that are similarly robust.

Nottinghamshire County Council identifies 3 categories of visits within its Visits Guidance for Children and Young People, which require differing levels of approval:

#### **5.1 Category A – Locally Approved Visits**

All such events will be approved by the Nominated Manager and managed in the establishment by adherence to Nottinghamshire County Council visits guidance and establishment-specific operating procedures. This establishment's operating procedures for visits are:

Teachers will keep a log of visits in the local area citing the date visited on a school specific risk assessment form.

At the beginning of a new academic year, a permission slip will be sent out to parents to allow their child to take part in local visits in East Leake. This will also contain information on emergency contacts and medical information.

## **5.2 Category B - Service Approved Visits**

Visits not normally forming part of your regular work, such as all day excursions or trips.

All such events will be processed via the EVOLVE system, approved by the Nominated Manager and managed by adherence to Nottinghamshire County Council visits guidance and establishment specific operating procedures.

## **5.3 Category C Service & Local Authority Approved Visits**

Residential visits, visits requiring specific competency to deliver or more hazardous events.

All such events will be processed via the EVOLVE system, approved by the Nominated Manager and be delivered when establishment is in receipt of Local Authority approval.

Where the establishment uses external providers for activity provision, suitable assurance must be sought by the establishment to ensure that they are suitable and appropriate for use.

## **6 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

At Brookside School, we aim to ensure that no member of the school community experiences harassment, less favourable treatment or discrimination within the learning environment because of their age; any disability they may have; their ethnicity, colour or national origin; their gender; their religion or beliefs.

We value the diversity of individuals within our school and do not discriminate against anyone because of 'differences'. We believe that all our children matter and we value their families too. We give our children every opportunity to achieve their best by taking account of our children's range of life experiences when devising and implementing school policies and procedures.

## **7 Policy Review**

This policy will be regularly reviewed by the Governing Body and updated annually in line with Brookside Primary School's Policy Schedule.