

Goonhavern Primary School



Nurture the seed and together we will grow

School Visitors Policy and Procedures

Policy Statement

The Governing Body assures all visitors a warm, friendly and professional welcome to Goonhavern Primary School, whatever the purpose of their visit.

The School has a legal duty of care for the health, safety, security and wellbeing of all pupils and staff. This duty of care incorporates the duty to safeguard all pupils from subjection to any form of harm, abuse or nuisance. It is the responsibility of the Governing Body and senior staff to ensure that this duty is uncompromised 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 procedures. Failure so to do may result in the visitor's escorted departure from the school site.

Policy Responsibility

The Headteacher is the member of staff responsible for implementation, coordination and review of this policy. This person will also be responsible for liaising with the school's staff as appropriate. All breaches of this procedure must be reported to the Business Manager.

Aim

To safeguard all children under our school's responsibility both during school hours curriculum and out of school hours activities which are arranged by the school. The ultimate aim is to ensure that pupils at Goonhavern Primary School can learn and enjoy extra-curricular experiences, in an environment where they are safe from harm.

Objectives

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 and conforms to child protection and safeguarding guidelines.

Where and to whom the policy applies

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

The policy applies to:

- All 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, and topic related visitors e.g. authors, journalists)
- All governors of the school
- All parents and volunteers
- All pupils
- Other Education related personnel (Advisors, Inspectors)
- Building & Maintenance and all other Independent contractors visiting the school premises
- Independent contractors who may transport students on minibuses or in taxis

Protocol and Procedures

Visitors to the School

All visitors to the school may be asked to bring formal identification with them at the time of their visit (unless they are named on the approved visitors list as set out below). They must follow the procedure below.

- The main school gates should always be closed. When travelling by car, visitors must stop at the gates and open them to gain access to the site, park their vehicle and close the gates before making their way to reception. When travelling by foot, visitors must open the gate to gain access to the site and close the gate before making their way to reception.
- Once on site, all visitors must report to reception first. No visitor is permitted to enter the school via any other entrance under any circumstances.
- At reception, all visitors must state the purpose of their visit and who has invited them. They should be ready to produce formal identification upon request.
- All visitors will be asked to sign the Visitors Record Book which is kept in reception at all times making note of their name, organisation, who they are visiting, car registration and visitor badge number.
- All visitors will be required to wear an identification badge – the badge must remain visible throughout their visit.
- Visitors will then be 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. The visitor must not be allowed to move about the site unaccompanied unless they are registered on the Approved Visitor List.

Approved Visitor List

The School will hold an approved visitor list for visitors who frequently visit the school site to undertake work within the school (including contractors and supply staff).

To qualify for this list the visitor must have demonstrated, prior to the visit that:

- a) They have a current clear enhanced DBS check and a copy of this has been registered on the School's Central Record (a current DBS is defined as no more than 3 years old) **AND**
- b) They have signed authorisation by the Headteacher to travel around the school site unaided.

Visitors on the Approved List **MUST** follow the same procedures on entry to the premises (i.e. come to reception and sign in the visitors book). A copy of the approved visitor list will be kept in the school office at all times.

Visitors Departure from School

On departing the school, visitors **MUST** leave via reception and:

- Enter their departure time in the Visitors Record Book alongside their arrival entry.
- Return the identification badge to reception.
- A member of staff should escort the visitor to the staff car park (ensuring the visitor does not re-enter the school site, potentially breaching security).

Unknown/Uninvited 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 on the school site. They should then be escorted to reception to sign the visitors book and be issued with an identity badge. The procedures under "Visitors to the School" above will then apply. In the event that the visitor refuses to comply, they should be asked to leave the site immediately and the Headteacher (or member of the Senior Leadership Team if the Headteacher is unavailable) should be informed promptly.

The Headteacher / member of the Senior Leadership Team 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.

Governors and Volunteers

All governors and parent helpers must comply with disclosure and barring service procedures, completing a DBS disclosure form (if not already held) via the School office. The School must check all governors and parent helpers DBS certification is current (i.e. less than 3 years old). Thereafter, normal visitors procedures should apply. Please note that Governors should sign in and out using the Governors Book. New governors will be made aware of this policy and familiar with its procedures as part of their induction. This is the responsibility of the Headteacher, Chair of Governors or Clerk to 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.

Staff Development

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

Policy Review

The policy will be reviewed in May 2017