



Easterside Academy External Visitors Policy

Document History

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| CREATED: (Updated) | February 2016 |
| By: | HT / Governing Body |
| Version: | 1 |
| REVIEW FREQUENCY: | Bi-Annually |
| APPROVED BY GOVERNING BODY: | Summer 2016 |
| REVIEW DATE: | Summer 2019 |

External Visitors Policy

1. Introduction

The academy aims to create an ethos where children feel valued, listened to and understood. Children are made aware that their happiness and safety are important. The academy is committed to ensuring that all staff and volunteers receive training on Child Protection, including the school's policy; the staff code of conduct; the identity of the Designated Persons; and a copy of Part One of "Keeping children safe in education" (July 2015) and PREVENT (2015). All staff receive bi-annual training from the Local Authority, and there is induction training for all newly appointed staff and volunteers.

Visitors are very welcome to Easterside Academy. Indeed, they often make an important contribution to the life and work of the school in many different ways. The learning opportunities and experience they bring are encouraged and appreciated. It is the school's responsibility, however, to ensure that the security and well-being of its pupils is uncompromised at all times. The school is equally responsible to the whole school community for ensuring that visitors comply with the guidelines herein.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- ✓ Volunteers Policy
- ✓ Safeguarding Policy
- ✓ Child Protection Policy
- ✓ Radicalisation Policy
- ✓ Recruitment Safeguarding Policy
- ✓ Visits / LOtC Policy

2. Policy Responsibility

The Head Teacher is the member of staff responsible for implementation, co-ordination and review of this policy.

3. Aim

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

4. 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 guidelines as set out by "Keeping children safe in education" (July 2015) and PREVENT (2015).

5. 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.

External Visitors Policy

The 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 sports coaches and topic related visitors e.g. authors);
- All Governors of the school;
- All parents (particularly parent volunteers);
- All pupils;
- Education personnel (Local Authority; Inspectors);
- Buildings and Maintenance Contractors.

6. Protocol and Procedures

Visitors invited to the school:

a) Before a visitor is invited to the school, the Head Teacher should be informed, with a clear explanation as to the relevance and purpose of the visit and intended date and time of the visit. Permission must be granted by the Head Teacher before a visitor is asked to come into school. If the visitor/s is in relation to providing and supporting Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC) , depending on what the external provider is doing, the Head Teacher may have to ensure that the educational quality and risk management level is appropriate e.g. by checking accreditation such as the LOtC Quality Badge.

b) When inviting visitors to the school they should be asked to bring in formal identification with them at the time of their visit and be informed of the procedure for visitors as set out below. Any accreditations required should be sought and checked prior to the visitor/s coming into school by the Head Teacher.

c) Regular visitors will be asked to read and sign our 'Safeguarding for Visitors Disclaimer'. This includes all volunteers.

- All visitors must report to the School Office first – do 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.
- All visitors will be asked to sign the Visitors' Record Book which is kept by the School Office at all times.
- All visitors will be required to wear an identification badge.
- Regular visitors and volunteers will be asked to read and complete the 'Safeguarding for Visitors Disclaimer' on their first visit. They will be given a copy to retain. Copies are kept in the main office.
- Visitors will then be escorted to their point of contact OR their point of contact will be asked to come to the School Office to receive the visitor. The contact will then be responsible for them while they are on site.
- Visitors should never be left whilst they are on the school premises, and never with children.

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;

External Visitors Policy

- Return the identification badge to the School Office.

7. 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 at the school.
- They should then be escorted to the School Office to sign the Visitors' Record Book and be issued with an identity badge. The procedures in '6' then apply.
- In the event that the visitor refuses to comply, they should be asked to leave the site immediately and the Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher (or the Teacher-in-Charge) should be informed promptly.

- The Head Teacher / Deputy Head Teacher (or the Teacher-in-Charge) will consider the situation and decide if it is necessary to inform the police or initiate the 'Lock Down' Policy.
- 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. The Lock Down Policy procedures may be initiated at this point. *(See separate Lock Down Policy procedures).*

8. Contractors / Engineers

Contractors / workmen follow the procedures as set out in 6.

When pupils are on the premises, the contractors / workmen must be supervised at all times by the Site Manager or by another member of staff. No contractor / engineer is permitted to work in, or move around the school, unsupervised when pupils are on site.

9. Governors

- All Governors must comply with Disclosure Barring Service procedures, completing a DBS Form through school, (if not already held).
- The School must check all Governors DBS certification is current at the beginning of the academic school year. Thereafter, procedures as per 6 should apply.
- Please note that Governors should sign in and out using the Signing in Book and wear the school lanyards issued to them when they take up post.
- 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 Head Teacher or Chair of Governors

10. Staff Development

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

11. Monitoring and Evaluation

External Visitors Policy

The suitability and impact of all visitors invited into school to work with the children will be assessed at the end of each visit and a decision made as to further involvement.

Specific Guidance Check list for member of staff organising visits from external agencies

- ✓ Speakers at assemblies / class lessons etc. need to be initially cleared through the Head Teacher.
- ✓ Ensure that the visitor / external agency complements the school's planned programme or scheme of work.
- ✓ Ensure that you have a clear outline of what the visitor is going to talk about with the children and / or do e.g. activities.
- ✓ If an external provider linked to LOfC, accreditation may need to be checked by the Head Teacher.

See Appendix 1 below:

Safeguarding Visitors Disclaimer



We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of all pupils and visitors. All visitors must agree to the following before being allowed access

General

Confidentiality is of the utmost importance. Information or knowledge of individuals or the working of the academy must not be communicated to anyone outside the Academy premises

- Enter and exit the site from the main entrance, observing signing in and out procedures.
- Please stay within the areas necessary for your visit.
- You will be issued with a visitor badge. This must be worn at all times so that it is visible. Please return this to reception and remember to sign out as you leave the academy site.
- Please note that appropriate actions and language must be used on site at all times.
- Accessible toilets are located in EYs and KS1.
- A first aider will always be available on site during normal academy hours. Ask a member of staff for assistance.

Dress Code

- All people working on site must be dressed in a manner befitting the role they are undertaking.
- Casual or revealing clothing (e.g. jeans / strappy tops) or strappy footwear is not deemed as appropriate for people working in a classroom setting unless expressly authorised.

Visiting Classrooms / Interaction with Pupils

- Present your photo ID (and any previously agreed documentation) when requested by Office staff
- Wear your photo ID and/or visitor badge at all times

Mobile Devices

Personal devices e.g. mobile phones, tablets, cameras and ipods must NOT be used in school or around the children, and should be switched off or on silent on entering the building.

- Do not leave equipment's unattended.
- Interactions must remain confidential within your remit.
- Ensure that the Bluetooth capacity of all mobile equipment is disabled.
- Use only in connection with your business and when you are authorised to do so.
- Do not take images of pupils and staff unless authorised to do so.
- IMAGES TAKEN AT SCHOOL EVENTS MUST NOT BE SHARED ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

Safeguarding Procedures

The safeguarding of all pupils is of paramount importance.

If a child discloses something to you, or you observe a child doing or saying something which causes concern (including extremist views) this must be reported directly to one of the **Designated Officers** (Lead – Mrs Linacre) or the Deputy Head or member of the Care Team, all of whom are also trained as Designated Officers.

Full Safeguarding Policies and Procedures can be accessed on the Academy website.

Fire /Lock Down Procedures

If you hear the fire alarm it should be assumed that fire has been detected and you should evacuate the building at the nearest fire exit.

- In the unlikely event of finding a fire activate the nearest break glass before exiting the building.
- Report to the fire assembly point on the KS1 and 2 yards and wait to be accounted for.
- If you are working with pupils ensure that they are calmly escorted straight out of the building. When at the assembly point a member of staff will ensure they are accounted for.
- We operate a system of assisted escape for disabled visitors. Please tell the office staff your requirements.

If you hear a continuous 'bell' ring, this signals a Lock Down has been activated. Please make your way to the nearest 'Safe Area' as directed by the nearest member of staff. If pupils are with you, please ensure they go with you in a calm manner.

Signed Declaration

Anyone whose actions and/or behaviour causes concern, or who does not follow the above requirements will be reported to the Head Teacher and / or Governors for further action. Please sign below to confirm that you understand and you will comply with all of the above.

Signed:

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Name:

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Date:

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External Visitors Policy
Safeguarding Children

Easterside Academy is committed to ensuring the well-being of every child and keeping them safe from emotional, mental and physical harm. Policies and Procedures for Safeguarding Children and Child Protection can also be accessed on our website using www.eastersideacademy.co.uk or MSCB www.teescpp.org.uk.

If you have a Child Protection or Welfare Concern about any child in school or within the community, please telephone:

FIRST CONTACT on 01642 726004

Alternatively, you may speak confidentially to the Designated Person in School.

**The Designated Person with overall responsibility for
Child Protection is:
Mrs Linacre (Head Teacher)**

In the event that Mrs Linacre is not available, the following staff are also Designated Persons and will respond to your concern:

- Mrs Thomas – Deputy Head Teacher
- Miss Sharp – Pupil Well-Being Leader
- Miss Carter – Pupil/Parent Support Advisor
- Mrs Roffe – Pupil/Parent Support Advisor
- Mrs Brewster – Pupil/Parent Support Advisor