

“Every child is a unique child of God.”

WHINMOOR



ST. PAUL'S  
C of E Primary School

## Whinmoor St Paul's (VA) C of E Primary School

### Parent/Carer Involvement Policy

#### *Every Child is a Unique Child of God*

At Whinmoor St Paul's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School we believe that every child is a unique child of God and lives in a world that God has made. We believe that all adults and children should be given opportunities to, 'Let their Light Shine.' We have a loving, caring community underpinned by our Christian ethos in which everyone, regardless of our differences, feels valued, nurtured, secure and happy.

Agreed Date: October 2024

Review Date: October 2027

Signed Chair of Governors: Mrs R Davies

Date: October 2024

*Let Your Light Shine!*



## **Our Mission and Ethos**

At Whinmoor St Paul's we believe that every child is a unique child of God and lives in a world that God has made. We believe that all adults and children should be given opportunities to **'Let their Light Shine.'** We have a loving, caring community, underpinned by our Christian ethos, in which everyone, regardless of our differences, feels valued, nurtured and secure.

## **Our Vision**

Our vision is to ensure that every person is nurtured, valued, happy and empowered to reach their full potential.

It is about everyone having their own unique light to shine and how we can try our best to share that light with the world.

Our vision is underpinned by Matthew 5:14-16

***You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people build a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your Light Shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your father in heaven.***

Our values enable our vision to be lived out in school and permeate every area of school life.

## **Christian Ethos**

At Whinmoor St Paul's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School we believe that every child is a unique child of God and lives in a world that God has made. We believe that all adults and children should be given opportunities to, 'Let their Light Shine.' We have a loving, caring community underpinned by our Christian ethos in which everyone, regardless of our differences, feels valued, nurtured, secure and happy.

## **OUR AIMS ARE TO...**

- Provide a safe, happy and nurturing environment where every child can achieve their full potential
- Provide a curriculum which is knowledge-rich, wide, progressive, purposeful & connects to our community & the world we live in
- Enable each child, through fostering high expectations, to grow and develop intellectually, physically, spiritually, and morally in order to enable him/her to achieve their potential
- Develop attitudes which will be positively helpful to the individual child, the whole school and to society in general, valuing all faiths and cultures
- To build strong relationships with the local community, our city and the wider world



And to do all this as a caring community based on strong Christian values.

The Governing Body and staff of Whinmoor St Paul's Primary School take as our first priority the responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of our pupils, to minimise risk and to work together with other agencies to ensure rigorous arrangements are in place within our school to identify, assess, and support those children who are suffering harm and to keep them safe and secure whilst in our care.

### **UNDERLYING PRINCIPALS AND AIMS**

- To provide parents/carers with an opportunity to actively participate in their child's learning.
- To provide information about their child's progress and regular opportunities for consultation.



- To provide regular information on the day to day activities of the school.
- To provide an open door policy which will enable access for parents to address their concerns to the Head teacher or Class teacher.
- To maintain effective communications between home and school.
- To support the work of Parent Governors.
- To facilitate parental participation in the organisation known as 'Parents Teachers Friends Association'.

### **FIRST CONTACT WITH NEW PARENTS/CARERS**

The school makes every effort to ensure that both parents/carers and children have a well-informed and positive start to their time at Whinmoor St Paul's.

a) Nursery sharing children's achievements – 'Two Stars and a Wish Report' shared with parents on the child's Tapestry journal. These are completed by the teacher four times a year (end of first half term in nursery, then at the end of each term). The report celebrates two things the child has achieved and one next step/target for the following term.

b) All staff greet and welcome pupils and their parents/carers at the start of each session. To develop a positive caring relationship, Key workers 'chat' to parents/carers about their child. This generally includes, information about a child's needs and interests, learning at home and in nursery, children's achievements and next steps. When asked for, it can also often involve giving advice and helping parents to support their child's holistic development at home.

c) Reception admission policy (Whinmoor St Paul's Admission Policy)

During the child's Early Years Education clear home/school links are crucial to the child's ability to gain from the learning environments of home and school. As can be seen from the above policies the Early Years Team make every effort to support and encourage both the parent and the child; encouraging involvement in the school that is for the benefit of the child. As children develop and grow more independent it is inevitable that there is less daily contact between staff and parents. It is important that the relationships forged in the early years are built on and that clear communications are maintained.

### **SHARING THE CHILDREN'S ACHIEVEMENTS**

Families are welcome to:

- Celebration Assembly Friday's 9am, productions, drama/Art festivals, Sport's Day, Come and Read with Me sessions, Festive Concerts, Nativities, Consultation Evenings, Quick Start Meetings and Meet the Teacher events.

Family Consultation evenings are held in:

- AUTUMN TERM - To give the parent/carer the opportunity to discuss their child's progress and targets for the academic year



- SPRING TERM - to give both teacher and parent the opportunity to review the child's progress and discuss any support that the child may need either in the classroom or at home.
- In the Summer Term - A detailed written school report is discussed with parent/carers at a consultation evening. At this meeting your child's teacher for the next academic year is available to discuss expectations. The report is then taken home.

### **PARENTS/CARERS HELPING IN CLASS**

Parental involvement in the classroom will be at the discretion of the Headteacher and the class teacher. Parents/carers must be DBS checked or under supervision.

Parental help may be sought for:

- educational visits
- practical classroom activities

Guidelines are available for parents/carers who help in class.

### **INFORMATION TO PARENTS/CARERS**

1. Half termly curriculum newsletters from class teachers detail topics, activities and expectations.
2. Class Dojo messages/feed
2. Letters from class teachers will detail special classroom activities, trips out, visitors and workshops.
3. Electronic newsletters from the Head teacher, sent out twice each half term include:
  - a diary of events, PTFA and Governing Body matters (when necessary), items of interest, school priorities, Twitter, use of school website etc
4. Information from other sources. Information from other agencies (such as LA, Diocese, DfE.) shall be relayed to parents/carers where appropriate.
5. Annual Report to parents/carers and Annual Consultation meeting. The school shall support and facilitate these statutory rights according to the Government regulations and guidelines.
6. The School website is up to date with information and photographs.
7. All teaching staff are very pleased to meet with parents/carers at the end of the school day. If parents/carers wish to speak privately with a member of staff, this can easily be arranged. Parents/carers are always welcomed and positively encouraged to discuss children's progress with their class teacher or other relevant member of staff on any day after school.
8. Telephone calls and use of the internet are encouraged for all parents/carers.

### **RESPONSE TO PARENTAL/CARER REQUESTS**

1. Any letter or note written shall be responded to within 24 hours.
2. Any verbal requests, telephone messages or emails shall be responded to



on the same school day wherever possible.

3. All messages for children should be written down and sent to the class teacher immediately.

### **PARENT GOVERNORS**

The school will assist parent governors and secretarial support can be provided.

### **PTFA**

The PTFA was initiated to encourage parents/carers to take some responsibility for social and fundraising activities (i.e. discos, fashion evenings). The parents shall be involved in the decisions about allocations of money raised.

Parents/carers are supported in their use of the school for their own activities and educational courses.

*We have a clear duty under the Equality Act 2010 to ensure that our teaching is accessible to all pupils, including those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT). Inclusive PSHE will foster good relations between pupils, tackle all types of prejudice, including homophobia, and promote understanding and respect, enabling us to meet the requirements, and live the intended spirit, of the Equality Act 2010*

Review date: October 2024