

Spaxton CofE Primary School

'Together we flourish and achieve'



Educational Visits and Activities Policy

DATE: November 2021

POSTHOLDER RESPONSIBLE: Rebecca Skews

MONITORED BY: Local Governance Committee

DATE RATIFIED BY GOVERNORS:

AUDIENCE: Staff, parents, pupils

REVIEW DATE: November 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca Skews'.

Approved on behalf of School:

(Head of School)

Educational Visits and Activities Policy

Introduction

All schools are required to offer children a broad and balanced curriculum that promotes their spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development, and prepares them for the opportunities and experiences of adult life.

In our school we seek to ensure that the National Curriculum is delivered to all children, regardless of social background, race, gender or differences in ability. All are entitled to the development of knowledge, understanding, skills, and attitudes. To enrich the curriculum for our children, we also offer a range of educational visits and other activities that add to what they learn in school.

Organisation

The National Curriculum defines what we teach the children in school. This is the basis for each class's programme of learning for each school year.

Within each class's programme of work the teachers plan educational visits and activities that support the children's learning. We give details of these visits and activities to parents at the beginning of each school year in our School Calendar if this is a regular yearly outing. We plan other activities as the school year progresses, and inform parents of these in due course.

Visits and activities usually take place within the school day and we follow the LEA's guidelines relating to health and safety. We ask parents to give written permission for their child to take part in any activity that takes children off the school site. If we do not receive this written permission, the child will be unable to participate.

At the beginning of each year we ask every family to sign permission for their child(ren) to go out on routine visits (e.g. the local church, local playing field, around the village etc). These are an online consent kept on the child's record.

Charging for school activities

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum. There are some circumstances when the school can make a charge for certain activities. The governing body has a charging policy that details the full range of activities where a charge can be made. A copy of this is available from the school office.

Curriculum links

All educational visits and activities support and enrich the work we do in school. There are also a number of people who visit the school to support our work. Some visits relate directly to areas of learning for individual classes, whilst others relate to all our children.

Each National Curriculum subject gives opportunities for outside visits or for visitors to come into school and we do try to offer at least one visit out or a visitor in once a term. All these opportunities are in line with guidance published by the LA:

- English – theatre visits, visits by authors, poets and theatre groups;
- science – use of the school grounds, visits to botanical gardens;
- mathematics – use of shape and number trails in the local environment;
- history – castle visits, study of local housing patterns, local museums;
- geography – use of the locality for fieldwork, village trails;
- art and design – art gallery visits, use of the locality;

- PE – range of sporting fixtures, extra-curricular activities, visits by specialist coaches;
- music – range of specialist music teaching, extra-curricular activities, local schools' orchestra, concerts for parents to hear;
- design and technology – visits to local factories/design centres;
- ICT – its use in local shops/libraries/secondary schools etc;
- RE – visits to local centres of worship, visits by local clergy.

We also have regular visits from our neighbourhood police officer and health workers. These visits support the personal, social and health education of our children. Our vicar takes collective worship on regular basis. We do this with the full agreement of the governing body.

Residential activities

Children in KS2 have the opportunity to take part in a residential visit. This activity is linked to the National Curriculum. We do, make a charge for board and lodging, insurance and specialist instruction for certain activities. Parents in receipt of state benefits are exempt from payment.

The residential visit enables children to take part in outdoor and adventure activities as part of their PE work. We undertake this visit only with the written agreement of the LA. All specialist activities are undertaken with qualified instructors.

Delegated Authority

The approval of **Category 'A'** (as defined by Somerset County Council) non-adventurous visits or activities is delegated to the Head of School/Senior Teacher. This is reviewed annually in the Governors Standing Orders.

Category 'B' visits must be approved by the Chair of Governors in accordance with DFES/DCSF guidelines.