

All Saints' CEVC Primary School



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Inspire Challenge Succeed

Autumn1 2019 / Update 01

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome back and a warm welcome to our new Reception class parents and carers.

This academic year the Governing Body will provide termly updates on our actions and on-going activities via Parent/Carer letters issued through the ParentMail system. This is the first update!

Attendance Policy

During the summer term the Governing Body reviewed and updated the Attendance Policy the revised Attendance Policy (10th July 2019) is now effective and a copy of the policy is available on the school website.

The main changes to the policy are:

- Discrepancy Letter - section 2.3 (iv) – these are issued where the reason for absence contradicts other information received.
- Number of unauthorised absence sessions that result in a Penalty Notice – this has been amended to align with other schools within the Bury School's Partnership and a Penalty Notice will be issued when eight or more unauthorised absence sessions have occurred (four whole days in total).

The Governing Body is responsible for monitoring attendance and pupil punctuality and the Attendance Policy requires approval by the Full Governing Body. The Governing Body hold the Headteacher to account for implementing the policy and ensuring that it is consistently applied.

Relationship & Sex Education Policy (RSE Policy)

This policy was discussed at the summer term Parent Forum and has been approved by the Full Governing Body and is now effective. It is compulsory that all primary schools have a Relationship and Sex Education policy from September 2020, we have decided to implement this policy a year early to ensure that the policy and our curriculum are effective before next year.

A copy of the policy is available on the school website.

Motivation Cooperation Creativity Independence Curiosity Stickability



Social Media comments about our school and our staff

A couple of years ago, I had to issue a notice advising that threatening behaviour and abuse directed towards our staff would not be tolerated, this received support from all the parents that I spoke to thereafter, and no further actions were required.

The Governing Body has been advised that a parent/carer has criticised the school on a social media platform, which has led to unpleasant and slanderous remarks being posted about our staff. **There is no place for any form of abuse in our school or on social media and it will not be tolerated.**

All Saints' staff are human beings who do not deserve to be insulted or abused for carrying out their employed duties.

We expect parents/carers to behave in a reasonable way towards members of school staff and the wider school community at all times. This includes email and the use of social media, where posting of abusive material is simply not acceptable.

All of our staff work hard to develop positive and close links with parents/carers and the community and we believe that children benefit significantly when the relation between home and school is a positive one.

The majority of parents/carers are keen to work with us and are supportive of the school. From time to time it is necessary for parents and the school to deal with problems relating to particular matters or pupils and we encourage discussing them with the relevant member of staff in a respectful manner.

The Governing Body

The governing body is responsible for working with the school's Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to ensure that it delivers a good quality education, as well as helping to set the school's aims and policies.

The governing body provides strategic leadership and accountability in school and has three key functions:

- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction

Governors monitor and evaluate the progress the school is making and act as a source of challenge and support to the Headteacher.

All Saints' governing body is made up of fifteen individuals and we have five categories of governors:

- As a Church of England school, we have two foundation governors
- Three parent governors who are nominated and elected by parents
- Up to 7 co-opted governors who are approved by the governing body based on their skills
- One local authority governor who is appointed by the local authority (Suffolk County Council)
- The Headteacher and a staff governor

When a parent governor vacancy arises, we write to all parents to ask if they would be willing to nominate themselves for the role. Co-opted governors are recruited when we identify a need for specific skills or experience that we do not currently have within the body.

Each governor serves a four-year term and at the end of this period, they can stand for re-election for another term. Our governing body delegates certain actions and responsibilities to individuals and to sub-committees where a small group of governors focus on specific areas. Our main committees and working groups are:

- Resources committee – who oversee the finances, personnel and building matters
- Learning and achievement committee – who oversee curriculum matters and pupil performance data
- Headteacher performance and review committee
- IT and website working group

Most of our governors either currently have, or have had children at All Saints, so most governors can be seen and contacted in the playground.

If you have any queries regarding any aspect of this letter, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Stephen Lerner
Chair of Governors
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