



St Mark's CE Primary School

Freedom of Information Policy & Publication Scheme

Policy Statement and Guidelines

Policy Date: Autumn 2016

Review Date: Autumn 2019

Freedom of Information Policy & Publication Scheme

Freedom of Information Access Policy

Principle

We wish to provide advice and assistance to anyone requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act.

Aims

- To delegate to the Headteacher day-to-day responsibility for Freedom of Information Access (FOIA) policy and the provision of advice, guidance, publicity and interpretation of the school's policy.
- Ensure all staff are aware of the process
- To deal with requests within **20 working days**
- To inform enquirers whether the school holds the information (the duty to confirm or deny) except where certain exemptions apply
- Ensure that a well-managed records management and information system exists in order to comply with requests.
- Ensure a record of refusals and reasons for refusals is kept. Expressions of dissatisfaction should be handled through the school's existing complaints procedure.

Associated documents: Publication Scheme Request - **Annex A**
St Mark's CE Primary School Publication Scheme
Guidelines - Checklist for Action (Staff)

Expressions of dissatisfaction should be handled through the school's existing complaints Procedure

Freedom of Information Publication Scheme

Freedom of Information Publication Scheme on information available under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Governing Body is responsible for maintenance of this scheme.

1. Introduction: what a publication scheme is and why it has been developed

One of the aims of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (which is referred to as FOIA in the rest of this document) is that public authorities, including all maintained schools, should be clear and proactive about the information they will make public.

To do this we must produce a publication scheme, setting out:

- The classes of information which we publish or intend to publish;
- The manner in which the information will be published; and
- Whether the information is available free of charge or on payment.

The scheme covers information already published and information which is to be published in the future. All information in our publication scheme is either available for you on our website to download and print off or available in paper form.

Some information which we hold may not be made public, for example personal information.

This publication scheme conforms to the model scheme for schools approved by the Information Commissioner.

2. Aims and Objectives

- To promote the development of the whole child.
- To provide equal opportunities for all children.
- To provide a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum including teaching children to:
 - communicate effectively for pleasure and information;
 - write legibly for a variety of audiences and purposes;
 - read effectively for pleasure and information;
 - use mathematical skills with confidence and accuracy.
 - use Information Communication Technology
 - apply knowledge, skills and understanding of the world
 - be physically competent and confident
- To develop personal, moral and spiritual values.

- To develop creativity, imagination and curiosity.
- To promote each child's self-esteem, confidence and independence.
- To promote high standards of behaviour.
- To develop social skills.
- To promote a high level of expectation.
- To engender respect and understanding for all people and cultures in society.
- To encourage a positive partnership with home.

This publication scheme is a means of showing how we are pursuing these aims.

3. Categories of information published

The publication scheme guides you to information which we currently publish (or have recently published) or which we will publish in the future. This is split into categories of information known as 'classes'. These are contained in section 6 of this scheme.

The classes of information that we undertake to make available are organised into four broad topic areas:

School Prospectus	information published in the school prospectus
Governors' Documents	information published in the Governors Annual Report and in other governing body documents
Pupils & Curriculum	information about policies that relate to pupils and the school curriculum
School Policies and other information related to the school	information about policies that relate to the school in general

4. How to request information

If you require a paper version of any of the documents within the scheme, please contact the school by telephone, email or letter. Contact details are set out below or you can visit our website.

Website: www.st-marks-southampton.org.uk Email: info@st-marks-southampton.org.uk Tel: 02380 772968

Contact Address: St Mark's Church of England Primary School, Stafford Road,
Shirley,
Southampton SO15 5TE

To help us process your request quickly, please clearly mark any correspondence

"PUBLICATION SCHEME REQUEST" (in CAPITALS please)

If the information you're looking for isn't available via the scheme and isn't on our website

you can still contact the school to ask if we have it.

5. Paying for Information

Information published on our website is free, although you may incur costs from your Internet service provider. If you don't have Internet access, you can access our website using a local library or an Internet café.

Single copies of information covered by this publication are provided free unless stated otherwise in section 6. If your request means that we have to do a lot of photocopying or printing, or pay a large postage charge, or is for a priced item such as some printed publications or videos we will let you know the cost before fulfilling your request. Where there is a charge this will be indicated by a £ sign in the description box.

5. Classes of Information Currently Published

School Prospectus

This section sets out information published in the school prospectus.

The statutory contents of the school prospectus are as follows, (other items may be included in the prospectus at the school's discretion):

- the name, address and telephone number of the school, and the type of school
- the names of the Headteacher and Chair of Governors
- information on the school policy on Admissions
- a statement of the school's ethos and values
- details of any affiliations with a particular religion or religious denomination, the religious education provided, parents' right to withdraw their child from religious education and collective worship and the alternative provision for those pupils
- information about the school's policy on providing for pupils with special educational needs

- number of pupils on roll and rates of pupils' authorised and unauthorised absences
- National Curriculum assessment results for appropriate Key Stages, with national summary figures
- the arrangements for visits to the school by prospective parents

Governors' Annual Report and other information relating to the Governing Body

This section sets out information published in the Governors' Annual Report and in other Governing Body documents.

The statutory contents of the Governors' annual report to parents are as follows, (other items may be included in the annual report at the school's discretion):

- details of the Governing Body membership, including name and address of chair and clerk
- a statement on progress in implementing the action plan drawn up following an inspection
- a financial statement, including gifts made to the school and amounts paid to governors for expenses
- a description of the school's arrangements for security of pupils staff and the premises
- information about the implementation of the Governing Body's policy on pupils with special educational needs (SEN) and any changes to the policy during the last year
- a description of the arrangements for the admission of pupils with disabilities; details of steps to prevent disabled pupils being treated less favourably than other pupils; details of existing facilities to assist access to the school by pupils with disabilities; the accessibility plan covering future policies for increasing access by those with disabilities to the school
- a statement of policy on whole staff development identifying how teachers' professional development impacts on teaching and learning
- number of pupils on roll and rates of pupils' authorised and unauthorised absence
- National Curriculum assessment results for appropriate Key Stages, with national summary figures
- a statement of the extent to which proposals in the post- inspection action plan have been carried into effect

Instrument of Government

- The name of the school
- The category of the school
- The name of the Governing Body
- The manner in which the Governing Body is constituted
- The term of office of each category of Governor if less than 4 years

- The name of anybody entitled to appoint any category of governor
- Details of any Trust
- If the school has a religious character, a description of the ethos
- The date the instrument takes effect

Minutes of meeting of the Governing Body and its committees

- Agreed minutes of meetings of the governing body and its committees [current and last full academic school year]

Pupils & Curriculum – Policies

This section gives access to information about policies that relate to pupils and the school curriculum.

- Home School Agreement
- Statement of the school's aims and values, the school's responsibilities, the parental responsibilities and the school's expectations of its pupils for example homework arrangements
- Curriculum Policy Statement on following the policy for the secular curriculum subjects and religious education and schemes of work and syllabuses currently used by the school
- Sex Education Policy
- Statement of policy with regard to sex and relationship education
- Special Education Needs Policy
- Information about the school's policy on providing for pupils with special educational needs
- Accessibility Plans
- Plan for increasing participation of disabled pupils in the school's curriculum, improving the accessibility of the physical environment and improving delivery of information to disabled pupils.
- Race Equality Policy
- Statement of policy for promoting race equality
- Collective Worship
- Statement of arrangements for the required daily act of collective worship
- Child Protection Policy
- Statement of policy for safeguarding and promoting welfare of pupils at the school. (from March 2004)
- Pupil Discipline Statement of general principles on behaviour and discipline and of measures taken by the head teacher to prevent bullying.

Some information might be confidential or otherwise exempt from the publication by law – we cannot therefore publish this

School Policies and other information related to the school

This section gives access to information about policies that relate to the school in general.

Class Description

- Published reports of Ofsted referring expressly to the school
- Published report of the last inspection of the school and the summary of the report and where appropriate inspection reports of religious education in those schools designated as having a religious character
- Post-Ofsted inspection action plan
- A plan setting out the actions required following the last Ofsted inspection and where appropriate an action plan following inspection of religious education where the school is designated as having a religious character
- Charging and Remissions Policies
- A statement of the school's policy with respect to charges and remissions for any optional extra or board and lodging for which charges are permitted, for example school publications, music tuition, trips
- School session times and term dates
- Details of school session and dates of school terms and holidays
- Health and Safety Policy and risk assessment
- Statement of general policy with respect to health and safety at work of employees (and others) and the organisation and arrangements for carrying out the policy
- Complaints procedure
- Statement of procedures for dealing with complaints
- Performance Management of Staff
- Statement of procedures adopted by the governing body relating to the performance management of staff and the annual report of the head teacher on the effectiveness of appraisal procedures
- Staff Conduct, Discipline and Grievance
- Statement of procedure for regulating conduct and discipline of school staff and procedures by which staff may seek redress for grievance
- Curriculum circulars and statutory instruments
- Any statutory instruments, departmental circulars and administrative memoranda sent by the Department of Education and Skills to the headteacher or governing body relating to the curriculum

Our website is at: www.st-marks-southampton.org.uk

6. Feedback and Complaints

We welcome any comments or suggestions you may have about the scheme. If you want to make any comments about this publication scheme or if you require further assistance or wish to make a complaint then initially this should be addressed to the Headteacher.

If you are not satisfied with the assistance that you get or if we have not been able to resolve your complaint and you feel that a formal complaint needs to be made then this should be addressed to the Information Commissioner's Office. This is the organisation that ensures compliance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and that deals with formal complaints.

They can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF 6
or

Enquiry/Information Line: 01625 545 700

E Mail: publications@ic-foi.demon.co.uk.

Website : www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Annex A - Publication Scheme Request

St Mark's CE Primary School Publication Scheme on information available under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Requests in writing will be dealt with within 20 days (**excluding school holidays**)
If the information you're looking for isn't available via the scheme and isn't on our website, you can still contact the school to ask if we have it.

Information required

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Name.....

Childs name.....Class.....

How do you want the information? Via child/will collect/post (delete as necessary)
If you omit this, the information will be sent home with your child

Website www.st-marks-southampton.org.uk
Email: info@st-marks-southampton.org.uk
Tel 02380 772968

Contact Address: St Mark's Church of England
Primary School, Stafford Road, Shirley,
Southampton SO15 5TE