

Blakesley CE Primary School

Educational Visits Policy



“We create the spark that lights the fire”. As a Church of England school at the heart of the community and in partnership with parents, Blakesley C of E Primary School is committed to enabling all pupils achieve their full potential. We will do this through developing a love of learning within a creative, dynamic and vibrant environment based on Christian values where everyone aspires to excellence.

Prepared by:

.....L A Burman

Signed (*Chair of Governors*)

Sarae Hyatt

Approved on:

25th April 2016

Date of next Review:

.....April 2017.....

Educational Visits and Activities Policy

1 Introduction

- 1.1** 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.
- 1.2** 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.

2 Organisation

- 2.1** 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.
- 2.2** 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 month in our School Calendar.
- 2.3** Visits and activities usually take place within the school day. We follow the LA's guidelines relating to health and safety, and 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.

3 Charging for school activities

- 3.1** All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum but we often ask for a voluntary contribution. 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 or is available on our website.

4 Curriculum links

- 4.1** 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.
- 4.2** For each subject in the curriculum there is a corresponding programme of activities which includes visits by specialists. All these activities are in line with guidance published by the LA. Examples include:

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- 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.

4.3 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. A local clergyman takes assembly on a regular basis. We do this with the full agreement of the governing body.

5 Residential activities

5.1 We aim for all children in Year 4, 5 and 6 have the opportunity to take part in a residential visit. This activity is in school time and linked to the National Curriculum, so we do not make any charge for the education but may request a voluntary contribution. We do, however, make a charge for board and lodging, insurance and specialist instruction for certain activities. Parents in receipt of state benefits, qualifying for Pupil Premium or are in need of financial assistance, may be supported with payment.

5.2 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.

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