

Burton Leonard Church of England (VC) Primary School



Governor Visits to School Policy

Aim

One of the best and most effective ways in which a Governor can get to know about their school is to visit during the school day and see it at work, talking to staff and pupils and finding out what happens in the school and the classrooms. If school and classroom visits are done well they will add immeasurably to Governors' understanding of their school, its staff and its pupils.

Governors' visits to classrooms are not a form of inspection in terms of making judgements about the professional expertise of members of staff, especially with regard to the quality of teaching. A school visit is not about checking on the progress of your own or known children or pursuing personal agendas or issues .

The aim is to find ways to further improve the children's education and learning and the teaching and learning environment which supports and enables this.

Purpose of visits:

- to develop an understanding of what happens in the classroom
- to develop a positive relationship between Governors, staff and pupils
- to observe learning and teaching in progress
- to become familiar with the working environment of the School
- to observe implementation of relevant policies
- to ensure more informed decision-making at Governing Body level
- to see the condition of the building and its use
- to observe the use of (or need for) resources
- to recognise and celebrate success

By visiting school and becoming better informed Governors will be

- More aware of the needs of the school
- More able to approach staff to meet those needs

- Well placed to talk to all stakeholders, the Local Authority and Ofsted

Protocols

- Where possible a programme of Governor visits to the school will be drawn up at the beginning of each term
- The programme will ensure an even distribution of visits across areas and should be linked to the SDP
- The visit will have an agreed focus provided in advance
- The visit should provide constructive and appropriate feedback using the agreed proforma
- The visit should be reported on at the next full Governing Body meeting

Adopted Autumn 2016

Next review Autumn 2019

Amanda Tounson

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