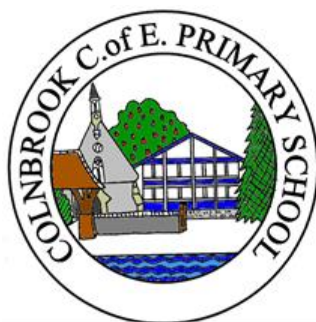


**The Slough and East Berkshire  
C. of E.  
Multi Academy Trust  
Colnbrook C. of E. Primary School**



## Home Visit Policy

Owner:	EYFS Lead
Date Reviewed:	8 <sup>th</sup> March 2023
Date Policy to be reviewed:	March 2025

***"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9***

### **Our Vision Statement**

**At Colnbrook we want to grow young people who believe in themselves so they are confident and courageous and not discouraged from their path. They are resilient when faced with challenge. We want our pupils to believe in each other and to feel supported; never alone on their journey.**

**Our pupils will have the strength of character to set themselves aspirational goals in learning and life. They will achieve their best and create their own inspirational story and memories.**

These values are at the heart of everything we do here at Colnbrook Church of England Primary School. They reflect the qualities that staff and governors want the children to develop and display in all that they do.

Aspiration, Resilience, Respect, Responsibility, Community, Compassion.

## Aim of Home Visit

- To build up a warm caring relationship with the child and parent/carer before the child starts school.
- To meet the child in their natural environment and to establish a friendship to ease the settling in period.
- To ensure that the child has met staff on familiar territory. This can help the children feel more confident about making the transition from home to school.
- To encourage parents to share with us as much information as possible about their child. This information will help us get to know the child's needs and to plan an appropriate settling in programme. To get a picture of what the child likes to do at home.
- To share information about the Nursery / Reception class.
- To allow parents/carers to share things in private and without interruption.

## Procedure

- Staff will attend home visits in pairs for their own safety. They must leave a list of where they are going and leave a mobile number with the office
- Home visits will not be carried out uninvited. Staff will have arranged a date and time well in advance of the visit. Parents/carers do not have to have a home visit if they do not wish it. They will be offered the option when they enrol their child or attend the settling in meeting.
- During the visit one adult should focus primarily on the child if this appropriate and the other adult gathers information about the child from the parent/carer. Staff take a book of photographs which they will share with the child and which will often form the basis for interaction.
- **It is important that this does not become merely a question and answer session.** The most important thing is to build up a relationship with the family. (See appendix one for information that should be discussed.)
- It is important that the parent/carer has the time and opportunity to ask questions about the setting.

**CONFIDENTIALITY SHOULD BE RESPECTED AT ALL TIMES.**

## **Appendix 1**

On entering the home, ensure that staff introduce themselves to child/ parent/carer. Discussion then can then be based around these areas.

### **1 Family History-**

- What was the child-like as a baby, relationship with siblings
- Any traumatic times – moving house, hospitalisation etc.
- Any pre-school experience?

If the child has attended another pre-school group ask the parent to talk about the experience- how did they settle, hours of attendance, any worries?

### **2 Child's Health**

- Are there any health worries which may affect the child at school?
- Any specific dietary needs, allergies etc. explaining our healthy school policy.
- Is child registered with a health visitor and are immunisations up to date?
- Is child registered with a dentist?

### **3 Physical Development**

- Has the child had a chance to play in a garden?

### **4 Language**

- How does the child communicate either in English or another language?
- If English is not the first language, how much is understood and spoken and what is the first language?

### **5 Play**

- What does the child enjoy playing with?
- Any special interests the child has.

## **6 Social development**

- Who does the child have a close relationship with?
- How much contact has the child had with adults/children?
- How does the child respond to new adults and children?

## **7 Emotional development**

- Is there anything which particularly worries the child?
- Are there situations which might upset the child?
- What does the child do when angry?
- What is the best way of comforting the child?
- Does the child have a special toy or comfort object?

## **8 Settling in**

- How does the parent feel the child will settle?
- Who will be staying with the child?
- Who will be collecting the child?
- Take the time to explain again how the settling in will work when at nursery.