



ST. NICHOLAS SCHOOL CHILD OKEFORD

A CHURCH OF ENGLAND VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

MISSION STATEMENT

Be the best you can be!

I can do all things through God who strengthens me.

Philippians 4:13

Every voice heard, every day a new chance, everyone exploring opportunities.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION POLICY

POLICY SUMMARY

This is the school's publication scheme on information available under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. One of the aims of that Act 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 this 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.

DATE ADOPTED
November 2014

REVISION NUMBER
3

LAST REVIEW
November 2018

NEXT REVIEW
November 2020

1. **School's publication scheme**
This is the school's publication scheme on information available under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Governing Body is responsible for maintenance of this scheme.
2. **Introduction: what a publication scheme is and why it has been developed**
 - (1) 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.
 - (2) To do this we must produce a publication scheme, setting out:
 - (i) the classes of information which we publish or intend to publish;
 - (ii) the manner in which the information will be published; and
 - (iii) whether the information is available free of charge or on payment.
 - (3) The scheme covers information already published and information which is to be published in the future. All information in our publication scheme is available for you on our website to download and print off.
 - (4) Some information which we hold may not be made public, for example personal information.
 - (5) This publication scheme conforms to the model scheme for schools approved by the Information Commissioner.
3. **Aims and objectives**
 - (1) The school aims to:
 - (i) enable every child to fulfil their learning potential, with education that meets the needs of each child; and
 - (ii) help every child develop the skills, knowledge and personal qualities needed for life and work.
 - (2) This publication scheme is a means of showing how we are pursuing these aims.
4. **Categories of information published**
 - (1) 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 4(2) of this scheme.
 - (2) The classes of information that we undertake to make available are organised into four broad topic areas:
 - (i) School prospectus - information published in the school prospectus;
 - (ii) Governors' documents - information published in the school profile and in other Governing Body documents;
 - (iii) Pupils & curriculum - information about policies that relate to pupils and the school curriculum; and
 - (iv) School policies and other information related to the school - information about policies that relate to the school in general.
5. **How to request information**
 - (1) If you require a paper version of any of the documents within the scheme, please contact the school by telephone, email, fax or letter. Contact details are set out below:
 - (i) 01258 860581;
 - (ii) office@childokeford.dorset.sch.uk; and
 - (iii) www.childokeford.dorset.sch.uk
 - (2) 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.

6. Paying for information

- (1) Information published on our website is free, although you may incur costs from your internet service provider. If you don't have the internet, you can access our website using a local library or an Internet café.
- (2) Single copies of information covered by this publication are provided free unless stated otherwise in section 4. 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.

7. Classes of information currently published

(1) School Prospectus:

- (i) The school prospectus is published during the school year immediately preceding the admissions school year (e.g. prospectuses published in 2005-6 will be for admissions in 2006-7). The prospectus will be published at least six weeks before the final date by which parents are asked to apply for admission or to express a preference.
- (ii) From September 2005 the obligatory content of the school prospectus is:
 - (a) arrangements for the admission of pupils with disabilities;
 - (b) details of steps to prevent disabled pupils being treated less favourably than other pupils;
 - (c) details of existing facilities to assist access to the school by pupils with disabilities;
 - (d) the accessibility plan (required under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995) covering future policies for increasing access to the school by pupils with disabilities; and
 - (e) information about the implementation of the Governing Body's policy on pupils with special educational needs and any changes to the policy during the last year.
- (iii) The school has the option to include additional information.

(2) The School Profile:

- (i) The school profile is comprised of 'narrative' sections which the school will complete, and 'pre-populated' sections of statistical information inserted into the document by the DfES.
- (ii) The subject headings for the narrative sections, which the school completes, are:
 - (a) What have been our successes this year?
 - (b) What are we trying to improve?
 - (c) How have our results changed over time?
 - (d) How are we making sure that every child gets teaching to meet their individual needs?
 - (e) How do we make sure our pupils are healthy, safe and well-supported?
 - (f) What have we done in response to Ofsted?
 - (g) How are we working with parents and the community?
- (iii) The Governing Body:
 - (a) Instrument of Government and the date the Instrument takes effect.
 - (b) The manner in which the Governing Body is constituted.
 - (c) The term of office of each category of governor if less than 4 years.
 - (d) The name of anybody entitled to appoint any category of governor.
 - (e) Details of any trust.

- (f) Agreed minutes of meetings of the Governing Body and its committees (current and last full academic school year).
 - (g) Minutes of meeting of the Governing Body and its committees.
- (3) Pupils and curriculum policies. This section gives access to information about policies that relate to pupils and the school curriculum.
- (i) 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.
 - (ii) 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.
 - (iii) Sex Education Policy: statement of policy with regard to sex and relationship education.
 - (iv) Special Education Needs Policy: information about the school's policy on providing for pupils with special educational needs.
 - (v) 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.
 - (vi) Race Equality Policy: statement of policy for promoting race equality.
 - (vii) Collective Worship: statement of arrangements for the required daily act of collective worship.
 - (viii) Careers Education Policy: statement of the programmes of careers education provided for Key 4.
 - (ix) Child Protection Policy: statement of policy for safeguarding and promoting welfare of pupils at the school.
 - (x) Pupil Discipline: statement of general principles on behaviour and discipline and of measures taken by the Headteacher to prevent bullying.
- (4) School policies and other information related to the school. This section gives access to information about policies that relate to the school in general.
- (i) 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.
 - (ii) 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.
 - (iii) 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.
 - (iv) School session times and term dates: details of school session and dates of school terms and holidays.
 - (v) 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.
 - (vi) Complaints procedure: statement of procedures for dealing with complaints.
 - (vii) 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 Headteacher on the effectiveness of appraisal procedures.

- (viii) 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.
- (ix) 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.

8. **Feedback and complaints**

- (1) We welcome any comments or suggestions you may have about the scheme. If you want to make any comments or if you require further assistance or wish to make a complaint then initially this should be addressed to the Headteacher at Child Okeford School (office@childokeford.dorset.sch.).
- (2) 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. (Please see external link for contact details).