

West Earlham Infant and Nursery School

Home Visits Policy

1. At West Earlham Infant and Nursery School we recognise the importance home visits have in developing healthy professional relationships between staff and families, for the benefit of the child. We understand that some families can have worries about their child starting a new setting and a home visit can enable staff, family and child to plan and prepare for this important transition.
2. Home Visits may also provide an opportunity for the Family Support Worker to offer support and advice families with issues or concerns a family raises.
3. **Aims**
 - a. To forge a strong link between home and setting thus making the transition positive.
 - b. To form a more holistic view of the child through an understanding of his/her life, background and culture.
 - c. To enable families to talk about their child's needs address any concerns
 - d. To initiate a lasting partnership between family and school.
 - e. To be aware and respect differing cultures, religious beliefs and values.

4. When we will make home visits

Ideally before the child starts the setting including.

- a. On entry to Nursery
 - b. On entry to Reception or Key Stage 1 if the child has not previously attended the setting.
 - c. On transfer into Early Years Foundation Stage or Key Stage1 if a child is new to our school and it would be deemed advantageous for the new teacher to meet the child and family in more familiar surroundings.
 - d. If we feel families would benefit from practical and emotional help, advice and support.
 - e. If we are concerned about a child or family's welfare.
5. We will follow lone working guidance and school procedures and will not make home visits alone unless this has been agreed in advance. Home visits are arranged at a mutually convenient time for both families and staff, unless we are concerned for the welfare of the child. During home visits if we see or hear anything that makes us concerned that a child or adult is at risk of significant harm then we have a duty to report this to the most appropriate agency.

Approval

This policy has been reviewed in line with the 2010 Equality Act and Public Sector Equality Act. Due regard has been given to Equality.

This policy will be adopted in **November 2018** The date of the next formal review will be **November 2021** and every three years thereafter, unless statutory legislation changes.

Policy approved by the Head Teacher of West Earlham Infant and Nursery School.