



MICKLEOVER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Name of Policy: Freedom of Information

Date of Policy: May 2021

Member of Staff responsible: L Gerver

Review date: May 2023

Signature: _____

Chair of Governors

Date Approved: _____

At Mickleover Primary School

We are:

Motivated to learn

Proud of our achievements

Successful and skilled for life



Freedom of Information Policy

This is Mickleover Primary School's Publication Scheme on information available under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

The governing body is responsible for maintenance of this scheme.

1. Introduction: what a publication scheme is and why it has been developed

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.

To do this we must produce a 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.

The scheme covers information already published and information which is to be published in the future. All information in our publication scheme is available in paper form.

Some information which we hold may not be made public, for example personal information.

This publication scheme conforms to the model scheme for schools approved by the Information Commissioner.

2. Aims and Objectives

The school aims to develop:

- Successful learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve
- Confident individuals who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives
- Responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society

and this publication scheme is a means of showing how we are pursuing these aims.

3. Categories of information published

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 6 of this scheme.

The classes of information that we undertake to make available are organised into four broad topic areas:

***School Prospectus* – information published in the school prospectus.**

***Governors' Documents* – information published in governing body documents.**



Pupils & Curriculum – information about policies that relate to pupils and the school curriculum.

School Policies and other information related to the school - information about policies that relate to the school in general.

4. How to request information

Requests under Freedom of Information should be made to the Business Manager. Requests for information that are not data protection or environmental information requests will be covered by the freedom of information Act:-

Data Protection enquiries (or subject access requests) are requests where the enquirer asks to see what personal information the school holds about the enquirer. If the enquiry is a Data Protection request, the school Data Protection Policy should be followed.

Environmental; Information Regulations enquiries are those which relate to air, water, land, natural sites, built environment, flora and fauna, and health and any decisions and activities affecting any of these. These could therefore include enquiries about recycling, phone masts, school playing fields, car parking etc. If the enquiry is about environmental information, follow the guidance on the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) website.

FOI requests will be fully complied with unless an exemption applies. Common exemptions in the Freedom of Information Act 2000 include:

Section 40 (1) – the request is for the applicants personal data. This must be dealt with under the subject access regime in the GDPR, see the Data Protection Policy and Privacy Notices;

Section 40 (2) – compliance with the request would involve releasing third party personal data, and this would be in breach of the GDPR principles as set out in Data Protection Policy

Section 41 – information that has been sent to the School (but not the School's own information) which is confidential;

Section 21 – information that is already publicly available, even if payment of a fee is required to access that information;

Section 22 – information that the School intends to publish at a future date;

Section 43 – information that would prejudice the commercial interests of the School and / or a third party;

Section 38 – information that could prejudice the physical health, mental health or safety of an individual (this may apply particularly to safeguarding information);

Section 31 – information which may prejudice the effective detection and prevention of crime – such as the location of CCTV cameras;

Section 36 – information which, in the opinion of the chair of governors of the School would prejudice the effective conduct of the School. There is a special form for this on the ICO's website to assist with the obtaining of the chair's opinion.

Information within these exemptions must be considered and weighed up about the general principle that information should be disclosed wherever applicable.



Freedom of Information requests must be made in writing, (including email) and should include the enquirers name and correspondence address (email address are allowed), and state what information they require. There must be enough information in the request to be able to identify and locate the information. If this information is covered by one of the other pieces of legislation (as referred to above), they will be dealt with under the relevant policy/procedure related to that request.

If the request is ambiguous and or the school require further information in order to deal with your request, the school will request this further information directly from the individual making the request. Please note the school do not have to deal with the request until the further information is received. Therefore, the time limit starts from the date that the school receives all information required in order to deal with the request.

Email: admin@mickleover.derby.sch.uk

Tel: **01332 514052**

Contact Address: **Vicarage Road, Mickleover, Derby, DE3 0EY**

To help us process your request quickly, please clearly mark any correspondence

"PUBLICATION SCHEME REQUEST" (in CAPITALS please)

If the information you're looking for isn't available via the scheme, you can still contact the school to ask if we have it.

Time limits for FOI requests

The school must respond as soon as possible, and in any event, within 20 working days of the date of receipt of the request. When calculating the 20 working day deadline, a "working day" is a school day (one in which pupils are in attendance), subject to an absolute maximum of 60 normal working days (not school days) to respond.

5. Paying for information

Schedule of charges under Freedom of Information Publication Scheme

Type of Charge	Description	Basis of charge
Disbursement cost	Photocopying/Printing @ 10p per sheet	Actual cost 10p
	Photocopying/Printing @ 50p per sheet	Actual cost 50p
	Postage	Actual cost of Royal Mail standard 2 nd class

Where the cost of postage, printing or photocopying is below £10.00, we will not make a charge.



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Where it is over £10.00, the first £10.00 will be free of charge, after that we will charge the full estimated cost of postage and copying.

Before we produce the information, we shall inform you of the total cost. You may wish to refine the request in order to reduce the cost and we would be happy to discuss this with you.

6. Classes of Information Currently Published

School Prospectus – this section sets out information published in the school prospectus.

Class	Description
School Prospectus	<p>The statutory contents of the school prospectus are as follows, (other items may be included in the prospectus at the school's discretion):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• information about the implementation of the governing body's policy on pupils with special educational needs (SEN) and any changes to the policy during the last year• a description of the arrangements for the admission of pupils with disabilities; details of steps to prevent disabled pupils being treated less favourably than other pupils; details of existing facilities to assist access to the school by pupils with disabilities; the accessibility plan covering future policies for increasing access by those with disabilities to the school

Other information relating to the governing body – this section sets out information published in governing body documents.

Class	Description
Instrument of Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The name of the school• The category of the school• The name of the governing body• The manner in which the governing body is constituted• The term of office of each category of governor if less than 4 years• The name of any body entitled to appoint any category of governor• Details of any trust• If the school has a religious character, a description of the ethos• The date the instrument takes effect
Minutes ¹ of meeting of the governing body and its committees	Agreed minutes of meetings of the governing body and its committees [current and last full academic school year]

¹ Some information might be confidential or otherwise exempt from the publication by law – we cannot therefore publish this



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Pupils & Curriculum Policies - This section gives access to information about policies that relate to pupils and the school curriculum.

Class	Description
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
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
Sex & Relationships Education Policy	Statement of policy with regard to sex and relationship education
Special Education Needs Policy	Information about the school's policy on providing for pupils with special educational needs
Accessibility Plan and policy	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.
Race Equality Policy	Statement of policy for promoting race equality
Collective Worship	Statement of arrangements for the required daily act of collective worship
Child Protection Policy	Statement of policy for safeguarding and promoting welfare of pupils at the school.
Behaviour Policy	Statement of general principles on behaviour and discipline and of measures taken by the head teacher to prevent bullying.

School Policies and other information related to the school - This section gives access to information about policies that relate to the school in general.

Class	Description
Published reports of Ofsted referring expressly to the school	Published report of the last inspection of the school and the summary of the report
Published reports regarding Government funded initiatives	A report detailing how the money has been spent.
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



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School session times and term dates	Details of school session and dates of school terms and holidays
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
Complaints procedure	Statement of procedures for dealing with complaints
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 head teacher on the effectiveness of appraisal procedures
Pay Policy	Statement of the school's policy regarding teachers' pay including procedures for determining teachers' grievances in relation to their pay.
Staffing Structure Implementation Plan	The school's plan for the implementation of any changes to its staffing structure following statutory review.
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
Curriculum circulars and statutory instruments	Any statutory instruments, departmental circulars and administrative memoranda sent by the Department for Children, Schools and Families to the head teacher or governing body relating to the curriculum
Admissions Policy	Statement of the school's policy on admissions
Annex A - Other documents	Annex A provides a list of other documents that are held by the school and are available on request

7. Vexatious Requests

There is no obligation on the School to comply with vexatious requests. A vexatious request is one which is designed to cause inconvenience, harassment or expense rather than to obtain information, and would require a substantial diversion of resources or would otherwise undermine the work of the school. This however does not provide an excuse for bad records management. In addition, the School do not have to comply with repeated identical or substantially similar requests from the same applicant unless a "reasonable" interval has elapsed between requests.



8. Feedback and Complaints

We welcome any comments or suggestions you may have about the scheme. If you want to make any comments about this publication scheme or if you require further assistance or wish to make a complaint then initially this should be addressed to Mrs L Gerver, Headteacher

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. They can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Or

Enquiry/Information Line: 01625 545 700

E Mail: publications@ic-foi.demon.co.uk.

Website : www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk