



St Francis Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

School Trips and Residential Visits Policy

Policy ratified by Governors

Date July 19 2016

Version No	Date	Change/Review
V1.0	2016	Policy Adopted
V1.1	July 2017	Review due
V1.2		
V1.3		

This policy is supplemental to St Francis School Health and Safety Policy.

1. STATEMENT

The school regards day trips and residential visits as a valuable part of a pupil's education and acknowledges the voluntary contribution that teachers and other adults make in enabling pupils to experience a rich variety of visits off the school site.

Such trips do, however, often involve a degree of risk, which is inherent when pupils are placed in unfamiliar places or are undertaking new activities. Some risk is accepted, but by following the procedures included within this policy, the degree of risk will be reduced to an acceptable level.

This policy is of direct interest to any and all staff/volunteers who may propose or participate in a school trip.

2. DEFINITIONS

School Trip This is an activity which involves pupils leaving the school site.

Residential Visit this is a trip whereby pupils will be away from their homes for at least one night. This will include any stay in a hostel or similar and also includes camping.

3. TYPE OF SCHOOL TRIPS TO BE UNDERTAKEN AND CHARGING POLICY

The school will undertake a range of school trips relating to the curriculum. These will be principally funded from the school budget, but parents will be asked for voluntary contributions in order to enable a full programme of trips to be offered.

4. RISK ASSESSMENT PROCESS

For any proposed school trip a risk assessment will be completed. This will involve the following steps.

Step 1

INITIAL PROPOSAL

The person proposing a trip or, in the case of inter-school activities and regular school trips e.g. swimming, the person appointed by senior management (the proposer) will complete the Initial School Trip Proposal Form (see Appendix 1)

This form is designed to provide sufficient information to enable The Senior Management Team to decide whether it should proceed to the formal planning stage.

Step 2 INITIAL APPROVAL

The Senior Management Team will assess the information and decide whether or not the trip conforms to the type of school trip the school undertakes, and is able to be organised effectively in order to minimise/control the risks associated with it.

If the assessment indicates that the requirements have not been met, or there is insufficient information on which to make a decision additional information will be requested or the suggested trip will be disapproved.

If the trip is authorised an individual is appointed as the Organiser for that trip and a risk assessment classification given based on the following:

High risk	trips abroad and/or involving adventurous activities
Medium risk	other residential trips
Low risk	short duration trips or local outings

This is not an absolute indicator of the risks involved in a trip, but is used to identify the likely timescales required in order to make adequate arrangements for the safe management of the trip.

Step 3 SPECIFIC RISK ASSESSMENT

The Organiser completes a School Trip Risk Assessment Checklist (Appendix 2).

This will include, or have attached, all relevant information about the trip and may involve the Organiser in a preliminary visit to the venue.

This is a key element to the process and it is important that all relevant aspects are considered depending on the trip. The higher the risk rating the more complex the arrangements are likely to be.

Before any bookings can be confirmed eg. with venues, the Risk Assessment Checklist must be approved.

Step 4 FORMAL APPROVAL

Once the Risk Assessment Checklist has been completed the Senior Management Team will consider the full implications of taking pupils on the trip and decide if it should proceed or be cancelled/postponed.

At this stage, a communication is sent to parents/carers explaining the aim of the trip and asking for permission for the child to attend. This 'permission' must also indicate whether or not the parent/carer will need to contribute to the funding of the trip and the likely cost.

If the trip receives sufficient interest to be financially viable, it will proceed.

Step 5

CONFIRMATION OF TRIP ARRANGEMENTS

At this stage, relevant provisions will be finalised, including the venue and transport and both numbers of pupils to attend and adult supervisors confirmed.

Minimum suggested ratios of staff to pupils are (given that there are no specific needs in the group which require closer supervision nor any additional requirement due to the nature of the trip, such as it being a residential):

Years 1-3 1:6
Years 4-6 1:10

A framework for assessing ratios is SAGED:

- Staffing requirements (experience/training)
- Activity characteristics (specialist?)
- Group characteristics (behaviour/SEN/medical needs)
- Environmental characteristics (weather/terrain)
- Distance from support (eg a residential)

Step 6

FINAL LETTER TO PARENTS

Parents will be notified what they will need to provide, e.g. pocket money, packed lunch etc. Parents will also be asked to notify the school of any particular needs of pupils such as:

- Dietary requirements
- Medical/medication requirements

Parental consent is required for every pupil attending a school trip.

Step 7

BRIEFING PUPILS

This is essential so that pupils know what to expect and what is expected of them. In particular they will need to be advised as what is to happen each day such as

- where they are to meet
- what clothing will be appropriate
- what equipment they need to bring with them (notebooks, pencils, rucksack, lunch, drinks etc)

Step 8

EMERGENCY PROVISION

Staff will finalise what emergency provision will be in place during the trip

This can include medical support, breakdown cover, or cover for staff in the events of illness or accident, for example.

(see Appendix 3: School Trip Organiser's Emergency Action Procedure)

Step 9**THE TRIP**

The trip takes place

Step 10**DEBRIEF AND EVALUATION**

Staff and pupils involved will be asked to comment after the trip and identify any concerns and also highlight where things worked out positively.

The Organiser will collect comments, written and verbal, and complete the Evaluation Form.

(See School Trip Evaluation Form in Appendix 4).

APPENDICES

I Initial School Trip Proposal Form

II School Trip Risk Assessment Form

III School Trip Organiser's Emergency Action Procedure

IV School Trip Evaluation Form

ST FRANCIS SCHOOL: Initial School Trip Proposal Form

Completed by

Date

Location of proposed trip					
Date					
Staff member organising trip					
Which Year Group/s					
Number of children					
Estimated cost per child					
Brief detail of planned activities and educational aim of visit					
Estimated Trip Risk Rating (please circle)	Low Medium High				
Any other information					
PROCEED?	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">YES</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Signed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NO</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Reason</td> </tr> </table>	YES	Signed	NO	Reason
YES	Signed				
NO	Reason				

ST FRANCIS PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Trip Risk Assessment Form

(3 pages)

This form must be submitted to the Head Teacher for approval.

Location of trip/activity Address Postcode Tel No	
Proposed date/s	
Name of trip Organiser Contact telephone number whilst on trip	
Number of children estimated to be going and year groups	
Estimated cost per child	
Number of adults required	
Ratio of adults to children	
Coach required?	
Has a site visit been completed? Note any comments	
Is suitable insurance in place for the visit?	YES NO (Please circle)
Disabled access at venue or special provisions eg. food/hearing loops	
Is the trip residential? Details of overnight accommodation Address Postcode Tel No Split of male/female Specific instructions from venue	

<p>Brief outline of trip schedule (attach itinerary)</p> <p>Detail of any hazards (travel/location/activities/weather/terrain)</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>4</p> <p>5</p>	
<p>Control measures (to minimise hazards)</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>4</p> <p>5</p>	
<p>Persons deemed to be at risk Eg. public/pupils with SEN/behavioural issues/medical needs</p> <p>And how they will be managed on the trip</p>	
<p>Staff/helpers attending the trip Name/role during trip</p> <p>Ensure all staff have the trip Organiser's mobile 'phone number.</p>	

Details of emergency plan	
First aiders (name/mobile 'phone number)	
Arrangements for sending a child home	
Details of medical needs Child Condition Care Plan Medicine required Staff member responsible	Please attach
Is the risk assessment acceptable?	YES NO (Please circle)
Have all relevant staff been informed of the potential risks of the trip?	YES NO (Please circle)
SIGNED	
Trip Organiser	Date
AGREED and SIGNED	
Head Teacher	Date

ST FRANCIS PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Trip Organiser's Emergency Action Procedure

This procedure must be imparted to all staff attending the school trip.

In the event of an incident:

- remain calm and assess the situation
- safeguard yourself and any other uninjured members of the group
- make sure all other members of the group are:
 - accounted for
 - safe
 - adequately supervised
 - brief to ensure they understand what to do to remain safe
- delegate to 'assistants' so you can keep an overview of the situation
- call emergency services if appropriate
- carry out first aid where necessary: preserve life, prevent a condition from worsening and promote recovery.

Emergency First Aid Reminders

- casualties need to be able to breathe – use the safe airway position where necessary
- try to locate and stop external bleeding
- protect the casualty from the environment
- monitor the condition, talk to the casualty and provide emotional support

Once the immediate situation is contained:

- inform school:
 - what is the nature of the emergency?
 - How many casualties are there and their status?
 - Current location
 - Whether or not the group is moving position
 - What time the incident happened
- Liaise with emergency services if they are at the scene
- Consider the physical needs of the group: shelter/refreshments/transport
- Consider the emotional needs of the group: do they need to remain at the scene? Is there anything useful they can help with?
- Control communications eg from mobile 'phones, until approval is given
- Keep a written log of all actions taken, conversations held and timings
- Refer all media, parental enquiries to school

ST FRANCIS PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Trip Evaluation Form

Name of trip	
Location	
Date of trip	
Trip Organiser	
Total pupils who attended out of total booked in out of
Total expenditure on trip	£
Total surplus amount from trip	£
DEBRIEF Please comment on the following using information obtained from colleagues, pupils, parent helpers who attended the trip.	
The planning phase	
Liaison with the venue and/or travel companies	
Venue facilities	
Educational content of the trip/activities	
Catering	

Cost	
Staffing	
Any comments from external contacts concerning St Francis pupils or staff?	
Any other comments?	

SIGNED
(Trip Organiser)

Date