



## St Martin's C of E Primary and Nursery School

### GOVERNORS VISITING THE SCHOOL POLICY

#### Introduction

Governor Visits made to St. Martin's CE Primary & Nursery School are encouraged as frequently as possible. These visits are arranged directly between the Governor and the relevant member of staff. Visits are linked to Lead Governor, School Improvement Plan (SIP) and any other designated responsibilities. Other visits are made to attend functions/special occasions etc. The Headteacher encourages informal visits from Governors to meet with the staff.

#### Rationale

Governor observations made on school visits are a valuable source of information. The experience involves teamwork, directed towards a common goal, founded upon good relationships with the professionals. There must be trust. Visiting assists and facilitates informed judgement and enables a more detailed understanding of life at the school.

#### Purpose

All visits need a clear purpose:

- to know more about the work and organisation of the school
- to keep up to date with developments
- to offer visible support
- to liaise with members of staff regarding lead governor responsibilities
- to monitor or review the implementation of the school improvement plan

For example: visits are made to attend assemblies, staff meetings, for Christmas lunch, for SIP monitoring purposes.

It is crucially important to make clear in advance the status of a visit to school when undertaken on behalf of the Governing Board.

**Governors are not inspectors, advisers or judges. It is not their job to assess the professional competence of individual teachers especially when participating in lesson observations.**

## **Guidelines**

Good visiting practice will:

- include clear objectives and intentions shared and agreed beforehand with the head teacher/member of staff
- take account that a visitor's presence may affect proceedings
- give governors a chance to get a feel for the school
- provide governors with the opportunity to enrich their understanding of the outcomes being achieved for our children
- demonstrate the commitment and interest of the governors
- allow governors and staff to develop effective working relationships
- include recording the visit as appropriate

## **POLICY REVIEW**

<b>Policy Review Term:</b>	Three years
<b>Lead member of staff responsible for review:</b>	Headteacher
<b>Lead Governor responsible for review:</b>	Lead for Health & Safety and Premises
<b>Date policy adopted:</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> March 2012
<b>Dates policy reviewed:</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> February 2015, 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2018, 21 July 2021
<b>Dates policy amended between reviews:</b>	