

Educational Visits Policy

Authorised by:	The Board of Governors of CFBL
Date:	WR 12.10.2021
Review Date:	A least <u>annually</u> June 2022 and/or following any updates to national and local guidance and procedures
Circulation:	Governors/all staff/volunteers, automatically Staff: on Staff shared drive > Policies Parents: on request School Website

This policy belongs to a portfolio of safeguarding policies, as described in our Child Protection Policy.

Aims and Purposes

CFBL recognises the value added to the learning outside the statutory school day and beyond the premises.

Each year, the School will arrange a number of activities that take place off the School site and/or out of school hours. These activities support the broad aims of the School to develop well-rounded pupils with a range of diverse learning experiences. The Head Teacher has given approval to the following types of activities being arranged, in support of the educational aims of the School:

Maternelles	Primaire	Collège
<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Residential visits.– Adventure activities.– Day visits for particular year groups.– Out of hours clubs and teams.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Residential visits.– Overseas visits.– Adventure activities.– Day visits for particular year groups.– Out of hours clubs and teams.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Residential visits.– Overseas visits.– Adventure activities.– Day visits for particular year groups.– Out of hours clubs and teams.

Approval Procedure

The Head Teacher is the Educational Visits Co-ordinator (EVC) for the School and may delegate this responsibility to his Deputies.

Every planned trip or visit will have a nominated Group Leader ("GL") who is responsible for organising and running it. Before parents are informed of a proposed visit, the Head Teacher, relevant Deputy to the Head must approve the initial plan. They will also approve the completed plan and risk assessments for the visit at a later date.

When the School uses an outside organisation to provide an activity, it will always check that they have appropriate safety standards and liability insurance.

Educational trips and activities are risk assessed, taking into account the age and abilities of the children and the nature of the activities.

Consent

For all trips other than those overnight, parents will be asked to sign a general letter of consent for participation in these activities at the start of the school year. They will be fully informed closer to the date of the activities and arrangements for the visit, including any decision to cancel, and given the opportunity to withdraw their child (but in this case the School will charge them for any expenses it has already incurred).

Staffing

The School recognises the important role of accompanying staff in ensuring the highest standard of learning, challenge and safety on school trips. The selection of staff will be a key priority in the initial approval of the proposed visit.

The School does not support additional people accompanying educational visits who are not pupils at the School or part of the agreed staff complement.

The appointed GL will be fully supported in the tasks required to arrange the visit. This will include making time or finances available to conduct an exploratory visit, briefing teachers and other staff, accessing training courses, reviewing and evaluating the visit or identifying time when the GL and EVC might work in partnership to undertake planning and risk assessments. The staff to child ratio for the trip is subject to approval by the Head.

Ratio for school outings

All visits must have a named Group Leader who will have specific responsibilities on this visit. This role cannot be a shared task.

The following staff/student ratios are recommended. They should, however, be considered carefully in the light of the activity which is taking place. Risk assessments should take into account whether the class will be together at all times and the level of risk in the activity being undertaken. Where groups separate within a location, these ratios should be strictly followed:

- Early Years Foundation Stage - 1:6
- Primary - 1:10 for visits
- Secondary – 1:15 (Increasing to 1:10 ratio on a residential visit)

In almost all circumstances, there should be (i) at least one qualified teacher per class and (ii) one other adult present. All off-site visits must have the appropriate staffing to be able to deal with an emergency situation.

This will be reflected in both the number of accompanying staff as well as their competences and experience in dealing with off-site visits. These situations should be highlighted in Risk Assessments.

Insurance

The School has Employers Liability Insurance of £10m and Public Liability Insurance of £20m.

It also has a group travel policy that covers most visits in the UK and overseas, but does not cover adventurous / hazardous activities such as climbing or scuba diving.

The EVC should check with the Head of Finance and Administration when planning trips relating to hazardous / adventurous activities for the applicability of insurance and arrange for an extension where required.

The EVC should ensure that the GL has a copy of the school travel insurance with them on the trip.

Illness or minor accidents

If a pupil has a minor accident or becomes ill during the visit, the GL, or another member of staff, will take them to the local hospital or clinic. If the trip is outside the UK, they will notify the insurers on their helpline to arrange (where possible) for the medical bill to be sent directly to the insurance company for settlement. If the accident is more serious (such as a broken leg when skiing), the school's travel insurers may arrange for the pupil, accompanied by a member of staff, to be repatriated to the UK. The GL will phone the pupil's parents if their child has suffered an accident or injury that is serious enough to require medical treatment - as opposed to minor cuts and bruises.

Expectations of pupils and Parents

The School has a clear code of conduct for School visits, based on its Behaviour and Discipline Policy and the School Rules (*règlement intérieur*). This code of conduct will be part of the conditions of booking by the parents, and include

the potential of withdrawal of a pupil prior to and during the visit. In such cases, the School will not refund costs to parents. Pupils who have an ongoing record of bad behaviour may be barred from trips organised by the School.

Emergency Procedures

The School has appointed the Deputy Head for Secondary as the emergency contact for School visits. All incidents should be immediately relayed to this person, especially those involving injury or that might attract media attention. All incidents and accidents occurring on the visit will be reported back through the School systems. The School will make funding available to assist the GL during an emergency.

The GL is familiar with the School's communication plans if there is an incident away from School.

Transport

An effort will be made to use sustainable methods of travel during all trips and educational visits. Preference will be given to public transport and walking.

Report to Governors

The Headteacher's report to the Governors will contain a synopsis of all the school trips and visits that have taken place since the last meeting of Governors.

Evaluation

All trips will be evaluated by the Group Leader. A short evaluation report will be made to the relevant Deputy to the Head. The EVC will ensure that any risk assessments on the trip are dated as having been evaluated and/or modified as a result.

The relevant Deputy to the Head keeps a record of any incidents, accidents and near misses.

This document has been drawn up in accordance with the DfE guidance (26 November 2018):

Health and safety on educational visits: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-and-safety-on-educational-visits/health-and-safety-on-educational-visits#adventure-activities-caving-climbing-trekking-and-watersports>

Health and safety: responsibilities and duties for School: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-and-safety-advice-for-schools/responsibilities-and-duties-for-schools>

Last review by management: October 2021