



Thornford (VA) CE Primary School

Freedom of Information policy

This is the School Publication Scheme on information available under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The governing body is responsible for maintenance of this scheme.

Introduction:

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

Whether the information is available free of charge or on payment.

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

Aims and objectives

The school aims to

Enable every child to fulfil their learning potential, with education that meets the needs of each child

Help every child develop the skills, knowledge and personal qualities needed for life and work

This publication scheme is a means of showing how we are pursuing these aims

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 the School Profile and in other 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.

How to request information

If you require a paper version of any of the documents within the scheme, please contact the school by telephone, email, fax or letter. Contact details are set out below

School telephone – 01935 872706

Email – office@thornford.dorset.sch.uk

Website – www.thornford.dorset.sch.uk

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

Paying for information

Information published on our website is free, although you may incur costs from your internet service provider. If you don't have the internet, you can access our website using a local library or an Internet café.

Single copies of information covered by this publication are provided free unless stated otherwise in section 6. If your request means that we have to do a lot of photocopying or printing, or pay a large postage charge, or is for a priced item such as some printed publications or videos, we will let you know the cost before fulfilling your request.

Classes of information currently published

School Prospectus

The prospectus is published during the school year immediately preceding the admissions school year (eg, prospectuses published in 2010-11 will be for admissions in 2011-12). The prospectus will be published at least three weeks before the final date by which parents are asked to apply for admission or to express a preference.

From September 2005 the obligatory content of the school prospectus is:

- 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 (required under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995) covering future policies for increasing access to the school by pupils with disabilities
- information about the implementation of the governing body's policy on pupils with special educational needs and any changes to the policy during the last year

The school has the option to include additional information.

The School Profile

The profile is comprised of 'narrative' sections which the school will complete, and 'pre-populated' sections of statistical information inserted into the document by the DfES.

The subject headings for the narrative sections, which the school completes, are:

- What have been our successes this year?
- What are we trying to improve?
- How have our results changed over time?

How are we making sure that every child gets teaching to meet their individual needs?

How do we make sure our pupils are healthy, safe and well-supported?

What have we done in response to Ofsted?

How are we working with parents and the community?

The Governing Body

Instrument of Government and the date the Instrument takes effect

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 anybody entitled to appoint any category of governor

Details of any trust

Agreed minutes of meetings of the governing body and its committees [current and last full academic school year]

Minutes of meeting of the governing body and its committees

Pupils and curriculum policies

This section gives access to information about policies that relate to pupils and the school curriculum.

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 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 Plans. 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

Pupil Discipline. Statement of general principles on behaviour and discipline and of measures taken by the headteacher 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.

Published reports of Ofsted referring expressly to the school. Published report of the last inspection of the school and the summary of the report and where appropriate inspection reports of religious education in those schools designated as having a religious character

Post-Ofsted inspection action plan. A plan setting out the actions required following the last Ofsted inspection and where appropriate an action plan following inspection of religious education where the school is designated as having a religious character

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

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

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 of Education and Skills to the head teacher or governing body relating to the curriculum

Annex A - Other documents. Annex A provides a list of other documents that are held by the school and are available on request – these are available from the school office

Feedback and complaints

We welcome any comments or suggestions you may have about the scheme. If you want to make any comments or if you require further assistance or wish to make a complaint then initially this should be addressed to the headteacher at (name and address of your school).

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. (please see external link on the right for contact details).