

THIRD PARTY INFORMATION

The core purpose of Fairlands Primary School is '**To provide a secure, happy and stimulating environment for all, where extended learning opportunities are provided to develop emotionally, socially and intellectually.**

In order to fulfil these aims, the school sometimes distributes leaflets and flyers from third-party providers, such as businesses and community groups etc. We do this because we want parents to be informed about what activities are available in their local area, in order to enrich the lives of children at our school.

This does, however, raise issues relating to a potential perceived endorsement of the school of the content of services provided or the quality of the providers.

ISSUES RELATING TO CONTENT

As a rule, the school will only send out information advertising extended schools services aimed at primary aged children, such as clubs, after-school activities and community events, which contribute to our core vision and aims.

We will not send out marketing materials for businesses and profit-making organisations unless there is a clear benefit to the school which aligns with our vision statement. Companies often approach the school asking us to distribute advertising materials for them and it is reasonable to expect some form of reward or payment for doing this.

e.g. a local butcher's shop approaches us asking to distribute flyers to advertise their services. We consider doing this as they offer to provide food for our summer fayre.

We will not send out information that might be perceived to promote individual religious or political beliefs and organisations. The school is a community school which serves a diverse catchment and would not want to be perceived as endorsing any particular faith, belief or political system, other than generic, secular values.

e.g. an evangelical Christian organisation ask us to distribute an invitation to their weekly meetings. This information would not be distributed by the school.

However, we may decide to send out information about clubs and activities for children provided by religious organisations. These are services which directly contribute to our core vision at Fairlands. We will make it clear that the activity is being run by providers with religious affiliations that are not endorsed by the school. Parents/carers are then able to make an individual choice about whether their child should access these services.

e.g. The local mosque is running an activity club for primary aged children during half term. We would consider distributing this information but would make sure the literature made it clear the activity was provided by a faith group.

ISSUES RELATING TO QUALITY

We do make every effort to vet any information sent out for general quality and appropriateness before it is given to families.

However, we make it clear that by sending this information out, we are in no way endorsing the products or services on offer. We are also unable to guarantee that the services on offer have been subject to our own, rigorous safeguarding checks.

The headteacher will make a decision on a case by case basis whether to send out such information. It is then parents' responsibility to decide if they want their children to make use of these external products or services.

The headteacher will consider the following:

1. Relevance to School Vision

- Does the activity, service or opportunity support the emotional, social, or intellectual development of primary-aged children?
- Is the activity, service or opportunity age-appropriate for the school's pupils?
- Does it align with the school's core purpose and educational aims?

2. Type of Organisation

- Is the provider a community group, charity, or educational organisation?
- If a business, is there a clear and declared benefit to the school (e.g. sponsorship, donations)?
- Is the provider's purpose non-political and non-religious in nature?

3. Content Appropriateness

- Is the language and imagery in the material suitable for a primary school audience?
- Does the material avoid promoting specific religious or political beliefs?
- If faith-based, is the activity clearly described as such, with a disclaimer that the school does not endorse the religious content?

4. Safeguarding and Quality Assurance

- Has the provider confirmed that staff working with children have appropriate DBS checks?
- Is there evidence of safeguarding policies or procedures?
- Has the school reviewed the provider's reputation or history of working with children?
- Does the provider align with the school's Prevent duty?

5. Clarity and Transparency

- Are any promotional materials informative, and free from misinformation and disinformation?
- Is the provider's contact information and registration (if applicable) included?
- Is it clear that the school is not endorsing the service, and that parents are responsible for their own due diligence?

6. Headteacher Approval

- Has the headteacher reviewed and approved the material for distribution?
- Is the decision documented in case of future queries or complaints?

7. Communication to Parents

- Will the distribution be accompanied by a note or disclaimer in the newsletter or website?
- Is the school's third-party information policy accessible to parents?

This policy is made clear to parents through our newsletter and is published on our website.