

# **Freedom of Information Publication Scheme Policy**

#### Purpose

The purpose of this document is to set out the various categories of information that maintained school routinely publishes and makes available.

#### <u>Scope</u>

This document fulfils the requirements set out by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) with regard to the minimum content of school publication schemes.

#### 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.

Our school is a public authority for the purposes of FOIA and as such is required to adopt the model publication scheme for schools approved by the ICO.

The School is committed to ensuring that it provides access to information in accordance with its obligations under the FOIA, associated regulations and professional guidelines. The School will use all appropriate and necessary means at its disposal to comply with the legislation and associated guidance.

# What is in the Publication Scheme

The model scheme requires the School, as a public authority, to "produce and publish the method by which the specific information will be available so that it can be easily identified and accessed by members of the public".

The Publication Scheme therefore sets out:

- the classes of information which we publish or intend to publish;
- the manner in which the information will be published; and
- whether the information is available free of charge or on payment.

The ICO expects the School to make the information detailed in this document available within the Publication Scheme unless:

- We do not hold the information
- The information is exempt under one of the FOIA exemptions or Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) exceptions, or its release is prohibited under another statute.
- The information is readily and publicly available from an external website; such information may have been provided by the School or on its behalf. If that is the case we will provide a direct link to the information.
- The information is archived, out of date, or otherwise inaccessible.
- It would be impractical or resource intensive to prepare the material for routine release.

The scheme covers information already published and information that is to be published in the future. All information in our publication scheme is either available for you on our website, www.whitehall-i.walsall.sch.uk, to download and print off or available in paper form from the school on request.

Some information that 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.

We endeavour to make as much information as possible available online. The classes, below, provide links to information which is available. If any of the information is not available online, the scheme will explain how it can be accessed. We will continue to develop this scheme to increase the amount of information that can be accessed through it.

The school does not charge for information which is accessed on our website.

# How to request information

If you require a paper version of any of the documents within the scheme, please contact the school by telephone or email. Contact details are set out below **or you can visit our website at** www.whitehall-i.walsall.sch.uk

Email: postbox@whitehall-i.walsall.sch.uk

Tel: 01922 721991

To help us process your request quickly, please clearly mark any correspondence "**PUBLICATION SCHEME REQUEST**" (in CAPITALS please)

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. You can do this by making a Freedom of Information request or Subject Access Request (if you require your personal data) to the School.

# 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 Internet access, you can access our website using a local library or an Internet café. Copies of information covered by this publication are provided free

# **Classes of Information Currently Published**

Information to be published	How the information can be obtained
Class 1 – Who we are and what we do	
(Organisational information, structures, locations and contacts)(	Website
This will be current information only	
Instrument of Government	Hard copy from School.
The instrument of Government is the document which records the name and category of the school and the name and constitution of its governing body.	
School prospectus and curriculum	Website/hard copy from School
The statutory contents of the school prospectus, as follows:	
<ul> <li>Information about the implementation of the governing body's policy on pupils with special educational needs (SEN).</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>A description of the policies relating to disabled pupils, including facilities to improve access</li> <li>Once the prospectus has been published and made available to parents, access to it should be available to anyone.</li> </ul>	
Governing Body	
The names, and contact details of the governors should be available and the basis on which they have been appointed.	Website
School session times and term dates	Website
Details of school session times and dates of school terms and holidays.	
Location and contact information	Website
The address, telephone number and website for the school together with the names of key personnel.	
Class 2 – What we spend and how we spend it	
Financial information about projected and actual income and expenditure, procurement, contracts, financial audit, POE & Sport Premium funding and maintained schools must publish a strategy for the school's use of pupil premium.	Hard copy from School

Hard copy from School
Hard copy from School
Hard copy from School
Hard copy from School
Hard copy from School
Hard copy from School
Website
Website

pupil's health, safety and support; post-Ofsted action plan; and links with parents and the community	
Performance management information	Hard copy from school
Performance management policy and procedures adopted by the governing body.	
Schools future plans	Hard copy from School
Any major proposals for the future of the school involving, for example, consultation or a change in school status.	
Every Child Matters / Child Protection	Hard copy from School
The contribution of the school to the five Every Child Matters outcomes. The policies and procedures that are in place to ensure that functions are exercised with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in compliance with any guidance issued by the Secretary of State.	
Class 4 – How we make decisions	
Decision-making processes and records of decisions. Current and previous three years as a minimum.	Hard copy from school
Admissions policy/decisions	
The school's admission arrangements and procedures.	Website
Minutes of meetings of the Governing body and its sub-committees	Hard copy from
Minutes, agendas and papers considered at such meetings should be published as soon as practicable, with the exception of information that is properly considered to be private to the meeting.	School.
Class 5 – Our policies and procedures	
Current written protocols, policies and procedures for delivering our services and responsibilities. Current information only.	Website/Hard copy from school
School policies	
Pupil and Curriculum policies	Website/Hard copy
Records management and personal data policies	from School
Equality and diversity	
<ul> <li>Policies and procedures for the recruitment of staff</li> <li>Charging regimes and policies</li> </ul>	
Class 6 – Lists and registers	

Currently maintained list and registers only.	Hard copy from school
Curriculum circulars and statutory instruments	
Statutory instruments (for example Regulations), departmental circulars and administrative memoranda sent to the Head Teacher/Governing Body concerning the curriculum.	Hard copy from school
Disclosure logs	
If a school produces a disclosure log indicating the information provided in response to requests, it should be readily available. Disclosure logs are recommended as good practice.	
Asset register	
We would expect some information from capital asset registers to be available, if such registers are held.	
<ul> <li>Any information the school is currently legally required to hold in publicly available registers</li> </ul>	
The services we offer	
Information about the services the school provides including leaflets, guidance and newsletters. Current information only.	Website/ Hard copy from school
<ul> <li>Extra-curricular activities</li> <li>Out of school clubs</li> <li>Newsletters.</li> </ul>	Website/ hard copy from school

# Feedback and complaints

We welcome any comments or suggestions you may have about the scheme. If you want to make any amendments about this publication scheme or if you require further assistance or wish to make a complaint then initially this should be addressed to Mr Lee Kilkenny, Head Teacher.

If you are not satisfied with the assistance 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. They can be contacted at the following address:

Information Commissioner Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF OR Enquiry/Information Line: 01625 545 700 Email: <u>publications@ic-foi.demon.co.uk</u> Website: <u>www.ico.gov.uk</u>

# **Review and Revision**

This scheme will be reviewed as it is deemed appropriate, but no less frequently than every 2 years.

Policy written: June 2022 Review due: June 2024