



West Meadows Primary School  
West Street, Hoyland, Barnsley, S74 9ET  
Tel: 01226 749164 Fax: 01226 740115  
[www.westmeadowsprimary.org.uk](http://www.westmeadowsprimary.org.uk)



Healthy Schools



## **Home Visit Policy**

This policy has been written to promote the Welfare Requirements of the children in our care, in line with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage.

### **Rationale**

We believe that our first encounter with parents and children is crucial in helping to form a positive partnership between home and school.

Before coming to school, parents/carers are their child's first carer/teacher.

Parents/carers have valuable knowledge about their child, which will help staff to provide appropriate experiences for them at school.

Home visits provide a forum for such knowledge to be shared in an informal way.

### **Aim**

To provide an opportunity for a new child and family to meet the staff in their own home prior to the child starting in F1

### **Purpose**

- To help the child and staff get to know more about each other in the home environment where the child usually feels most relaxed.
- To gather information and knowledge about the child and their individual needs,
- To encourage parents to ask questions in an informal way.
- To begin to build relationship with child and parent/carer.

The home visit is an optional service that the setting provides, not all families wish to take up this offer, and is additional to our settling in procedure provided for all children.

### **Procedure**

- A time that is mutually convenient for both the family and the staff is arranged during normal working hours.
- A home visit will always be attended by two members of staff.
- The staff make their own way to and from the family's home.

- Staff will introduce themselves, show identification and explain the purpose of the visit.
- One member of staff uses the home visit as a means of talking to the family, gaining information about the child and answering any questions the family may have. The additional staff member will give attention to the child.
- The staff will stay together on the home visit and would not expect to be left alone with the child during the visit.
- We would not expect a home visit to last longer than 30-40 minutes maximum.
- Staff will be conscious of the fact that they are guests in the family's home and will treat all the families with a high level of respect and regard during the visit.

Produced by J Stephenson

Adopted by the Governing Body West Meadows Primary School

Date:

Reviewed: November 2013

To be reviewed November 2014