

Thornton Primary School



Work Experience and Volunteering Policy 2024-2027

This policy is reviewed every three years and was agreed by the Governing Body of Thornton Primary School in **Autumn 2024 and will be reviewed again in Autumn 2027**

Signed: _____ Chair of Governors Date: _____

Non-Statutory Policy

Thornton Primary School

Work Experience & Volunteering Policy

Aims and Vision

Thornton Primary School Vision and Aims

Vision: Achieving success by working together

School Aims

These aims were developed through consultation with staff parents, pupils and governors.

In partnership with parents we aim to help all our children to:

- Make or exceed their expected progress.
- Develop a sense of honesty and self discipline.
- Develop a positive view of themselves and others.
- Develop all of their abilities happily and in so doing, gain an understanding of themselves as learners.
- Develop an appreciation and respect for other people and cultures.
- Develop the confidence to work and think, both independently and with others.
- Develop a love of learning with a desire to become lifelong learners.

This policy sets out the school's commitment to work experience for young people and for volunteers looking to gain experience in a primary school. It is very much dependent upon consistent approaches to safer recruitment and the completion of an application form (appendix 2) and robust induction (appendix 1).

Definition

Work experience is defined by the DfE as "...a placement on an employer's premises in which a pupil carries out a particular task or duty, more or less as would an employee, but with the emphasis on the learning aspects of the experience". Quality work experience placements make an important contribution in ensuring that students receive a balanced and coherent curriculum.

For the purposes of this policy a young person/student is deemed to be any child up to and including the age of 18. For the purposes of this policy it also refers to young adults over the age of 18 who remain vulnerable e.g. young people with Special Educational Needs.

Principles

- Thornton Primary School values the role of work experience in the learning and development of young people and will do all it reasonably can to support this process.
- Thornton Primary School endorses the view of the DfE that the main purpose of work experience placements should be as a means of achieving learning outcomes for students.

- Thornton Primary School accepts its responsibility for a duty of care for young people on work experience (induction of students will follow the induction checklist – Appendix 1)
- Work experience will be made equally available to all, irrespective of academic ability, race, gender, age, disability, religion and belief, ethnicity, national origin or sexual orientation.
- Students will be given an induction on the first day (see appendix 1) which will include Health & Safety.
- Students will be supervised at all times by a competent, responsible and experienced person.
- Students will be given meaningful work suitable for their age, ability, physical limitations and maturity.
- Risk assessments will be carried out that reflect the student's lack of experience, maturity and awareness of risks associated with the task.

Code of Conduct at Thornton Primary School Specific Information for Students or Volunteers

In line with Regulation 19 of the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, the organisation has drawn up the following Young Persons Risk Assessment to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the student:

- Students/volunteers are required to sign in and out of the premises daily for fire risk purposes.
- Students/volunteers will be given an induction on their first day that will include Health and Safety.
- At no time will the student/helper be left alone on the premises
- Students/volunteers must remember they are working with children and ensure they have an understanding of the requirements of the Children Act
- Students/volunteers will work with the children only under the supervision of a member of staff
- Students/volunteers with sickness and diarrhoea or any contagious disease must not attend whilst ill and must not return to the placement until two full days after recovery
- No kitchen work will be carried out by the student or helper unless training is undertaken beforehand
- Students/volunteers may help with cookery demonstrations
- Students/volunteers will not be involved in dispensing medication or administering first aid
- Students/volunteers will not toilet or bathe children
- Students/volunteers will not enter pool areas unless fully supervised
- Students/volunteers may use equipment such as a photocopier or laminator after instruction
- Students/volunteers are reminded that they should not allow anybody onto the premises but notify a member of staff if someone wishes to enter
- Students may assist on educational trips/visits off site
- It is not permitted for students/volunteers to take photographs or images by any method on this placement without the permission of the supervisor
- Students/volunteers will not lift heavy weights but manual handling training will be provided for lighter weights if required
- Students/volunteers must be aware of potential slip and trip hazards around the workplace

- Students/volunteers are reminded that exposure to sunlight can be harmful and they should take all necessary precautions if working outdoors to wear sun block, screens and appropriate clothing
- The use of mobile phones and personal music equipment e.g. Ipads etc. are not allowed during working hours without prior approval of the supervisor
- In line with current laws, smoking is not permitted on the premises or within the grounds and employers are reminded that students under the age of 18 should not be smoking on placement.
- The number of hours worked by the student should not exceed 37 hours per week (standard 7-8 hour day)
- Students/volunteers are classed as employees for insurance purposes and will be subject to Health & Safety regulations that legally require them to take proper care of themselves and others. It is also an offence to misuse or interfere with anything provided in the interests of Health & Safety
- Students/volunteers must NOT enter areas designated as off limits or use/interfere with equipment also considered as off limits

Students/volunteers may not be supervised at lunch time and may leave the premises. Travel arrangements to and from the placement are the responsibility of the student.

Equality Statement

At Thornton Primary School, we actively seek to encourage equity and equality through our teaching. As such, we seek to advance the equality of opportunity between people who share any of the following characteristic:

- gender;
- ethnicity;
- disability;
- religion or belief;
- sexual orientation;
- gender reassignment;
- pregnancy or maternity.

The use of stereotypes under any of the above headings will always be challenged.

Inclusion

Our school is an inclusive school. We aim to make all pupils feel included in all our activities. We try to make all our teaching fully inclusive. We recognise the entitlement of all pupils to a balanced, broadly-based curriculum. We have systems in place for early identification of barriers to their learning and participation so that they can engage in school activities with all other pupils. We acknowledge the need for high expectations and suitable targets for all children.

Thornton Primary School

ITT / Work Experience Induction Checklist

Things to do before the work experience/volunteer work (where applicable)	School Response
• Is everyone aware of the student/volunteer coming?	
• Has paper planning of the placement been done? (for student placement)	
• Is adequate supervision arranged?	
• Who will be responsible in the absence of the planned supervisor? (for student placement)	
• Are all planned tasks suitable for the student?	
• Are there any health risks associated with the work?	
• Are there any special needs of the student that you need to be aware of?	
• Do you need to make arrangements, e.g. asthma or disabilities?	
• Who will meet the teacher who monitors the visit?	
• Is there an emergency / school number available?	
To be completed at the start of the work experience/volunteering	
General	
• School background and role of student	
• Induction to key staff (safety / first aid)	
• Tour of premises / fire escape	
• Start / finish / break times	
• Rest rooms / refreshment facilities	
• Notice board in staff room	
• Appropriate dress (no jeans, flat comfortable, clean, shoes, plain t-shirts or blouses etc)	
Health & Safety	
• Induction to Health & Safety Policy	
• Risk Assessments	
• Safety Literature	
• Prohibited areas	
• Safe working systems	
• House keeping / tidiness	
• Manual Handling / tidiness	
• Dangerous substances	
• Hygiene	
• Smoking	
• First Aid facilities	
• Accident procedures	
• Emergency procedures	
• Confidentiality	
• Child Protection Policy/procedures	

Signed

Headteacher _____ Student _____ Date _____

Name

Headteacher _____ Student _____

Appendix 2 - **WORK EXPERIENCE / VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FORM**

Thornton Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all employees and volunteers to share this commitment.

Applicant's Personal Details

Surname:	
First Names:	
Title:	Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / other
Maiden name or previous names:	
Address:	
Email address:	
Home phone number:	
Mobile phone number:	

Why are you applying for a placement at the school?

Please complete the relevant sections below: continue on an additional sheet if needed.

Please provide details of the placement you require:
Please provide details of any relevant courses being undertaken
Please explain what you want to achieve from your placement, including how this could benefit the children in our school

Placement Requirements

Please specify the kind of placement you require (e.g. Year Group and/or particular curriculum area)	
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Please specify the length of placement / number of hours	
Please give details of preferred dates / days/ times of placement	

Further Personal Information:

We would not normally provide placements in a class in which you have a relation. Please provide details of any relations at our school.	
Do you have any disabilities / other needs we need to take into account when you are in our school?	

Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2009

Do you have a DBS certificate?	Yes / No
Certificate No:	
Date:	Issued by:
Have you ever been the subject of any allegations in relation to the safety and welfare of children, young people and/or vulnerable adults, either substantiated or unsubstantiated?	Yes / No
If you have answered yes to the above question, you must supply details on a separate sheet of paper, place it in a sealed envelope marked confidential and attach it to your application form.	

References

Please provide two references. Please let your referees know that we may contact them

	Reference 1	Reference 2
Name		
Address		
Tel No.		
Capacity in which they know you		

Declaration

I declare that the information given on this application form is true and correct.	
Sign:	
Print Name:	
Date:	