



# Fierté Multi Academy Trust

## Adult Volunteers Policy

### 2017-2018

At the heart of our Trust are both the UNICEF Rights Respecting values and articles and Learning Behaviours. Through these, we aim to put **children's rights** at the heart of our schools. We work together to embed children's rights in our ethos and culture; to improve well-being and develop every child's talents and abilities to their full potential. We aspire to give children a sense of pride and achievement in all that they undertake.

#### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 We want our schools to be open and welcoming to all who would like to support the children in the Trust. We also want to encourage parents and other adults to help teachers in a variety of ways. However, our overriding concern is for the safety of the children in our care. This document sets out our school's policy, which is to ensure that the children benefit from as much help and support as possible, and are provided at the same time with the best possible security.

All parents/carers and volunteers will know that the school has policies in place to keep pupils safe from harm ( Including Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy ) and that the school regularly reviews its systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective. ( Keeping Children Safe in Education 2016)

- 1.2 The school has a variety of adults working on the premises at any one time. They can be categorised as follows:

- 1.2.1 Paid full- or part-time staff employed by the school:

- teachers;
- teaching assistants;
- SEN assistants;
- nursery nurse;
- caretaker;
- cleaners;
- dinner supervisors;
- school secretaries;

- 1.2.2 Adult workers employed by another organisation:

- peripatetic music teachers;
- trainee teachers;
- LA advisers and inspectors;
- health visitors;
- grounds maintenance staff;
- Contract workers (e.g. an electrician or heating engineer).
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- 1.2.3 Volunteer helpers:

- parents or other adult helpers working alongside teachers;

- Students on work experience.

This policy sets out the arrangements for volunteer helpers only.

## **2 Volunteer helpers**

2.1 Volunteer helpers support the school in a number of ways, including:

- supporting individual pupils;
- hearing pupils read;
- helping with classroom organisation;
- helping with the supervision of children on school trips;
- Helping with group work. This may include working in the farm alongside the livestock.
- Helping with art or subjects involving other practical activities.

2.2 Volunteer helpers are not allowed to do the following activities:

- take responsibility for all or some of the whole class;
- change very young children, or supervise them changing;
- supervise children engaged in PE or other specialist activities;
- Take children off the school site without a teacher in charge.

The responsibility for the health and welfare of the child remains with the class teacher at all times.

## **3 Signing in**

3.1 When helpers arrive in the school, they must sign in at the reception desk. They will be given a visitor's badge, which they should wear at all times. The signing-in sheet will give the date and time of arrival. They must also sign out, stating the time they are leaving, and return their badge before they leave.

## **4 Police checks**

- 4.1 For the children's safety, all volunteer helpers are required to have police clearance through the Criminal Records Bureau (DBS) or have applied for it, before they work in the school.
- 4.2 The headteacher has the authority not to accept the help of volunteers if he or she believes it will not be in the best interests of the children.

## **5 Deployment of classroom helpers**

5.1 It is the policy of this school that parent helpers do not support in their own child's classroom, as this can be distracting for the child, and perhaps place the class teacher in an uncomfortable situation. Helpers will be asked to support in classes in which there is the most need for individual support.

## **6 Monitoring and review**

- 6.1 The day-to-day monitoring of this policy is the responsibility of the Headteacher, who will report to the governors annually, stating the number of adult volunteer helpers in the school, and summarising their value to the children.
- 6.2 This policy will be reviewed by the Governing Body every two years, or earlier if considered necessary.

**Dyslexia:** Fierté Multi Academy Trust recognises the unique contribution of *every individual* in the school community. It is an inclusive school in which adults and pupils of all abilities and from all cultures and backgrounds are valued. Pupils' wider achievement is encouraged and celebrated and the good progress of all our pupils is of paramount importance as is the safeguarding and wellbeing of all pupils.

This policy will be reviewed: September 2017

Next review date ; September 2018