

Corinthian Primary School

Policy for Community Links

POLICY FOR COMMUNITY LINKS

At Corinthian Primary School, we value the importance of developing strong links between the school and local, regional and national communities. Within Citizenship education, we involve our pupils in the local community, so that they learn how to participate in a practical way in the life and concerns of their neighbourhood and communities. Working with parents, local residents, the business community, public services, and voluntary services teaches the children to become active citizens.

Aims

- ◆ To help children today to prepare for the future.
- ◆ For all of us to care about our school and the environment.
- ◆ For our children, our parents and our staff all to work together.
- ◆ To acknowledge that our neighbours are important to us.
- ◆ To accept that Corinthian Primary School is not a building in isolation, but is situated within the local area, which is part of the larger community of Liverpool. It is important that Corinthian, its children, staff and governors are recognised as part of the local and wider community.
- ◆ To develop links with:
 - parents
 - our neighbours
 - local Primary schools
 - Secondary schools
 - pre-school groups
 - the press
 - industry and businesses
 - other agencies
 - voluntary/charitable organisations.

Parents

The 'open door' policy at Corinthian Primary School encourages parents' interest in their child's education and in school life as an adult helper or member of the PTA. We recognise that parents are our principal contact with the local community. They communicate what is happening in our school to the wider community, as well as promoting Corinthian's reputation.

Our Neighbours

We invite our neighbours to Corinthian Primary School for a variety of functions, such as Summer Fairs, Harvest Festival, plays, etc. We always let them know what is happening at the school. The Site Supervisor liaises with them and, in turn, the neighbours monitor the security of our building.

On-street parking can cause a problem and upset some of our neighbours, especially if their access is blocked. It is a policy of Corinthian Primary School to remind parents regularly about our neighbours and the parking arrangements, in an attempt to alleviate this problem.

Local Primary Schools

It is essential to develop links with other local Primary schools. This is done through:

- ◆ sporting events
- ◆ informal contacts
- ◆ cluster INSET
- ◆ meetings

Secondary Schools

At Corinthian Primary School, we feel it is important to develop links with local Secondary schools for two reasons:

- ◆ to ease the transition from Year 6 to Year 7
- ◆ to develop subject links between co-ordinators.

The Year 6 teacher plays a major role in transition arrangements. The teacher responsible for liaison and the Year 6 teacher instigate links with several Secondary schools, covering a range of subjects and skills across the Key Stages. This is part of the partnership that Corinthian Primary School is developing with Secondary schools. We benefit from subject expertise when needed. They benefit from being involved in differentiated group activities and classroom presentation.

Corinthian Primary School is a link school with Broadgreen, which is a Technology College.

Pre-school

At Corinthian Primary School, we have an Early Years Co-ordinator who liaises with parents of pre-school children, nurseries and playgroups. This is a vital role, as it helps the school establish a good relationship with many pre-school groups. We can find out about children, who might be coming to the school and, early on, develop a good relationship with those children and their parents.

Press

Our Head Teacher is responsible for contact with the local press. This involves notifying the local paper of special events and activities taking place at Corinthian Primary School, communicating whatever information is required. This liaison celebrates our school's achievements, and establishes a good relationship with the local press.

Industry/Businesses

The teacher responsible for liaison initiates contacts with local industries and businesses. These are linked, wherever possible, to curriculum topics. Visitors from industry are invited into school, or visits arranged to local businesses.

Through the development of business links and visits, the children at Corinthian Primary School begin to understand the way the world of work functions. This understanding can be extended through role-play linked to topics at Key Stage 1, for example Healthy Snack Café, Pet Shop, Travel Agent, Recycling Centre, etc.

At Key Stage 2, the teacher responsible for PSHE and Citizenship supports events, such as an Industry Day or Mini Enterprise. These exercises give children experience of different jobs and the opportunity to talk to, and work with, adults from various industries, occupations and businesses.

Other Agencies

We feel it is crucial at Corinthian Primary School to consolidate links with other people, who support, or work in or with, the school. These include:

- ◆ School Nurse and School Doctor
- ◆ Educational Welfare Officer
- ◆ Road Safety Officer
- ◆ Police
- ◆ Educational Psychologist
- ◆ Support staff from other schools
- ◆ Support staff from the Health Service
- ◆ Local Education Offices
- ◆ Social Services.

These links vary from time to time depending upon need and circumstance.

Corinthian Primary School is a community that is part of a wider community, and the links we forge with that wider community help to strengthen and support the education we provide for all children.

Voluntary work

At Corinthian Primary School, we value the voluntary contributions the children can make. The children on the Children's Council decide which charities and voluntary organisations will be supported. Throughout the year, the children take part in sponsored and other activities to raise funds for essential items. Activities might be non-uniform days, running cake/sweet stalls, sponsored 'readathon', sponsored runs, etc. The children raise funds also for areas stricken by war, famine or natural disaster, when such a situation occurs.

Further Information

Useful Documents and Resources

DfES	The National Curriculum Handbook for Primary Teachers in England 2000
QCA	Personal, Social and Health Education and Citizenship at Key Stages 1 and 2 – Initial Guidance 2000