

# URSULA TAYLOR CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL



## School Educational Visits and Journeys

January 2026

Interim Headteacher – Ms K Hall

Interim Assistant Headteacher Mr J Matthews

Educational Visits Coordinator Miss S Wintle

### Principles

- The Headteacher/AHT must be informed and give permission for the visit to take place.
- The primary purpose of all visits and journeys must be educational and suited to the ages and abilities of the pupils taking part in them
- All visits must be adequately supervised
- Written consent must be obtained from parents prior to the visit. This is often achieved by parents ticking a confirmation/permission box on our Arbor online system. (For local visits on foot a consent letter is issued to parents' on their child's admission and at regular intervals thereafter)
- No children will be excluded from an educational visit or outing in school time because of the unwillingness or inability of those with parental responsibility to pay. Refer to the 'Pupil Premium' policy and /or Charging and Remissions Policy for more information.
- Group leaders will have a high expectation of behaviour and children will be expected to behave in line with our school behaviour policy.
- Risk assessments must always be carried out and signed by the EVC (currently Miss Wintle)/HT prior to visit. A trip cannot be undertaken without a completed, reviewed and signed risk assessment.

### Leadership

The leader must be a qualified teacher. The Headteacher must be satisfied of the suitability of the group leader and all supervisors taking part. The group leader should visit the site prior to the visit (where possible). They should ensure that:

- Participants are fully briefed and given a copy of the risk assessment.
- Parents are fully informed about the arrangements.
- Adequate information on the places to be visited is collected.
- Advice on safety procedures has been given to leaders and participants.
- The Headteacher/ AHT is fully briefed.
- All planning and administration has been completed.

- Approval has been obtained as required.
- The Office Manager and kitchen staff have been informed in sufficient time to make necessary arrangements.

## **Supervisory Ratios**

For all day visits where the element of risk is similar to that normally encountered in daily life (for example, visits to historical sites, most field work, visits to places of local interest and local walks) the minimum supervisory ratio should be as follows:

- **Reception: Usually 1:5 (Agreed by Lead Teacher and HT dependent on type of visit)**
- **Years 1 and 2: 1:6**
- **Year 3 and above a minimum of 1:10**

NB: Thorough Risk Assessment it is essential to consider the individual needs of the children. If a child requires a full time 1:1 SEND TA in school, it is likely that this will be needed on a school trip. In some cases, the risk assessment may identify that a ratio of 1:2 may be required.

Please note that these ratios are the minimum. The nature of the activity will help determine the ratio. Wherever the risk is raised (e.g. a site including bodies of water) the ratios will need to be higher. Please consult the Headteacher or the EVC if you are unsure of the necessary ratios.

Please Note: It is best practice for the Trip leader to NOT have responsibility for a group of children. This allows the Lead member of staff to liaise with the site staff, deal with concerns and oversee all aspects of the trip.

## **Welfare - First Aid**

A first aid kit must be taken on any visit or journey. The group leader must be aware of the contents and how they are used. The leader must delegate at least one qualified First Aid member of staff to be responsible for first aid and any long term medication (e.g. asthma inhalers) that the pupils may need. A 'bum bag' style First Aid kit and larger 'bag' are available in the school office.

**It is best practice and expected at UTS that at least one staff member on the trip is a qualified first aider.**

All supervisors need to be aware of who the designated first aider is. The school inhaler must be taken on trips for use in the event that a child forgets their inhaler or an inhaler malfunctions.

It is essential that the supervisors should be fully aware of any allergies / illnesses suffered by participants prior to the visit. The group leader must ensure that adults supervising groups are aware of any child that has any medical requirements.

During the summer months children should be asked to bring a hat, a cover for their arms and also sunscreen.

When travelling on coaches or in cars supervisors must ensure that every child is correctly seated with their seat belt fastened throughout the journey.

## **Insurance**

Ursula Taylor uses the 'Risk Protection Arrangement' (RPA) from the DFE as the insurance provider. The policy is extensive and covers all trips made by children, staff and parents and has a comprehensive element for public liability.

When private cars are used as part of the journey vehicles should carry no more passengers than are seat belts, which must be worn. Children who are required to use a booster seat, will need to have one for them. We have some in school but may also require the use of a seat provided by parents.

Parents carrying children in their cars must have adequate insurance and must give a signed declaration stating this. Parents must give written permission for their children to be conveyed in private cars.

At Ursula Taylor we only transport children in personal cars under exceptional circumstances. This will only happen when express permission has been sought from a parent and in cars which are fully insured, taxed and that have a full MOT.

## **Log of Visits and Journeys**

A risk assessment of each trip will be kept in a loose-leaf file in the HTs office. Risk Assessments will be completed for each trip, this will be in addition to any risk assessments provided by visit venues or experiences. All letters sent home regarding Educational Visits will be kept in the school office for reference. Miss Daley/Miss Burnage will have all information about costs and booking in a secure file in the school office.

## **Consent form**

A consent form will be used at the start of the year to give a blanket permission for children to be taken off site around the village and surrounding area.

Trips which go further afield will always involve seeking consent from parents/carers. This will be done by parents ticking the consent box on our online Arbor system or by completing a reply slip which is returned to and retained by the school office.

Reviewed January 2026

Next Review January 2028