

# **Aspirational Futures Multi Academy Trust**



## **Home Visit Policy (Parents)**

January 2026

### Document Control

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## **1. Introduction**

**ALL HOME VISITS CONDUCTED BY STAFF MUST BE AUTHORISED BY THE HEADTEACHER OR A MEMBER OF SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM AND MUST BE LOGGED WITH SCHOOL OFFICE STAFF.**

In addition, wherever possible parents/carers should be informed of the home visit prior to arrival, there will be exceptions to this for example a visit to confirm that an absent child is at home when parents/carers are not responding to telephone calls/messages or emergency safeguarding visits.

## **2. Home Visit Definition**

A home visit is a visit that requires members of staff to enter the home of a parent, carer, or guardian in the case of an emergency visit or a procedural visit.

## **3. Aims**

At Aspirational Futures Multi Academy Trust we recognise that parents/carers are children's first and most enduring educators and we value the contribution they make.

**The aim of a home visit is:**

- To establish a partnership between parents/carers and staff so that all parties share their knowledge about the child to enable the individual needs of the child to be met.
- To develop/strengthen relationships with parents/carers for the best interests of the child.

## **4. Reasons for home visits**

Home visits are important in helping the school to make contact with new or hard to reach parents/carers. They are particularly useful as they enable the parents/carers to still have contact with the school, but in their own environment. Home visits are to be used when:

- A pupil is due to start school either in Reception or as an in-year transfer
- Pupils are refusing to come into school
- When there are attendance issues/concerns
- When a child does not return to school on the first day back after every school holiday and no contact has been made from parents/carers with an explanation.
- When a child does not return to school on day 2 and 3 after school holiday with no explanation. Police welfare checks could also be requested at this time.
- When pupils are being educated at home
- When all other means of contact with a family has failed
- To meet with parents/carers to discuss an issue regarding their child where it is in the best interest of the child to have that discussion in their own home rather than at school or where it would be difficult for a parents/carers to attend school for a meeting and information needs to be shared in a face to face meeting in a timely manner.

- To try and establish that a child is safe if they are absent from school and attempts to contact parents/carers have not elicited a response and we have welfare or safeguarding concerns for the student. Police welfare checks could also be requested.
- When a student has been absent from school for three continuous days or more due to illness. There will be a visit at least once in a week, regardless of medical evidence provided.
- To work with and support parents/carers in developing strategies to help their child attend school where attendance is an issue.
- To drop off or collect work for a child when they are completing school work at home e.g. following a fixed term exclusion or medical issue.
- To visit a child who has been off school for a period of time, for example due to a medical issue, so that they do not feel isolated from school.
- To investigate situations when there are suspicions that someone may be on holiday contrary to earlier indications (for example when a child is not at school and reported as being ill during the same period for which a request for exceptional leave in term-time had been refused).

## **5. Benefits**

Home visits have many benefits. For parents, carers and children, a home visit gives the opportunity to meet a key person in a setting that they are familiar and comfortable with.

Other opportunities are to:

- Establish a positive contact with a key member of staff who is supporting the child.
- Meet family members that are important to the child.
- Talk about the child and their needs.
- Reduce barriers to attendance: To identify and help address any challenges that may be affecting attendance, including practical, emotional, or communication-related difficulties.
- Offer attendance support: to better understand the reasons for absence, such as illness or family circumstances, and to discuss how we can support a child's return to school.
- During these visits, the staff will take time to listen to parents/carers and offer appropriate support or signposting where needed.