



Achieving together in God's light

Guidance for Volunteer Walkers

This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, governors and volunteers to share this commitment.

Last reviewed: June 2018

Next review due: June 2021

Guidance for Volunteer Walkers

Thank you for helping us to walk the children to the Church/village.

Please spend a few minutes reading the guidelines below.

- Health and Safety regulations require us to have a ratio of 1 adult to 6 children for ages 5-7 and 1-2 for our 4 year olds. For this reason we need to know that we have at least a minimum number of adults for each trip. You will understand therefore that we need to know in advance if you are accompanying us, and also if, for some reason, you are suddenly unable to on the day.
- A high visibility jacket will be supplied for you to wear whilst supervising the children
- We are aware that some of you will have younger children or older ones who may be on INSET or holiday that day. As well as negating the adult/child ratio they also significantly add to the hazards for our children, so we must ask all volunteer helpers to make other arrangements for any other children. For the same reason we must ask you not to accompany the children while pushing buggies or pushchairs.
- It is school policy for children not to walk with their own parents.
- The children are taught to walk in pairs and to stay together so that the “crocodile” is as short as possible. Adults should walk beside the children on the side nearest the road. Children should walk (not run) and be sensitive to the residents of Limpsfield, e.g. talking quietly, not walking on walls. If there is a problem with the behaviour of any child please alert a teacher immediately.
- There are parts of the route where the pavement is narrow, so that the children need to walk in single file. These areas are obviously the most difficult because they slow the children down. Crossing the entrances to cul-de sacs and driveways is also where extra care is needed to watch for unexpected traffic.
- Please be vigilant at all times. You are not just looking out for the child next to you but for the group as a whole. Motorists and lorry drivers are usually courteous to us, but parked vehicles may cause an unexpected hazard which we have to negotiate without warning.
- For visits to the Church, on arrival at the lych gate, the children should be re-grouped, asked to quieten down and remove any hats in cold weather, so that a respectful atmosphere is maintained when they enter the church.
- And finally; please remember that you are taking on a very important role in safeguarding our children. Without our many volunteer walkers our visits and services would simply not be able to go ahead. So.....

Thank You!