Dr South's CE Primary School

Bletchingdon Road, Islip, Kidlington, Oxon OX5 2TQ

Nurture, Educate, Inspire

Headteachers: Mr Huw Morgan Mrs Helen Watson

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Freedom of Information Scheme Policy (statutory)

The Governors at Dr South's Primary School adopt the attached Freedom of Information Scheme Policy (based on the ODST Model Policy).

Adopted by the Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee in October 2017
Adopted with minor amendments by the Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee in December 2019
Reviewed by the Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee in January 2023

Signed …….. **Chair of Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee**

Signed …… **Headteacher**

Review date: November 2025

Review frequency: no set frequency – currently every three years

Review approval: currently delegated by the LGB to the FPP Committee

Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust
School Effectiveness Service

2	**Statutory and required – centrally provided template for adoption without amendment: these are policies which it is statutory for schools to have.**

Freedom of Information Act Scheme

Policy Reference:	ODST.018
Description:	This document provides a framework for the Academy Trust to provide information under the requirements of the FOIA.
Status:	Statutory Policy
Policy Audience:	Pupils, Parents/Carers & Community
Academy Contact:	Chief Executive, Academy Headteachers
Other related ODST policies and procedures:	Data Protection Policy, Equality Policy
Governor Committee:	Finance, Local Governing Body
Approved by the Board of Directors on:	25 October 2013
Latest Date for Next Review:	7 April 2023
Version + Schedule of Amendments:	7 April 2020
Signed:	
Date of Signature:	

In reviewing these principles the Governing Body has had regard to the Equality Act 2010 and carried out an equality impact assessment. It is satisfied that no group with a protected characteristic will be unfairly disadvantaged by this policy.

The Model Publication Scheme below comes from the Information Commissioner's Office, and has been adopted in its entirety by ODST as instructed by the guidance issued by the Information Commissioner. Where the scheme refers to "the authority" this will be taken to mean ODST or the individual academy in question. Following this document will be a series of guides to information available from each academy, where to get it, and how much it may cost. Again these guides follow the recommendations of the Information Commissioner.

Model Publication Scheme

This model publication scheme has been prepared and approved by the Information Commissioner. It may be adopted without modification by any public authority without further approval and will be valid until further notice.

This publication scheme commits an authority to make information available to the public as part of its normal business activities. The information covered is included in the classes of information mentioned below, where this information is held by the authority.

Additional assistance is provided to the definition of these classes in sector specific guidance manuals issued by the Information Commissioner.

The scheme commits an authority:

- To proactively publish or otherwise make available as a matter of routine, information, including environmental information, which is held by the authority and falls within the classifications below.
- To specify the information which is held by the authority and falls within the classifications below.
- To proactively publish or otherwise make available as a matter of routine, information in line with the statements contained within this scheme.
- To produce and publish the methods by which the specific information is made routinely available so that it can be easily identified and accessed by members of the public.
- To review and update on a regular basis the information the authority makes available under this scheme.
- To produce a schedule of any fees charged for access to information which is made proactively available.
- To make this publication scheme available to the public.

Classes of Information

Who we are and what we do.
Organisational information, locations and contacts, constitutional and legal governance.

What we spend and how we spend it.
Financial information relating to projected and actual income and expenditure, tendering, procurement and contracts.

What our priorities are and how we are doing.
Strategy and performance information, plans, assessments, inspections and reviews.

How we make decisions.
Policy proposals and decisions. Decision making processes, internal criteria and procedures, consultations.

Our policies and procedures.
Current written protocols for delivering our functions and responsibilities.

Lists and Registers.
Information held in registers required by law and other lists and registers relating to the functions of the authority.

The Services we offer.
Advice and guidance, booklets and leaflets, transactions and media releases. A description of the services offered.

The classes of information will not generally include:

- Information the disclosure of which is prevented by law, or exempt under the Freedom of Information Act, or is otherwise properly considered to be protected from disclosure.
- Information in draft form.
- Information that is no longer readily available as it is contained in files that have been placed in archive storage, or is difficult to access for similar reasons.

The method by which information published under this scheme will be made available
The authority will indicate clearly to the public what information is covered by this scheme and how it can be obtained.

Where it is within the capability of a public authority, information will be provided on a website. Where it is impracticable to make information available on a website or when an individual does not wish to access the information by the website, a public authority will indicate how information can be obtained by other means and provide it by those means.

In exceptional circumstances some information may be available only by viewing in person. Where this manner is specified, contact details will be provided. An appointment to view the information will be arranged within a reasonable timescale. Information will be provided in the language in which it is held or in such other language that is legally required. Where an authority is legally required to translate any information, it will do so.

Obligations under disability and discrimination legislation and any other legislation to provide information in other forms and formats will be adhered to when providing information in accordance with this scheme.

Charges which may be made for Information published under this scheme
The purpose of this scheme is to make the maximum amount of information readily available at minimum inconvenience and cost to the public. Charges made by the authority for routinely published material will be justified and transparent and kept to a minimum.

Material which is published and accessed on a website will be provided free of charge.
Charges may be made for information subject to a charging regime specified by Parliament.
Charges may be made for actual disbursements incurred such as:

- photocopying
- postage and packaging
- the costs directly incurred as a result of viewing information

Charges may also be made for information provided under this scheme where they are legally authorised, they are in all the circumstances, including the general principles of the right of access to information held by public authorities, justified and are in accordance with a published schedule or schedules of fees which is readily available to the public.

If a charge is to be made, confirmation of the payment due will be given before the information is provided. Payment may be requested prior to provision of the information.

Written Requests
Information held by a public authority that is not published under this scheme can be requested in writing, when its provision will be considered in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

Monitoring and evaluating the policy
This policy will be monitored by ODST and the Local Governing Body and reviewed by the staff as part of the academy's monitoring cycle.