



WHICKHAM SCHOOL

Freedom of Information Publication Scheme

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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION PUBLICATION SCHEME

The governing body is responsible for maintenance of this scheme, which was published December 2012.

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.

1. Introduction: what a publication scheme is and why it has been developed

This publication scheme commits Wickham School 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 school. Additional assistance is provided to the definition of these classes in sector specific guidance manuals issued by the Information commissioner.

The scheme commits Wickham School:

- To proactively publish or otherwise make available as a matter of routine, information including environmental information, which is held by us and falls within the classifications below.

- To specify the information which is held by us 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 we make 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.

2. Classes of information

2.1 Who we are and what we do.

Organisational information, locations and contacts, constitutional and legal governance

2.2 What we spend and how we spend it.

Financial information relating to projected and actual income and expenditure, tendering, procurement and contracts

2.3 What our priorities are and how we are doing.

Strategy and performance information, plans, assessments, inspections and reviews

2.4 How we make decisions.

Policy proposals and decisions

Decision making processes, internal criteria and procedures, consultations

2.5 Our policies and procedures.

Current written protocols for delivering our functions and responsibilities

2.6 Lists and registers.

Information held in registers required by law and other lists and registers relating to the functions of the school

2.7 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.

3. The method by which information published under this scheme will be made available

Whickham School 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 Whickham School, information will be provided on our 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, we 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.

4. 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 school 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.

5. Written requests

Information held by Whickham School that is not published under this scheme can be requested in writing, addressed to the HR & Governance Manager, when its provision will be considered in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

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

6. Contact details

If you require a paper version of any information, or want to ask whether information is available please contact the school by telephone, email, fax or letter. Contact details are set out below or visit our website www.whickhamschool.org

Email: info@whickhamschool.org

Tel: **0191 4960026**

Fax: **0191 4880968**

Contact Address: **Burnthouse Lane, Whickham, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE16 5AR**

To help us process your request quickly, please clearly mark any correspondence “**PUBLICATION SCHEME REQUEST**” (in CAPITALS please)

If the information you're looking for isn't available via the scheme **[and isn't on our website]**, you can still contact the school to ask if we have it by making a freedom of information request. This request needs to be made in writing to the school, although it can be made by sending an email or fax to the above and we will reply within 20 school days or 60 working days if shorter.

Policy Review

Last reviewed	By who	Next review
October 2021	N Sheen	October 2024
August 2022	N Sheen	August 2025