



Executive Headteachers' Bulletin

Autumn A 2024



The CARE Federation

At the end of last term, governors of Sparhawk Infant and Nursery School and The Federation of Spixworth Schools reviewed the feedback from consultation and unanimously voted to create a new federation. Our new federation will be known as The CARE Federation. CARE stands for Community, Adventure, Respect and Excellence. Our vision and values underpin everything we do:

Our **community** supports our children to accept new challenges and be resilient in the face of adversity; to have humour, a willingness to laugh and be graceful in difficult situations.

We will open doors to opportunity and eyes to possibility - unlocking curious minds with knowledge that will allow our children to achieve **excellence** and realise their ambitions.

We proudly insist upon **respect** for all as we walk with every child to seize their best **adventure**.

We do this because we CARE.

Our Governing Board



Our first governing board meeting will be held on 17th September. At this meeting the Chair and Vice Chair of Governors will be elected.

We have vacancies for a Parent Governor and Co-opted governor.

Nomination forms for the Parent Governor role will be shared as soon as possible.

If you are interested in becoming a co-opted governor, or know anyone who may be, please let us know! We would be particularly interested to hear from anyone with experience/skills in either legal matters, income generation or procurement.

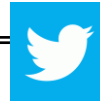
Individual Schools, Together

Each school in our federation is individual and should be respected for their own strengths. The CARE Federation will allow each school to develop their unique features, respond to their own community needs but also share best practice, learn together and grow together.

Each school will still receive their own budget. School budgets are increasingly challenging, so Governors and Leaders will look for every opportunity to gain value for each school and make the best use of the funding received. Leaders working across schools, allows costs to be shared, bringing value to each school. Buying resources in larger quantities to share or combining funds to access higher quality training are other examples of each school gaining from working together.



Communications Updates



We aim to communicate clearly with all members of our community. We will:

- Send letters via email and add these to our websites
- Use electronic forms for feedback – but have paper versions available at the office if needed
- Use text messaging as required
- Share events and updates on social media – also available from our websites
- Send a half-termly Executive Headteacher Bulletin to share federation-wide information
- Send a half-termly Head of School newsletter to share individual school information
- Send half-termly Year Group newsletters to share information about learning in each year group
- Offer meetings with teachers, workshops with subject leaders, drop-in sessions with Special Educational Needs leaders and a forum with the Executive Headteacher across the year

We are proud of our schools and know that a good reputation is hard to build yet easy to break. If you do have an issue or concern, please contact us directly either by telephone or email.

Attendance



Attendance rules are now statutory for all schools. We will continue to:

- Ask you to phone the office on the first day of any absence so we know the reason for absence and that your child is safe.
- Phone you if we don't hear from you. If we still can't make contact, we will phone the other contacts for your child and make a home visit if necessary.
- Work closely with you and seek support from other agencies if needed to help you improve your child's attendance as soon as it becomes a concern.
- Not authorise term time holidays unless there are exceptional circumstances. Children are only in school for 190 days each year. Children have a right to receive that education and parents have a legal responsibility to ensure they do. Holidays should be taken outside of this time. Referrals for fines are made for 5 days unauthorised holiday.

To read the full government guidance, please go to: [Working together to improve school attendance \(applies from 19 August 2024\) \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

Safeguarding



The Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) are:

Sparhawk	Spixworth & Woodland View
Ms Jordan and Mrs Betts	
Mrs Munday Mr Ainley Mrs Easlea	Mrs Payne, Miss Owen Mrs Jackson, Mrs Kidd

Policies



Where appropriate, our policies are for all schools. Key points from key policies:

Relationships and Behaviour policy

- Our Relationships and Behaviour policy now aligns closely with our vision and values.
- Relationships between staff and pupils are key
- We expect children to be Ready, Respectful and Safe
- We will support children with consistent routines and responses, use techniques that help them learn from their experiences and recognise the individual needs of children.
- We have clear boundaries and fair rewards and consequences.

Online Safety policies

We have clear policies on how we will use the internet safely and teach the children to stay safe online.

Some policies relate to parents/carers. Your own use of technology including social media is a model to your children. You should not publish images or video of your child at school on social media and any negative comments or abuse online could be classed as harassment.

All safeguarding policies have been updated for this year and will be available on request or via our websites following governor approval.

