

Flying High Trust Partnership



Greythorn Primary School

Ramadan and Eid Policy January 2022

Review date	By whom	Summary of changes made	Date implemented

Sarah Cox

Introduction:

Greythorn Primary School is an inclusive community of happy and responsible learners who are dreaming big to make a difference to the world. Our values of Aspiration, Confidence, Creativity, Kindness, Perseverance, Pride, Respect and Responsibility underpin everything we do. We aspire for all our pupils to flourish in a community where understanding of one another's beliefs and religious practices are positively embraced with respect and tolerance and where education is the key to appreciating the enrichment that religion brings to personal lives. We are privileged at Greythorn to be part of a diverse community with children from all of the major world religions as well as those who do not align themselves with any particular religion.

For members of the school community who are Muslims, the Holy month of Ramadan is an important part of the Islamic calendar. It occurs on the ninth month of the lunar-based Islamic calendar. The end of Ramadan is marked by Eid ul-Fitr which is a celebration day marking the end of the fast. Eid al-Adha is also celebrated by Muslims approximately two months after Eid ul-Fitr but is not preceded by fasting. According to Muslim scholars, fasting is not compulsory before the age of puberty, however we understand that some older KS2 children (Y5/6), in discussion with their families, may wish to fast in preparation for adulthood, either fully or partially.

This policy has been written by school staff and governors including those of the Muslim faith and aims to clearly explain the school's policy around Ramadan and Eid for all members of the school community.

Purpose:

This policy aims to:

- Demonstrate that Greythorn Primary School is committed to supporting and encouraging members of the school community to take part in the important observances of their religion.
- Demonstrate that Greythorn Primary School is committed to educating all members of the school community about practices and observances of different religions represented in the school population.
- Inform all members of the school community of the school procedures around fasting at Ramadan.
- Inform all members of the school community of the school procedures around celebrating Eid ul-Fitr and Eid al-Adha.
- Ensure that Greythorn Primary School demonstrates the inclusivity of the school with a fair and transparent set of procedures.
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Aims:

At Greythorn Primary School we

- will celebrate all the different faiths represented in the school population.
- acknowledge and respect the wishes of those adults and children who wish to fast in adherence with health and safety considerations
- acknowledge and respect the wishes of those adults and children who wish to take a day's leave to celebrate Eid ul-Fitr and Eid al-Adha when it falls on a school day
- will provide a safe environment for pupils who wish to fast during part or all of the month of Ramadan.
- will ensure that we maintain care for pupils who are fasting and we will inform parents if their child is unwell.

Procedures:

- All pupils will be taught about the importance of Ramadan and Eid as part of their learning about Islam in the curriculum which will be revisited at this time. Muslim pupils will be encouraged to contribute to these lessons. Children will have the opportunity to visit a mosque and meet an iman during their time at Greythorn Primary School.
- All parents must inform the school by email or letter if they wish their child in Y5 or Y6 to fast (either fully or partially)
- Greythorn Primary School does not support fasting for pupils in Y4 and below.
- Parents will then receive a form to complete which indicates the level of the fast and what food or drink the child does have in school which must be returned to school prior to commencing the fast.
- Completion of this letter by the parent is an essential part of a child being able to fast in school.
- Pupils who are fasting will still take part in PE lessons but there will be reasonable adjustments to the lesson to ensure that they can take part safely.
- In periods of extremely hot weather children will be discouraged from vigorous exercise and can exercise in the shade or the quieter areas of the field/playground.
- In the event that a child becomes unwell or distressed while fasting, the school will encourage them to break the fast by eating and/or drinking water. The parents will also be contacted. This is part of our safeguarding duty.
- If a pupil has a pre-existing medical condition which means their health could be harmed by fasting, then the pupil will not be permitted to fast at school.
- School will provide a supervised area where the pupils who are fasting can sit quietly while their class are eating and can engage in quiet activities. They are expected to behave responsibly at all times and follow the Greythorn behaviour procedures.
- According to the Government guidance a pupil can be absent 'on a school day exclusively set aside for religious observance by the religious body to which the parent belongs'. Greythorn Primary School will authorize, if desired, one day's absence for Eid ul-Fitr and one day's absence for Eid al- Adha for Muslim adults and children in our school community where these religious observances fall on a school day.
- Parents must complete an Absence from Learning form (available from the school website) **in advance** of the day of absence. If following the moon sighting method, please put both possible dates on the form then confirm with the school when known.

In summary school will:

- Provide a form for parents to complete to inform school that their child is participating in a fast (full or partial)
- Teach all pupils about the importance of Ramadan and Eid in the Muslim faith
- Teach respect and tolerance for all religious practices.
- Provide a safe, supervised, quiet space for those children who are fasting
- Grant one day's authorized absence for each Eid.

In summary parents will:

- Inform school that their child is taking part in a fast (full or partial) and complete the form from school prior to the beginning of the fast.
- Speak with their children about what they will do if they feel unwell and provide water and/or a snack for times when the pupil may need it.
- Maintain a dialogue with school if there are concerns about the health of a child who is fasting and be prepared to work with their child to adjust expectations.
- Request leave of absence from school for one day, if desired, for Eid on the 'Absence from Learning form' (on the website) **in advance**.

In summary children will:

- Discuss their arrangements for fasting with their family and understand that their parents must have completed the fasting form before they can fast at school.
- When fasting, children must go to the designated supervised space and engage in quiet activities, behaving in accordance with the behaviour policy at all times.

