



# Holy Rood Catholic Primary School, Swindon



## Visitors Policy and Visiting Speakers Agreement



## School Vision:

### Belong

At Holy Rood Catholic Primary School, we aim to provide a nurturing and inclusive environment enthused by the Spirit of Christ to enable everyone to make a positive contribution, both to the school and the wider community. We will show love, compassion and respect for others.

A sense of unity will be created by forming relationships that are based on trust, loyalty, forgiveness and acceptance; we will endeavour to act justly and be peacemakers as Christ's disciples, inspired by the Gospel values.

We will encourage a sense of responsibility and help children learn to appreciate God's world around them through reflection, mission, prayer, healing and peace.

### Learn

We resolve to develop a sense of awe and wonder at God's creation for our children - where creativity flourishes and everyone is inspired to learn, demonstrating a curiosity about the world around them.

We will strive to ensure that all of our learners are able to face new challenges with confidence, in a Christian learning environment where informed risk taking and a resilient attitude are welcomed, encouraged and achieved.

Our positive and enthusiastic approach to teaching and learning will motivate every person. Each will know that they are uniquely loved by God. We will continue to enjoy our learning and reflect on our efforts and achievements, inspiring us to always try our best.

### Achieve

The children will be determined in their daily challenges, gaining confidence in their own ability, imagining what they could achieve with continued effort and commitment and working to fulfil the exclusive plan God has for each of them.

By fully engaging in all aspects of school, children will have had the opportunity to go on to become ambitious and competent individuals, always striving to achieve their full potential and positively participating in God's world.

## Children's Mission Statement:

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 **Holy Rood Catholic Primary School**

**Mission Statement**
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We try to follow Jesus by praising and giving  
 thanks to God,

enjoying and caring for his world,  


loving and forgiving others and always trying  
 our best!  


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This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Working Together to Safeguard Children
- PREVENT Strategy HM Gov

### 1. Introduction

Visitors are welcome to Holy Rood Catholic Primary School. They make a valuable contribution to the life and work of the school in many different ways. The learning opportunities and experience they bring are encouraged and appreciated. It is however, the school's responsibility to ensure the security and welfare of the pupils is not compromised at any time. The school is equally responsible to the whole school community that visitors comply with guidelines.

It is the school's responsibility to ensure effective safeguarding policies and procedures are in place, both during school time and during extra-curricular activities arranged by the school, to ensure the safety of all of our children. The ultimate goal is to ensure the pupils of Holy Rood Catholic Primary School can learn and enjoy extra-curricular activities in an environment where they are safe from harm.

It is our objective to establish a clear protocol and procedure for the admittance of external visitors to the school which is understood by all staff, governors, visitors and parents and which conforms to child protection guidelines.

The school is deemed to have control and responsibility for its pupils anywhere on the school site, during normal school hours, after school activities and during organised off-site activities.

This policy applies to:

- All teaching and non-teaching staff employed by the school
- All external visitors entering the school site during the school day or after school activities (including volunteers, sports coaches, topic related visitors, authors, artists etc.)
- All governors of the school
- All parents/carers



- All pupils
- Education personnel (Local Authority staff, School Improvement Partner, Inspectors, supply teachers)
- Building and maintenance contractors

## **2. Visitors Invited to the School**

Where possible, permission should be granted by the Head Teacher before any visitor is invited to come into school. The Head Teacher should be given a clear explanation as to the relevance and purpose of the visit and the intended date and time of the visit.

All visitors to the school must adhere to the following steps:

- Report to reception via the main school entrance – visitors must not enter the building via any other entrance.
- At reception, all visitors must state who they have been invited by and the purpose of their visit. They should be ready to produce formal identification where appropriate.
- All visitors will be asked to read the Fire Information poster, the Safeguarding Guidelines for Visitors leaflet, the Information for Visitors leaflet and then sign in using the visitors' book. By signing in, all visitors are stating that they have read and understood these documents.
- All visitors must wear a visitor's lanyard. These will either be yellow, if the visitor has a DBS check, or red if they do not. Visitors will either be escorted to their point of contact or their point of contact will be asked to come and collect them from reception. The contact will be responsible for the visitor whilst they are on site.
- If the visitor is meeting with a member of staff, they will not be left alone with children at any point.
- In the event of a fire alarm/drill, the visitor will be escorted to the assembly point at the far end of the playground.
- Upon leaving the school site, visitors should leave via reception, sign out using the visitors' book and return their visitor's lanyard.

## Visitors whose purpose is to work with pupils:

- Visitors may work with pupils in a variety of capacities, including 1:1 or with a small group of children (e.g., intervention work, health professionals, Children's Services).
- Staff should ensure that all normal visitor policy requirements are followed.
- Any visitor who is not DBS checked must not be alone with pupils at any point. This includes whole class, small group and 1:1 work.
- Visitors who do have a DBS clearance may work with pupils unaccompanied by another member of staff. This may be whole class, small group or 1:1 work.
- Regular visitors to the school must have a DBS clearance.
- Any visitor delivering a lesson or assembly must comply with the requirements of the visiting speaker's policy.

### 3. Use of External Agencies and Speakers

At Holy Rood Catholic Primary School, we encourage the use of external agencies and speakers to enrich the experiences of our learners. However, we have a responsibility to vet these external agencies and speakers who we engage to provide such learning opportunities or experiences for our pupils.

We ensure that we use agencies and speakers that are consistent with and reinforce our school's values and ethos.

All external agencies and speakers must read the Visiting Speakers agreement (Appendix 1).

We will assess the suitability and effectiveness of input from external agencies and individuals to ensure that:

- Any messages communicated to pupils support fundamental British Values as well as our school values.
- Any messages communicated to pupils are consistent with the ethos of the school and do not marginalise any communities, groups or individuals.



- Any message communicated to pupils, do not seek to glorify criminal activity or violent extremism or seek to radicalise pupils through extreme or narrow views of faith, religion or culture.
- Activities are matched to the needs of the pupils.

We recognise that the ethos of our school is to encourage pupils to understand opposing views and ideologies appropriate to their age, understanding and abilities and to be able to actively engage with them in informed debate. We may use external agencies or speakers to facilitate and support this. Therefore, by delivering a broad and balanced curriculum, augmented by the use of external sources where appropriate, we will strive to ensure our pupils recognise risk and build resilience to manage any such risk to themselves where appropriate to their age and ability. We will also help pupils to develop the critical thinking skills needed to engage in informed debate.

#### **4. Unknown/uninvited Visitors to the School**

- Any visitor to the site who is not wearing a visitor's lanyard will be challenged politely to ascertain who they are and what their business on the school site is.
- They will then be escorted to reception to sign the visitors' book and be issued with a visitor's lanyard.
- In the event that the visitor refuses to comply, they will be asked to leave the site immediately and the Head Teacher (or Deputy Head Teacher in their absence) will be informed straight away.
- The Head Teacher will consider the situation and decide if it is necessary to inform the police.
- If an unknown/uninvited visitor becomes aggressive or abusive, they will be asked to leave the site immediately and warned that if they fail to leave the police will be called.

#### **5. Governors**

- All governors have DBS clearance.
- Governors should sign in and out using the visitor's book.



- Governors should wear their Holy Rood Governors' lanyard at all times when on the school site.
- New governors will be made aware of the policy and familiar with its procedures as part of their induction.

## **6. Staff Development**

New staff will be made aware of this policy as part of their induction. They will be asked to ensure compliance with its procedures at all times.

## **Appendix 1**

### **Holy Rood Catholic Primary School** **Visiting Speakers Agreement**

At Holy Rood Catholic Primary School, we understand the importance of visitors and external agencies to enrich the experiences of our learners.

In order to safeguard our children, we expect all visiting speakers to read and adhere to the statements below:

- Any messages communicated to pupils support fundamental British Values and our school values.
- Any messages communicated to pupils are consistent with the ethos of the school and do not marginalise any communities, groups or individuals.
- Any messages communicated to pupils do not seek to glorify criminal activity or violent extremism or seek to radicalise pupils through extreme or narrow views of faith, religion or culture.
- Activities are matched to the needs of pupils.
- Visitors will be accompanied by a member of staff at all times.