



Visiting Speakers Policy

We often invite speakers from our wider community to give talks to enrich our pupils' experience of school, providing them with information that helps them make decisions at different phases of their education, widening their understanding of world and global issues and providing motivational inspiration through the sharing of a speaker's experience. Both the School and pupils greatly appreciate the time and effort that Visiting Speakers put in to their presentations.

Our responsibility to our students is to ensure that they can critically assess the information they receive as to its value to themselves, and that the information is aligned to the Catholic ethos and values of the School and British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

The purpose of this policy is to set out the School's legal obligations when using Visiting Speakers and to set out the standards of behaviour expected from Visiting Speakers. This policy was therefore drawn up having had regard to the Government's Prevent Duty guidance and the School's wider safeguarding obligations.

The "Prevent" statutory guidance (The Prevent Duty: Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers", DfE, June 2015) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>) requires schools to have clear protocols for ensuring that any visiting speakers whether invited by staff or pupils, are suitable and appropriately supervised.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the School's Safeguarding Policy and KCSIE 2020.

The protocols are:

- All visiting speakers to have a nominated point of contact at the school (the Organiser)
- Requesting the Visiting Speaker to complete the **Visiting Speaker at St Patrick's Academy Agreement**, which asks them to outline the information they intend to communicate to ensure it is appropriate to the age and maturity of the pupils to be in attendance, does not undermine British values or the Catholic ethos and values of the School, and to agree to the Guidelines for Visiting Speakers (attached to the form).
- Conducting research on the person/organisation to establish whether they have demonstrated extreme views/actions this may be through knowledge of the speaker from the organiser.
- Refusal to allow people/organisations to use school premises if they have links to extreme groups or movements. Justification of the school's decision will be provided to the person/organisation in writing
- Maintaining a formal register of all visiting speakers.
- Visitors to provide photo ID (and DBS details in advance if required) upon arrival at School
- Ensuring visiting speakers without a DBS are accompanied at all times and are not left unsupervised with pupils at any point. In the unlikely event that the talk/presentation does not meet this requirement, Visiting Speakers will be informed that school staff have the right and responsibility to interrupt and/or stop a presentation
- No mobile phones to be used in the presence of pupils



Visiting Speakers Agreement St Patrick's Catholic Primary & Nursery Voluntary Academy



- No photographs or videos to be taken with school consent.
- School will conduct a post-event evaluation of how the visit met the needs of our students
- Please read the school policy for Visiting Speakers at St Patrick's Catholic Primary & Nursery Catholic Voluntary Academy overleaf which outlines the school's expectations of speakers in school.
- Please outline below briefly the information you intend to communicate to ensure it is appropriate to the age and maturity of the pupils to be in attendance, does not undermine British Values or the Catholic ethos and values of the School.
- Finally sign below to agree to the Guidelines for Visiting Speakers.

Brief outline of information to be communicated:

I have read, fully understand and agree to follow the school policy in outlining the expectations of my visit and information I share with the pupils.

Signed:

Date:

Thank you for giving your time to speak to our students. Your nominated point of contact at the school is: