

Policy for Visiting Speakers



Our Mission

'At SS John and Monica's we learn through the example of Jesus to love, respect, understand and value each other'

SS John and Monica Catholic Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its pupils and expects all staff, volunteers and visiting speakers to share this commitment.

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 pupils 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 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 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, see link below) 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 Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism Policy.

Note: DfE

link:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf

The protocols are:

- All visiting speakers to have a nominated point of contact at the School (the organiser)
- The organiser at school must complete the Agreement and Guidelines for Visiting Speakers Form, well in advance of the visit. This should be authorised by the Head Teacher in advance of the visit. This form requires the organiser to ascertain the information the Visiting Speaker wishes to communicate, to ensure it is appropriate to the age and maturity of the pupils to be in attendance and does not undermine British values or the ethos and values of the School
- The organiser must send a copy of the Guidelines for Visiting Speakers and the Agreement and Guidelines for Visiting Speakers Form to the speaker in advance of their visit.
- The organiser must conduct research on the person/organisation to establish whether they have demonstrated extreme views/actions and are deemed appropriate more broadly. Any evidence of this research should be submitted to the Headteacher along with the Agreement and Guidelines for Visiting Speakers Form.
- Staff must refuse 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
- The school office will seek relevant documentation required before the visit. A register is kept of visiting speakers. Any information gathered will be kept in accordance with the School's Data Protection Policy.
- Visitors to provide ID upon arrival at School, the organiser should check this and verify the speaker's identity.
- The visiting speaker must sign in at Reception where they will be issued with a visitor's badge which they must wear throughout their visit. Before leaving the site, the visiting speaker will be required to sign out at one of the school's Receptions.
- Visiting speakers are to be accompanied at all times and are not to be left unsupervised with pupils at any point.
- In the unlikely event that the talk/presentation does not meet with the requirements of the

Guidelines for Visiting Speakers, School staff have the right and responsibility to interrupt and/or stop a presentation

- The organiser will conduct a post-event evaluation of how the visit met the needs of our pupils

Policy: July 2023

Policy review: July 2025



Agreement and Guidelines for Visiting Speakers Form

SS John and Monica Catholic Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its pupils and expects all staff, volunteers and visiting speakers to share this commitment.

Name of Visiting Speaker:	
Organisation (if applicable):	
Date of proposed visit:	
Name of staff member arranging this Visiting Speaker:	
Name of staff member responsible for Speaker's supervision:	

As per the Prevent guidance, visiting speakers are required to agree to the following terms and conditions:

- The presentation must not incite hatred, violence, or call for the breaking of the law.
- The visiting speaker is not permitted to encourage, glorify or promote any acts of terrorism, including individuals, groups or organisations that support such acts.
- The visiting speaker must not spread hatred and intolerance of any minority group/s in the community.
- The visiting speaker must seek to avoid insulting other faiths or groups, within a framework of positive debate and challenge.
- Visiting speakers are not permitted to raise or gather funds for any external organisation of cause without express permission from the Headmaster.
- School staff have the right and responsibility to interrupt and/or stop the presentation for any violation of this agreement.

For Visitors: I have read these Guidelines and agree to abide by them:

	Visiting Speaker	Named Staff Contact	Approval of Head teacher
Signature:			
Date:			

In accordance with Safeguarding practice, visitors will need to bring proof of ID at arrival for checking.

