



St Mary's Catholic High School, Leyland



Lettings Policy

Autumn 2026

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

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HEADTEACHER MR P THOMPSON

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CATHOLIC
TEACHING
ALLIANCE

STATEMENT OF INTENT

St Mary's Catholic High School, Leyland recognises that its premises are valuable to the local community and as such, we are pleased to let the premises out to local organisations. However, the school reserves the right to refuse to let the premises at its sole discretion.

Though we let the premises out, the school is aware that this can pose certain concerns, such as in terms of safeguarding, so this policy is to be distributed to all organisations that wish to let the premises and the conditions outlined within it must be followed at all times.

There is also important information that this policy communicates to organisations who let the premises from the school, such as health and safety matters and insurance arrangements.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- The School Premises (England) Regulations 2012
- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- The Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations 1981
- The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR)
- Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- The UK General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Education Act 1996
- The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025
- DfE 'Advice on standards for school premises'
- DfE 'Keeping children safe in education'
- DfE 'The Prevent duty: safeguarding learners vulnerable to radicalisation'
- DfE 'After-school clubs, community activities and tuition: safeguarding guidance for providers'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- First Aid Policy
- Fire Safety Policy
- Premises Management Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Prevent Duty Policy
- Letting School Premises Risk Assessment
- Surveillance and CCTV Policy
- Manual Handling Policy
- Asbestos Management Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Allegations of Abuse Against Staff Policy

DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this policy, "**premises**" is defined as the facility/ room/ ground belonging, or otherwise under the control, of St Mary's Catholic High School that St Mary's Catholic High School agrees at its sole discretion to let, and a

“letting” is defined as any use of the premises by either a community group, e.g. a football club, or a commercial organisation.

The school will let out its premises; however, the letting arrangement will not interfere with the primary activity of the school, which is to provide a high-quality education and safe teaching environment.

Use of the premises for activities such as staff meetings, parents’ meetings, governing board meetings, out of school hours learning support activities or any other extended services which support the raising of attainment and achievement, fall within the corporate life of the school. Costs arising from these uses are, therefore, a legitimate charge against the school’s delegated budget.

When letting to commercial businesses, the school will first seek the permission of their LA. Depending on certain conditions, the LA may recommend the school inform the DfE of the letting, e.g. if the letting was during school time. The contact information for the DfE is: schoolsassests.capital@education.gov.uk.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The governing body will be responsible for:

- Reviewing the applications of a proposed letting arrangement and conducting a risk assessment to determine whether the arrangement would pose a risk to the primary activities of the school and its pupils.
- Contacting the LA and the DfE.
- Contacting a legal expert with regard to transactions, for specialised guidance.
- Ensuring any safeguarding risks associated with the letting are identified and addressed.
- Ensuring hirers have appropriate child protection and safeguarding policies and procedures in place.
- Ensuring hirers follow the DfE’s ‘After-school clubs, community activities and tuition: safeguarding guidance for providers’.
- The overall oversight of the letting, handling any queries from the hirer.
- Communicating any relevant information to the hirer, e.g. fire safety precautions.
- Agreeing fair prices for the use of the premises; these will reflect the condition of the facilities but remain competitive enough to be accessible to the wider community.
- Working with the headteacher to ensure all relevant policies and procedures are implemented and made available to hirers.

The headteacher will be responsible for:

- Ensuring compliance with the premises licence.
- Acting as or appointing a designated premises supervisor.
- Liaising with the governing body to establish whether or not the proposed activity is suitable for the premises.
- Ensuring that the school has the correct insurance in place for hiring out the premises.
- Checking the hirer has the appropriate public liability insurance.
- Working with the site manager to ensure the premises are fit for use.
- Ensuring hirers familiarise themselves with the relevant school policies and procedures, e.g. the Fire Safety Policy and the Asbestos Management Policy.
- Ensuring the school adheres to its Premises Management Policy.
- Reviewing and, where necessary, amending the school’s Letting Premises Risk Assessment to help ensure the safety of the hirer and their visitors.
- Assessing whether the activities the hirer is requesting could result in disrupting any asbestos and taking the relevant safety measures as a result.

- Reviewing the relevant safeguarding checks carried out by the hirer to ensure they comply with the school's policies.

The site manager will be responsible for:

- Ensuring the facilities and equipment requested are clean and in a good working condition for each hirer.
- Working with the hirers to ensure high levels of security are maintained.
- Showing the hirers how to properly secure and lock the premises after use.
- Organising any repairs and/or replacement of equipment.
- Notifying the hirer of any known asbestos in the school.
- Ensuring the hirer is made aware that CCTV cameras are installed within the school and ensure they have read the Surveillance and CCTV Policy.

The DPO's will be responsible for:

- Being the main point of contact for data protection enquiries from current and potential hirers of the school premises.
- Ensuring that the statutory privacy information is provided to the hirer.
- Assisting the hirer with any data breach investigation, where necessary.
- Ensuring that the school's Privacy Notice for Third Parties is kept up-to-date, and that it is published on the school's website.
- Ensuring that the hirer's information is stored in accordance with the Data Protection Policy.

Hirers will be responsible for:

- Ensuring the proper use of the facilities and equipment they have requested to use.
- Taking the necessary steps to ensure there is no damage to any equipment or furniture, or the building itself after use.
- Ensuring all related visitors and volunteers have signed in during their period of hire.
- Leaving the premises in a clean and tidy condition.
- Working with the site manager to ensure that the premises are secure after use.
- Obtaining adequate public liability insurance to a minimum of £5 million.
- Providing the headteacher with proof that they hold a current and relevant insurance policy.
- Obtaining all necessary safeguarding checks for all activities involving children, e.g. DBS checks, and providing proof of this to the headteacher.
- Reading the school's safeguarding policies and procedures and ensuring they understand the rules and procedures detailed within.
- Informing the governing board of the activities that will be undertaken on the premises.
- Adhering to the school's Letting School Premises Risk Assessment.
- Adhering to the DfE's 'After-school clubs, community activities and tuition: safeguarding guidance for providers'.

AREAS AVAILABLE TO HIRE

The school will permit the hire of the following areas of the premises:

- Sports Hall
- 3G Pitch
- Dining Room
- Dance Studio
- Netball courts

- Drama Theatre

CHARGES

The governing board will be responsible for determining charges for the letting of the school premises – a charge may be imposed to cover the following:

- Costs of services (e.g. heating and lighting)
- Costs of staffing, including “on-costs” (e.g. additional security or caretaking)
- Costs of administration
- Costs of wear and tear
- Costs of insurance (if the school has arranged its own public liability insurance – see the hire terms and conditions)
- Costs of using the school’s equipment, if applicable
- Profit element, if applicable

Where there are multiple lettings taking place at the same time, the costs for services and staffing will normally be shared between the hirers involved.

The charge issued for each letting will be reviewed annually by the governing body.

The review of charges will take place in the Autumn term, for implementation in the beginning of the next financial year, taking effect from 1 April the following year.

Current charges will be provided to the governing board in advance of any lettings being arranged.

A charging tariff may be established to ensure that access is affordable for particular individuals and groups.

Hirers will provide the school with at least 48 hours notice before cancelling a booking for a full refund.

If hirers fail to provide sufficient notice, the school will keep the hirers deposit.

If the whole fee has not been paid, the school reserves the right to refuse the hirer entry to the premises.

In the event any fees are outstanding after the hirer has used the premises, their organisation will be barred from using the school facilities until the full amount has been paid.

There will be a grace period of 30 days for payment to be made, after this period, if a payment hasn’t been made, the school will seek additional legal advice for payment to be recovered.

The school reserves the right to cancel any agreed hiring within a minimum of 48 hours notice. A full refund will be issued if we do cancel a hire. The school shall not be liable for any indirect or consequent losses, including (without limitation) any loss of profits, loss of business or the loss of any revenue arising out of the cancellation of any hire.

MANAGING LETTINGS

The governing body will have overall responsibility for the management of lettings.

The business manager will be delegated the day-to-day management of the lettings; however, they will not be responsible for the administrative roles, such as setting charges, this role stays with the governing body.

The business manager may delegate aspects of the management of lettings to other relevant members of staff, such as the site manager.

If the business manager has any concerns regarding the activities the hirers are conducting, they will consult the headteacher and reach a decision together.

Organisations wishing to hire the premises will approach the business manager, who will identify their requirements and clarify the facilities available. They can also book the venue using the online booking system SportsKey.

The business manager will review the request; they have the right to refuse an application and interested parties should be advised that no letting should be regarded as “booked” until approval has been given via SportsKey.

Once the letting has been approved by the governing board, a letter of confirmation will be sent to the hirer, setting out the full details of the letting and enclosing the terms and conditions of the hire agreement.

The hirer will be invoiced for the cost of the letting as appropriate in accordance with the governing body’s charges decision.

The hirer will be a named individual and the agreement should be in their name, giving their permanent private address.

All lettings fees that are received by the school will be paid into the school’s independent bank account, to offset the costs of services, staffing etc., (which are funded from the school’s delegated budget).

Fees can be paid via bank transfer.

The business manager will provide the hirer with the relevant bank details.

Sub-letting of any kind is strictly prohibited. If the school receives any evidence pertaining to plans to sub-let, all bookings that the hirer has made will be cancelled.

SAFEGUARDING

The school is dedicated to ensuring the safeguarding of its pupils and at all times. Organisations submitting a lettings request involving working with children and/or young people will submit a signed copy of their current safeguarding policy.

If there is a chance that those hiring the premises will come into contact with pupils, for example if the letting takes place during school hours, or when pupils are present at the school such as during after-school clubs or extracurricular activities, the school reserves the right to ask for confirmation that the hirers have had the appropriate level of DBS checks and to make the hiring of the premises conditional on this.

Where the hiring of school premises or facilities for work with children, regardless of whether the children are on the school roll, is directly supervised or managed by school staff, the hirer will abide by the school’s safeguarding arrangements. It is the responsibility of the hirers to ensure that safeguarding measures are in place while hiring out the space.

Where the services are provided separately by another body, the school will seek assurance that the body concerned has the appropriate safeguarding procedures in place. The school will inspect the provider's safeguarding policy prior to the commencement of the letting.

Hirers will be expected to adhere to the DfE's '[After-school clubs, community activities and tuition: safeguarding guidance for providers](#)'.

The school will ensure that safeguarding requirements are communicated with the hirer prior to the letting. This will be included in the school's hire agreement document.

Failure to comply with the school's safeguarding conditions will lead to the termination of the hire agreement.

Any safeguarding-related allegations against organisations or individuals who have hired the school premises will be managed in line with the school's appropriate policies.

Should any safeguarding concerns present themselves during the hire of the school premises, the hirer shall contact Mrs Woods (Business Manager) as soon as is reasonably practicable.

Each application will be vetted by the business manager and any concerns will be reported to the headteacher prior to approval.

All hirers will state the purpose of the hire and the governing body will consider the following factors when considering the approval of an application:

- The type of activity
- Possible interferences with school activities
- The availability of facilities
- The availability of staff
- Health and safety considerations
- The school's duties with regards to the prevention of terrorism and radicalisation
- Whether the letting is deemed compatible with the ethos of the school

An application will not be approved if the hirer's purpose:

- Is aimed at promoting extremist views.
- Involves the dissemination of inappropriate materials.
- Contravenes the statutory Prevent duty.
- Is likely to cause offence to public taste and decency (except where this is, in the opinion of the trust, balanced or outweighed by freedom of expression of artistic merit).

This list is non-exhaustive.

If any members of staff have concerns regarding the purposes for which the hirer is using the facilities, they will contact the headteacher immediately.

The headteacher will file an incident report form if they have reason to believe that the letting has been used for political purposes not previously authorised, the dissemination of inappropriate material or any other purpose that contravenes the Prevent duty.

Where an individual group is found to be promoting views in contravention of the school's Prevent duty, this will be managed in line with the school's Prevent Duty Policy.

All hirers will be provided with a copy of the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and be informed of the key principles.

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Where the hiring of school premises or facilities for work with children, regardless of whether the children are on the school roll, is directly supervised or managed by school staff, the hirer will abide by the school's safeguarding arrangements. It is the responsibility of the hirers to ensure that safeguarding measures are in place while hiring out the space.

Where the services are provided separately by another body, the school will seek assurance that the body concerned has the appropriate safeguarding procedures in place. The school will inspect the provider's safeguarding policy prior to the commencement of the letting.

Hirers will be expected to adhere to the DfE's '[After-school clubs, community activities and tuition: safeguarding guidance for providers](#)'.

The school will ensure that safeguarding requirements are communicated with the hirer prior to the letting. This will be included [in the school's hire agreement document](#).

Failure to comply with the school's safeguarding conditions will lead to the termination of the hire agreement.

Any safeguarding-related allegations against organisations or individuals who have hired the school premises will be managed in line with the school's Allegations of Abuse Against Staff Policy.

Should any safeguarding concerns present themselves during the hire of the school premises, the hirer shall contact **[insert contact details of appropriate individual]** as soon as is reasonably practicable.

Each application will be vetted by the DSL and any concerns will be reported to the governing board prior to approval.

All hirers will state the purpose of the hire and the governing board will consider the following factors when considering the approval of an application:

- The type of activity
- Possible interferences with school activities
- The availability of facilities
- The availability of staff

- Health and safety considerations
- The school's duties with regards to the prevention of terrorism and radicalisation
- Whether the letting is deemed compatible with the ethos of the school

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Where an individual group is found to be promoting views in contravention of the school's Prevent duty, this will be managed in line with the school's Prevent Duty Policy.

All hirers will be provided with a copy of the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and be informed of the key principles.

ASBESTOS

The school's Asbestos Management Policy will be available to hirers.

The site manager will inform all hirers of any asbestos-containing materials (ACMs), however these areas do not conduct any risk to the letting.

When approving the applications to hire the premises, the site manager and the headteacher will conduct a risk assessment to establish whether the requested purpose of use will disrupt any ACMs.

The site manager will ensure that the hirers have access to the school's Asbestos Management Plan and asbestos management survey.

If the school finds that there has been, or may have been, an unplanned disturbance of asbestos, the following action will be taken:

- The hirers will be informed by the governing board immediately
- All activities will stop, and everyone will be evacuated from the affected area
- Staff, pupils and visitors will not be allowed to re-enter the affected areas until any necessary remedial action has been taken

- Items, including equipment, books, or personal belongings, will not be moved from the area
- Advice will be sought from an asbestos expert regarding remedial action

Unless the incident is minor, the school will notify the HSE, as this is a legal requirement under The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR).

Hirers should have procedures in place to deal with the unintended or unexpected release of asbestos.

Anyone who has come into contact with asbestos, and is concerned about their exposure, will be advised to contact their GP.

The school's AMP will detail the procedures for staff to follow in the event of an incident, and this will be communicated to all staff and hirers.

EMERGENCIES AND HEALTH & SAFETY

The site manager and business manager will undertake relevant risk assessments before activities are carried out on the premises to ensure the safety of the hirer and any additional visitors.

In case of an emergency, the on-site telephones can be used to call the emergency services.

First aid kits will be regularly checked to ensure their stock levels remain high and, where necessary, restock the first aid kits with the relevant items. However, there is an expectation that all hirers provide their own first aid requirements.

The site manager will show hirers where first aid kits are should they be required.

A first aider (provided by the hirer) will be on site at all times, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the school.

Smoking will not be permitted on the premises at any time in line with Smoke-free Policy.

The hirer familiarises themselves with the school's Fire Safety Risk Assessment and other relevant risk assessments before using the premises.

The business manager will make copies of the school's Fire Evacuation Plan available to the hirer on agreement at the school.

The hirer will be shown the school's fire exits and evacuation points by the site manager on arrival.

The hirer will be provided with a copy of the school's Health and Safety Policy and First Aid Policy and will be expected to act in accordance with it at all times.

USING THE SITE

The hirer will liaise with the lettings officer manager to ensure the school remains secure before, during and after use.

Hirers will be given an emergency contact number for the business manager in case of any security breach.

The school premises will be closed after 10:00pm to avoid any noise complaints from neighbouring residents.

The site supervisor will remain on site until 8:00pm (6.00pm on a Friday) to hand over control of the premises to the lettings officer in time for the first hirer of the evening.

Keys and security codes will not be passed to any hirer or other person without written permission from the governing body.

The lettings officer will remain on site until the last hirer leaves, to ensure the site is clean and secure ready for the next day.

The use of public announcement systems and loudspeakers must be agreed with the headteacher and business manager, this agreement must include a maximum noise level which is not to be exceeded. We expect all hirers to be mindful and respectful of the neighbours.

The school's car park is available to hirers during their time on the premises; however, the governing body and school will not accept responsibility for any loss, damage or accident that may occur whilst the car park is in use.

Hirers will only use the car parking spaces in the main car park.

In the event of additional parking being required, the site manager/lettings officer will ensure the school premises remain accessible to the emergency services, should they be required.

Alcohol will not be brought onto, or consumed on, the premises unless the school holds a licence to sell alcohol and this has been agreed in writing with the headteacher. In the event that an agreement is reached to permit alcohol to be consumed on the premises, no alcohol is to be stored or retained on the premises when pupils are in school.

The school will only enter into one Contract of Use for the use of the school grounds to ensure facilities are the best for the children that attend the school.

Contracts of Use will not exceed a 12 months period and notice will be agreed by both parties.

EQUIPMENT

Hirers will identify any equipment they require from the school and detail this in their initial application; hirers must seek permission from the governing board to use any additional equipment once the form has been submitted.

The site team will conduct an inventory of all the equipment that the hirer requests, noting its condition. The site manager will review this inventory after the hirer uses the equipment to ensure its proper use.

When additional equipment is required by the hirer, the school may decide to charge an additional fee on top of the hiring rates.

Furniture and fittings will not be removed or interfered with in any way unless permission has been granted by the site manager or business manager. Where permission has been granted, the site manager will oversee the move.

The hirer will leave the premises in the condition it was found in, leaving the area clean and tidy and not leaving any of their own equipment behind. If a furniture move has been agreed, the hirer and site manager will negotiate restoring the premises back to its original state.

Any damage to equipment, furniture or the building will result in the hirer being charged the cost of any repairs or replacements.

Any seating provided is limited to the number of chairs on the premises.

Hirers are allowed to bring their own equipment on to the premises, however it must be

The hirer will ensure that any equipment that they provide meets the relevant health and safety standards.

The school cannot be considered responsible if any of the hirer's equipment is damaged, stolen or lost whilst being used on the premises.

CCTV systems will be used to monitor events and identify incidents taking place whilst the premises are in use, in accordance with the school's Surveillance and CCTV Policy.

Hirers will report any stolen or missing equipment to the site manager immediately.

Risk assessments for manual handling will be carried out by the business manager and site manager in accordance with the school's Manual Handling Policy.

Food and drink may be prepared on the premises; however, hirers must seek direct permission from the governing body. The school reserves the right to require that the hirers evidence that they hold appropriate food and hygiene certifications and to refuse that food and drink be served if such evidence is not to the reasonable satisfaction of the school.

The hirer will prepare food and drink in line with current food and hygiene regulations.

DATA PROTECTION

The school will adhere to the Data Protection Policy at all times.

The Data Protection Officers (DPO) will undertake the requisite due diligence to ensure that the hirer is compliant with the relevant data protection legislation.

The DPO's will provide hirers with the statutory privacy information in the form of the Privacy Notice for Third Parties.

The DPO's will ensure that the hirer's information is processed in accordance with the UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018.

TERMINATING THE AGREEMENT

If the hirer breaches any of the terms and conditions agreed to, the school reserves the right to terminate the letting with immediate effect and retain any fees already paid to the school, without affecting any other right or remedy available to the school under the letting or otherwise.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed annually by the governing body and the headteacher. Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all relevant members of staff and all hirers.