

**FEDERATION OF ST ANNE'S AND ST MARTIN'S CATHOLIC
PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

St Martin's



**Approved:
Next review date:**

Updated March 2023

School Visitor Procedure

The Governing Body assures all visitors a warm, friendly and professional welcome to St. Martin's Catholic Primary School, whatever the purpose of their visit.

The school has a legal duty of care for the health, safety, security and wellbeing of all pupils and staff. This duty of care incorporates the duty to safeguard all pupils from subjection to any form of harm, abuse or nuisance. It is the responsibility of the Governing Body and senior staff to ensure that this duty is uncompromised at all times.

In performing this duty, the Governing Body recognises that there can be no complacency where child protection and safeguarding procedures are concerned. The school therefore requires that **ALL VISITORS** (without exception) comply with the following policy and procedures. Failure so to do may result in the visitor's escorted departure from the school site.

Responsibility

The Head is the member of staff responsible for implementation, coordination and review of this procedure.. All breaches of this procedure must be reported to the Head.

Aim

To safeguard all children under this school's responsibility both during school hours curriculum and out of school hours activities which are arranged by the school.

Objectives

To have in place 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 conforms to child protection and safeguarding guidelines.

Where And To Whom The Policy Applies

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

- All staff employed by the school
- All external visitors entering the school site during the school day or for after school activities
- All governors of the school
- All parents and volunteers
- All pupils
- Other Education related personnel (Advisors, Inspectors)
- Building & Maintenance and all other Independent contractors visiting the school premises

Protocol And Procedures

Visitors To The School

All visitors to the school may be asked to bring formal identification with them at the time of their visit (unless they are a regular visitor and known to the school).

Once on site, all visitors must report to reception. No visitor is permitted to enter the school via any other entrance under any circumstances.

At reception, all visitors must state the purpose of their visit and who has invited them. They should be ready to produce formal identification upon request.

All visitors will be asked to sign the Visitors Record Book which is kept in reception at all times making note of their name, organisation, who they are visiting and car registration.

All visitors will be required to wear an identification badge – the badge must remain visible throughout their visit.

Visitors will then be escorted to their point of contact **OR** their point of contact will be asked to come to reception to receive the visitor. The contact will then be responsible for them while they are on site. The visitor must not be allowed to move about the site unaccompanied unless they are a regular visitor and known to the school.

Regular Visitors

Regular visitors to the school can move around the school unaccompanied, as long as they are wearing a green visitors' badge. This means that:

a) They have a current clear enhanced DBS check and a copy of this has been registered on the School's Central Record **AND**

b) A current clear DBS children's barred check has been undertaken **AND**

They **MUST** follow the same procedures on entry to the premises (i.e. come to reception and sign in the visitors' book).

Contractors engaged through the Reading Borough Council Procurement Framework are DBS checked as part of the requirement and therefore it is not necessary for them to have their DBS number with them.

Visitors Departure From School

On departing the school, visitors **MUST** leave via reception and:

- A member of staff should escort the visitor to the reception.
- Enter their departure time in the Visitors Record Book alongside their arrival entry
- Return the identification badge to reception and depart through the front entrance.

Unknown/Uninvited Visitors To The School

Any visitor to the school site who is not wearing an identity badge should be challenged politely to enquire who they are and their business on the school site.

They should then be escorted to reception to sign the visitors' book and be issued with an identity badge.

The procedures under "Visitors to the School" above will then apply. In the event that the visitor refuses to comply, they should be asked to leave the site immediately and a member of the Leadership Team informed.

The Senior Leadership Team member will consider the situation and decide if it is necessary to inform the police.

If an unknown/uninvited visitor becomes abusive or aggressive, they will be asked to leave the site immediately and warned that if they fail to leave the school grounds, police assistance will be called for.

Governors And Volunteers

All governors and parent helpers must comply with Criminal Records Bureau procedures, completing a DBS disclosure form (if not already held) via the School office.

Thereafter, procedures as per above should apply. Please note that Governors should sign in and out using the Governor signing in book.

New governors will be made aware of this policy and familiar with its procedures as part of their induction. This is the responsibility of the Head and Chair of Governors.

New volunteers will be asked to comply with this policy by staff when they first report to school for an activity or class supporting role.

Staff Development

As part of their induction, new staff will be made conversant with this policy for External Visitors and asked to ensure compliance with its procedures at all times.

Linked Policies and documents

This policy and procedures should be read in conjunction with other related school policies and documents , including:

Safeguarding Policy

Health and Safety Policy

Complaints Procedure

Volunteer Handbook