



**St Mary's
C of E School**



**Madron
Daniel
C of E School**

Our Schools' Vision

'Rise up, take courage and do it!'

Ezra 10:4

Our Schools' Values

Hope, Courage and Perseverance

Visitors Policy

March 2025

Introduction

At our schools, we are committed to offering an inclusive and nurturing educational environment that aligns with the doctrines and values of the Church of England. This policy aims to establish guidelines for all visitors entering our school premises, ensuring that their presence supports our mission and does not contravene our Christian ethos.

Our school recognises the importance of welcoming visitors who can contribute positively to our pupils' learning experiences. However, it is imperative that all visitors respect our faith-based principles and do not introduce or promote beliefs that contradict the Church of England's teachings.

This policy has been developed in conjunction with best practices for the management of visitors in schools as highlighted in the document provided by *NATRE – Religious Believers Visiting Schools: Guidance and a Code of Conduct*, 2007, and is tailored to reflect the unique nature of Church of England primary schools.

Purpose of the Policy

The primary purpose of this policy is to ensure that all visitors who come to our schools contribute positively to the educational and spiritual development of our pupils in a manner consistent with our Church of England values. This document outlines our expectations regarding visitors, the procedures for their entry to the school, and the considerations we find essential in maintaining our ethos.

Definition of Visitors

For the purpose of this policy, “visitors” will include all individuals entering our premises for any purpose, including but not limited to:

- Parents and guardians
- Professionals and specialists from external agencies
- Members of the community
- Faith leaders or representatives
- Volunteers
- Educational speakers and workshop facilitators

Responsibilities

Headteacher: The headteacher holds overall responsibility for granting access to the school and ensuring that all visitors adhere to this policy.

Staff Members: All staff are required to be familiar with this policy and aid in the implementation of these guidelines in order to create a secure and compliant school environment.

Visitors: All visitors to our schools must comply with our rules, conduct themselves in a respectful manner, and promote a positive learning atmosphere that reflects the values of our church status.

Guidelines for Visitors

1. Purpose of Visit

All visitors must clearly communicate the purpose of their visit prior to arrival at the school. We encourage contributions that enhance educational outcomes and align with our ethos.

2. Pre-Visit Approval

Visitors wishing to engage with pupils or deliver sessions related to their area of expertise must seek prior approval from the headteacher. This ensures that their visit supports our educational objectives while respecting our Christian values.

3. Reputation and Conduct

Visitors should conduct themselves appropriately, showing respect for our school ethos and the students they interact with. They are expected to understand our Church of England values and aim to uphold them during their time at the school. This includes refraining from expressing or introducing beliefs that may contradict our principles.

4. Register of Visitors

All visitors are required to sign in at the main office upon arrival and wear a visitor badge at all times while on school property. This allows for easy identification and ensures that our safeguarding measures are upheld.

5. Supervision

Visitors must be supervised by a member of staff at all times while they are interacting with pupils, ensuring that our safeguarding policies are strictly adhered to.

Distinct Nature of Church of England Schools

Church of England schools are rooted in a tradition that encapsulates the teachings of Christianity while encouraging a compassionate and loving environment for all. At our schools, we pride ourselves on embodying the ethos of our faith, aiming to deliver an education that nurtures not only academic pursuits but also spiritual growth and character development.

The Church of England's guiding principles include celebrating diversity while ensuring that the Christian faith remains at the core of all that we do. This commitment means that our visitors must respect our foundation and acknowledge that any introduction of conflicting beliefs—not only risks the integrity of our community but can also disrupt the learning environment for our pupils.

It is crucial that any visitors who engage with our students during Assemblies, Collective Worship or curriculum-focused events understand the need to promote messages that are consistent with the Church of England's values. While we value diversity and inclusivity, we must remain steadfast in our commitment to our Anglican ethos and not allow any contradictions to undermine our educational mission.

Procedures for Handling Inappropriate Behaviour

In situations where a visitor does not adhere to our policy or engages in conduct that contradicts our Christian values, the following procedures will be enacted:

- 1. Immediate Intervention**

Any staff member who observes inappropriate behaviour shall intervene immediately, asking the visitor to refrain from actions or discourse that undermines our ethos.

- 2. Temporary Removal**

If necessary, the visitor may be asked to leave the premises or be temporarily removed from interactions with pupils until the issue can be resolved.

- 3. Incident Report**

An incident report must be completed involving any discriminatory or inappropriate behaviour, detailing the circumstances and actions taken.

- 4. Review of Future Visits**

The headteacher will review any reported incidents to determine whether further visits from the individual in question should be permitted.

Conclusion

In summary, this policy reflects our deep commitment to uphold our Christian values while embracing learning through diverse contributions. Visitors are a vital part of our school community, but their presence must always align with the distinct nature and ethos of Church of England schools. Through these guidelines, we aim to maintain both the safety of our pupils and the integrity of our Christian education.

As we welcome all visitors to contribute to our children's learning journey, we must remain vigilant in preserving our values, ensuring that each interaction nurtures our pupils' faith and understanding within a safe and supportive environment. Our dedication to fostering spiritual and educational development will continue to guide our approach towards every visitor that enters our school.