



Saint Augustine's RC High School

Visitor Policy

Date approved by Governors:
Review Date:

School Mission Statement

At Saint Augustine's we believe that every person is made and loved by God. This is why we respect one another. Within our school community our young people will learn to act justly, love tenderly and recognise God in their lives.

Our school helps families to educate their children in accordance with the principles and teachings of the Catholic Church in an environment which inspires, encourages and supports the development of our pupils through nurturing their gifts and talents.

Our school community will keep alive the memory of Jesus through the Eucharist and through the practice of our Faith. We want everyone at Saint Augustine's to experience the joy of the Gospel in their journey through school and beyond.

Together we will work to make a difference in our community and in the wider world. We follow the example of Saint Augustine by stepping out in faith and celebrating our reasons for living and hoping.

Welcome to Saint Augustine's!

Whatever your reason for spending time with us we hope that you will be made to feel welcome and that your needs will be properly met. Throughout the year hundreds of people visit our school. They range from parents, supply teachers, health workers, technical support staff and representatives of other external agencies through to salespeople and contracted workers dealing with repair, maintenance and building matters. This leaflet has information and guidelines which we hope will be of assistance to you.

Basic details about the school

Address: St. Augustine's Roman Catholic High School,
Elker Lane, Billington, Clitheroe, Lancashire, BB7 9JA

We're an 11-16 RC comprehensive, in partnership with Lancashire County Council and the RC Diocese of Salford.

Headteacher - Michael Wright

Deputy Headteachers – Claire Juriansz and Matthew Holden

Assistant Heads – Linsay Bleazard, Bev Bury and Joanna Rutter

School Business Manager - Yasmin Desai

Telephone number: 01254 823362

E-mail: info@sarchs.com or head@sarchs.com

Website: www.sarchs.com

Entering and leaving the school

At all times, please leave and enter the building through the main entrance on Elker Lane. This has the visitors' entrance sign in front of it. You will be admitted after ringing the bell. Please report immediately to reception where you will be given a numbered visitors badge on a lanyard which must be displayed at all times and given back to reception when you are leaving the premises.

If you have a DBS certificate/number, you will need to show the receptionist when you are signing in. This information will then be added to our database and you will then not be asked for this information on your next visit. A green lanyard can be issued with valid DBS proof.

If you don't produce DBS certification or proof, you will be required to wear a red lanyard and be accompanied by a member of staff throughout your visit.

Please wait in the visitors' entrance until the person you are meeting comes for you. This is essential for security and safety reasons. Under no circumstances should you wander round the school by yourself. Please be aware that security cameras are installed throughout the school premises and grounds.

The school Office is staffed from 8.00 am to 4.00pm. After 4.00pm you must post your lanyard into the safety box on the wall or hand back to a member of staff. **Please do not leave it in the reception.**

Driving and parking on school premises

Please do not drive onto school premises when children are moving about. Wait until it is safe to proceed and then drive as slowly as possible [at all times under 5 mph]. Some of our pupils have sight or hearing impairments, some have learning difficulties and others are not able to move about easily. Drivers of lorries and heavy vehicles should take extreme care at all times, particularly when reversing.

Take care not to double park or block entrances or exits. Do not park in front of the school garage as this prevents access to the minibuses. If you're making a brief visit, the middle of the turning circle may be used for parking only between 9.00 am and 2.30 pm, except for Fridays when we finish early and the turning circle must be cleared by 1.30 pm. Before and after these times the circle is used by school buses. Any vehicle blocking their access will seriously disrupt their operations and jeopardise the safety of our children. Ensure you include your vehicle registration number when booking in.

Safeguarding and contact with children

A weekly bulletin informs all our staff of visitors scheduled for the following week. We also have a daily morning staff briefing which informs colleagues of visitors arriving that day. In normal circumstances visitors will move about school in the presence of a "known" member of staff. If, at any time, you are asked to identify yourself, please do so with good grace indicating which member of staff you are linked to and the purpose of your visit. We trust you will embrace the spirit of our "better safe than sorry" approach.

Our pupils are naturally curious and friendly but we don't want them to be put at risk nor do we want visitors inadvertently to place themselves under suspicion. You are advised not to talk to pupils unless your visit is specifically linked to working with them; for example,

supply or trainee teachers, mentors, outside speakers or health-related personnel. If you are visiting school to work in some capacity with our pupils you will either follow relevant professional codes of conduct [e.g. for supply teachers or medical staff] or appropriate guidelines on contact and supervision will be discussed with you beforehand.

If you have any concerns in this respect, or are unfamiliar with codes of practice, please inform the link person you are seeing at the start of your visit. If necessary, please familiarise yourself with the school's rules and guidelines on sensitive issues including confidentiality and disclosure. A copy of our Safeguarding policy is in reception and there are posters around school identifying our DSL's in school. Mr Wright, Mrs Juriansz, Mrs Bleazard and Mrs Rutter are our Designated Safeguarding Leads and the key people to speak to in these circumstances. Visitors such as salespeople or contracted building, technical, manual or service workers have no reason to talk to our pupils and should avoid doing so.

Parents and carers visiting the school must first contact Reception. No relative or designated person is allowed to take a child from school without this being recorded by the office. No parent or carer is permitted to have contact with children other than their own. Please respect these rules. They protect visitors and pupils alike.

If there is an element of monitoring and evaluation connected with your visit [eg trainee teachers or contracted workers] the format will be explained to you or mutually agreed upon, depending on the circumstances.

Fire escape instructions and other health and safety issues

Please familiarise yourself with the fire escape signs and instructions displayed around the school. If the fire alarm bell goes the entire school congregates in the playground area. We request that you report there as well so that we can ensure that you are safe and no longer in the building.

Please be on the look out for safety notices and instructions around you. Visitors such as electricians and builders should liaise with our own premises manager regarding health and safety matters. Please do not bring anything into school which could be a risk to health and safety.

Smoking and e-cigs are banned on school premises and school grounds. Under no circumstances are animals, other than guide dogs, or for a specific curriculum activity, allowed onto school premises.

Facilities: for your comfort

If you're waiting to see somebody and would like to access a toilet, just let the office know and they'll accompany you to show you where it is. At all times please use the designated staff facilities only.

If you need anything at all, just ask the office staff. They'll be happy to oblige! Guests will

be looked after by the staff they are liaising with. Free tea and coffee facilities are available in the staff room for supply and trainee teachers and school guests. Whatever the reason for your visit, our aim is to ensure you are properly looked after during your stay.

We welcome from all of our visitors their comments, advice and feedback. Also, if you have any concerns, do please share these with us. The office staff will be pleased to log these and also arrange for you to see a member of the school leadership team if this would be of assistance.