

St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School
Barring Individuals from School Premises



Reviewed: November 2024

Review Date: Annually

Mission Statement

Our mission is to nourish the growth of all its members as persons illuminated by the light of Christ as our Catholic values permeate all aspects of school life.

We aim to provide a quality education where high standards of attainment and behaviour are expected. We encourage all our pupils to develop as life-long learners as they strive to reach their full physical, intellectual and social potential.

This happens within an atmosphere of love, respect and tolerance of others in mutual co-operation within our School, Home and Parish family.

1 Barring and Scope of this Policy

1.1 This policy sets out the procedure to be adopted if the Headteacher / Governors consider that it may be necessary to bar a person from the school site.

1.2 It takes into account guidance published by the Department for Education.

1.3 Barring a person is a serious action that will not be taken lightly. It will occur when the Headteacher (or other authorised person) considers there is a risk to a member(s) of the school community (including staff, pupils or governors).

1.4 A perceived risk, where there is a “feeling” of being at risk, constitutes sufficient grounds for implementation of this policy.

2 Who can go on school property

2.1 Our School is situated on private land, as such people do not have the automatic right of entry.

2.2 People (including parents and carers) only have an “Implied Licence” to come onto our site at certain times eg

- For appointments with members of staff or Governors
- To attend a school event
- To drop off or pick up children attending the school

2.3 When entering our site all persons must follow the guidance set out in the relevant policies, available from the School Office or on the School web site, including the home school agreement, behaviour policy and the Safeguarding Policy.

2.4 Access by unauthorised persons or by persons who have been asked to leave the premises would be considered trespassing.

3 Barring Persons from the School Site

3.1 Trespassing is a civil offence. This means that schools can ask someone to leave and take civil action in the courts if that person continues to trespasses.

3.2 The School can bar someone from the premises if they feel that their aggressive, abusive or insulting behaviour or language is a risk to staff, pupils or another member of the school community

3.3 In this context a sufficient risk occurs even if a member of the school community may only feel threatened.

3.4 The school may also write to regular trespassers to tell them that they are potentially committing an offence.

4 Procedure for Barring

4.1 The school will inform an individual in writing that they have been barred or that it intends to bar them. The letter will be fully reasoned and will usually be signed by the Headteacher or if the incident involves the headteacher, a representative from the governing body. However, in some cases the Local Authority may write instead.

4.2 The letter will either:

4.2.1 Instigate an immediate Temporary Bar. This will also set a date by when the barred individual is given an opportunity to formally present comments for the Headteacher / governor review panel to consider. Alternatively the person will be given an opportunity to meet with the Headteacher / governor / governors to make representations in person.

4.2.2 Inform the individual there is an intention to bar but invite them to present comments, or attend a meeting (as outlined above) by a set date.

4.4 Once representations have been heard, the Headteacher / Governors will decide whether to evoke, continue or extend the bar.

4.3 If the bar is to be continued the decision will be reviewed by the Headteacher / Governors within a reasonable time (as is decided by the school). During such a review the Headteacher / Governors will take into account any comments made by the barred person, any expressions of regret and any assurances given that the causal behaviour will not reoccur.

4.4 The school may consult with, and take the advice of, the Local Authority / diocese at any time during the process.

4.5 In the event of a parent/ carer or similar being barred, the school will put into place suitable arrangements for the child to be collected from the school perimeter gates.

5 Appeal against barring

5.1 An appeal against the barring can be made to the Chair of Governors in writing via the school office in accordance with provisions of the school's Complaints Policy.

5.2 The Department for Education (DfE) has no power to get involved with individual cases.

5 Removing individuals from school premises

5.1 Section 547 of the Education Act 1996 makes it a criminal offence for a person who is on school premises without legal permission to cause or permit a nuisance or disturbance. Trespassing itself does not constitute a criminal offence.

5.2 To have committed a criminal offence, an abusive individual must have been barred from the premises or have exceeded their 'implied licence', then also have caused a nuisance or disturbance.

5.3 If a school has reasonable grounds to suspect that someone has committed an offence, then they can be removed from the school by a police officer or a person authorised by the appropriate

authority such as the:

- A member of the Governing Body
- Local Authority