



St. Peter's Catholic Voluntary Academy

(Part of the St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi-Academy Trust)

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Here at St Peter's, your child's safety is our number one priority. Because of this, we follow strict guidelines regarding off-site visits. Our off-Site Risk Assessment policy can be found on the school website <https://bit.ly/3d26oSI>

When reviewing our policies and procedures, all advice has been followed and is in line with Derbyshire County Council. This is the body which our CMAT (Catholic Multi Academy Trust) has chosen to use. As part of the review, we have decided to introduce annual consent forms for what are known as '**Category 1 trips**'. These are visits which are classed as regular, routine day activities that are organised in and around the locality, usually on foot or by a short car/bus journey on occasion. An example of these visits which may take place at St Peter's are:

- Visiting the local library
- Visiting the local church
- Exploring the town centre
- Nature walks through the local parks.
- Visiting local community areas such as Tom Eatough Court.
- Participating in sporting events and competitions with local schools.

These activities will **always** take part in school hours.

To give annual consent to Category 1 trips you are required to electronically sign one form at the beginning of the Autumn term and we will no longer need to ask for written permission every time we plan to take children on small, local visits such as the ones mentioned above. It means that no child will miss out on a valuable learning opportunity due to a forgotten permission slip. It also gives us as teachers the flexibility to incorporate local extra-curricular activities whenever suits the needs of our class. We will always adhere to the statutory requirements for any trip and a risk assessment will always be undertaken. Please be advised that if you decide not to sign the annual consent form, your child may miss out on such opportunities. **We will no longer be able to accept verbal permission to take children off-site.**

The annual consent will not include visits which are further afield than our base locality, such as trips to the Space Centre or to the zoo. It will also not include trips which require a voluntary contribution.

The online form also includes whether you are happy to grant photographic/video permission for your child.

We are hopeful that this will make the process of providing children with local extra-curricular opportunities in their area much easier for both staff and parents. We look forward to keeping you updated on our many extra curricular experiences through the Class Dojo system.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Helen White
(Headteacher)

Headteacher: Mrs. H. White BA (Hons) NPQH