

Meánscoil na mBráithre Críostaí, Cill Chainnigh
Christian Brothers Secondary School, Kilkenny.



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Visiting Speakers Policy June 2019

School Name:	Christian Brothers Secondary School, Kilkenny
School Address:	James's Street, Kilkenny
School Details:	CBS Kilkenny is a Voluntary Roman Catholic Secondary School under the Trusteeship and the Patronage of the Edmund Rice Schools Trust. The School is grant aided by the Department of Education & Skills and is a single sex (boys) school.
School Management:	The Board of Management of CBS Kilkenny is a statutory Board appointed pursuant to the provisions of the Education Act 1998.

Mission Statement

Inspired by its founder, CBS Kilkenny aims to provide Catholic education in the Edmund Rice tradition. The school endeavours to be a caring Christian Community which promotes to the best of its ability the personal, spiritual, physical and intellectual development of its students.

Ethos

As an Edmund Rice School, CBS Kilkenny seeks to promote the five key elements of an Edmund Rice School as espoused by the ERST Charter:

- Nurturing faith, Christian spirituality and Gospel-based values
- Promoting partnership in the school community
- Excelling in teaching and learning
- Creating a caring school community
- Inspiring transformational leadership.

VISITING SPEAKERS POLICY

Objectives of this policy:

- To outline a shared approach to the provision of visiting speakers to CBS Kilkenny
- To regularly monitor and evaluate the contribution of visiting speakers and thus improve the way we choose and organise speakers.

Guiding Principles regarding Visiting Speakers

This policy has been reviewed in accordance with the CBS Kilkenny Child Safeguarding Statement and in line with the Children First Act 2015 and the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017.

Cognisance has also been taken of GDPR and the CBS Kilkenny Data Protection and Vetting policies.

It is the responsibility of the organising teacher that the visiting speaker has been Garda vetted.

The school recognises that outside facilitators can play a valuable role in supporting and augmenting school programmes.

Staff aim to seek speakers and outside contributors who best complement the subject matter and proposed learning outcomes of school curricula and programmes.

Talks and programmes delivered by outside agencies or speakers must be consistent with and complementary to the CBS Kilkenny ethos and mission statement. Visits should be planned, researched and implemented in partnership with school personnel and following consultation with the principal.

Classroom teachers will at all times be mindful and watchful with regard to any issues which may arise as a result of visiting speakers. Teachers should ensure that appropriate procedures are followed when dealing with any such issues.

Relevant teachers need to liaise with, and be involved with, all visitors and external agencies working with the school.

When presenting programmes and events, visitors and external agencies must, as far as possible, use suitable, evidence-based methodologies with clear instructional outcomes. Such programmes are best delivered by those specifically qualified to work with the young people for whom the programmes are designed.

Management, subject teachers and programme organisers will, through informal discussion, conduct ongoing monitoring of speakers and contributors. Student feedback will also be sought in this process.

WELLBEING This policy is mindful of the school's Wellbeing targets 2018-2021 with particular reference to:

Target 2. To increase the number of students who always feel listened to and valued in the school.

Target 3. To increase the number of students who feel they always know where to go for help inside and outside of school.

Target 4. To increase awareness around internet safety and how best to protect from online risk.

Approval

This policy has been approved by CBS Kilkenny Board of Management.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

Chairperson, Board of Management