



ST MARY'S  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

## Extended Curriculum Policy

### Aim

To strike a balance between the undoubted benefits of visits and activities which take place outside the normal curriculum, and the disruption to other classes that can be caused.

### Implementation

All visits/activities should be classified as:

- i) essential to the course being followed by students, or
- ii) Beneficial (not essential but a significant enrichment to the curriculum).

The weeks immediately preceding half-term and end-of-term holidays have been designated as windows for the extended curriculum.

The dates for all visits must be sanctioned by the Headteacher, and then checked with the Visits Coordinator.

“Essential visits” will usually be sanctioned – reluctantly – outside the designated times, where it is impossible to schedule them in another way. It is expected that the majority of such visits should take place within the designated “windows”. All “beneficial” visits must be within those times.

The Headteacher will, on rare occasions, sanction visits that do not fall within those guidelines, at his discretion.

Students may be barred from visits if they have a previous record of poor behaviour or attendance. Organisers of visits must prepare work for these students.

Lists of students who are to be invited on such visits should be available beforehand to the Headteacher and all other staff. Membership of beneficial visits should not usually include students from Years 11 & 13.

### Review

This policy will be reviewed on the date below by the Governing Body's Curriculum Committee. The criteria will be:

- has there been a significant reduction in the disruption caused by such activities to the rest of the curriculum?
- has the number and quality of activities been maintained?
- has there been any logistical consequences as a result of this policy?
- has there been any impact, positive or negative, on school attendance?

Governor Committee: Curriculum

Date of review: November 2015

Next Review Date: November 2017