

School Security Policy



Policy developed by Mr Grogan (Headteacher), Mrs O'Brien (Deputy Headteacher)
and Mrs Smith (School Business Manager): January 2026 – February 2026

Policy approved by Governors: March 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fiona Taylor".

Chair of Governors

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Grogan".

Headteacher

Policy shared with staff and shared on the school website: March 2026

'Never settle for less than your best'

SCHOOL SECURITY POLICY

Our school motto

Never settle for less than your best.

Our Vision

Following in the footsteps of Jesus, each member of our community will flourish as resilient, respectful and adaptable individuals prepared for life's journey. Along the way we will encourage and inspire each other to continue growing as beacons of light in our own lives and the wider world.

Our Mission Statement

St. George's Central seeks to provide quality education rooted in the Christian faith, serving the spiritual, moral, and educational needs of the community of which it is part.

Introduction

St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery recognises its duty, under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, to identify, assess and keep under review health and safety related risks, and to eliminate or reduce risks. We are dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of all people within the school community through implementing effective security measures, including e-safety and electronic control measures. Under this policy, a security risk includes risks to staff and children.

To identify the most prominent risks facing us, a thorough risk assessment has been conducted, which has been used to frame this policy to ensure that the control measures are appropriate and relevant.

The aim of this policy is to inform staff, children, parents/carers and visitors of the security arrangements and controls in place and encourage them to help ensure that these are implemented effectively, while maintaining an open and welcoming environment for all.

This policy and the associated procedures apply to all individuals entering the school premises. The policy will be distributed to staff and pupils, so they can recognise and understand the need to be more vigilant about their own safety and security.

Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Section 547 of the Education Act 1996
- Section 40 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982
- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999

This policy has due regard to the following statutory and good practice guidance:

- DfE 'Controlling access to school premises'
- DfE 'School and college security'
- DfE 'Site security guidance'
- DfE 'Good estate management for schools'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies and documents:

- Key Holder Policy
- Premises Management Policy
- Visitor Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- SGC Bomb Alert/Threat Template and Bomb Threat Checklist

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- SGC Invacuation, Lockdown and Evacuation Procedure
- SGC Terrorist Incident Response
- Compliment and Complaints Procedures
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- GDPR Policy
- Cyber-security Policy
- Surveillance and CCTV Policy: ***policy to be finalised once CCTV installed at school: Summer 2026***
- Lettings Policy
- COSHH Policy (ISS Policy)
- Searching, Screening and Confiscation Policy
- Business Continuity Plan
- PSHE Policy
- Lone Worker Policy

Roles and responsibilities

The governing body is responsible for:

- Explaining who is accountable for the school estate at a board and school level.
- Undertaking necessary security risk assessments in conjunction with the Headteacher.
- Monitoring the performance of the school's security measures.
- Reviewing the effectiveness of this policy on an annual basis alongside the School Business Manager and Headteacher.
- Delegating the day-to-day implementation of this policy to the Headteacher.
- Ensuring that the school's security is accounted for when considering requests to hire the premises, in line with the school's Lettings Policy.
- Conducting a Security Risk Assessment in collaboration with the School Business Manager and Headteacher on an annual basis.

The Headteacher will be responsible for:

- Reviewing the effectiveness of this policy on an annual basis alongside the governing body and School Business Manager.
- Appointing one or more competent persons to lead on school security – the school's competent person is the School Business Manager.
- Establishing relationships with local security networks and working with the police, local authority (LA) and others in the wider community to gather and share security-related intelligence.
- Ensuring that all staff members are aware of the procedures set out within this policy and are provided with the required training.
- Informing parents/carers, children, visitors and contractors of the school's security procedures.
- Establishing a system for reporting, recording and managing breaches of this policy.
- Budgeting for security measures effectively.
- Ensuring that security is taken into account when considering any proposed changes to the school premises.
- Undertaking necessary security risk assessments in conjunction with the governing body.
- Reporting any crimes to the police.
- Reporting security incidents to the police or emergency services where appropriate.
- Conducting a Security Risk Assessment in collaboration with the School Business Manager and governing body on an annual basis.

All staff members are responsible for:

- Securing windows and doors when rooms are not in use.
- Ensuring that visitors sign in and out at the school office.
- Challenging any unidentified individuals and notifying the Headteacher of any unauthorised person.
- Securing valuable equipment after use.

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- Ensuring the security of school equipment when taken off the school premises, such as laptops.
- Accessing the school premises in accordance with the school's Key Holder Policy.
- Acting in accordance with the school's GDPR Policy and Cyber-security Policy, ensuring that data and information is secure.
- Reporting any minor security concerns to the Headteacher.
- Reporting major security concerns directly to the police or emergency services, where appropriate.
- Carrying their school ID with them at all times and ensuring it is visible.
- Being responsible for the security of any of their own property that they bring to the school site.

The School Business Manager is responsible for:

- Reviewing the effectiveness of this policy on an annual basis alongside the governing body and Headteacher.
- Ensuring the school estate is well maintained, including the physical and electrical security systems.
- Securing school entrances and exits.
- Liaising with the named key holder, ensuring that the school is effectively secured at the end of each day.
- Carrying out security checks on a daily basis and maintaining a record of these checks.
- Raising any security concerns with the Headteacher immediately.
- Ensuring a Business Continuity Plan is in place.
- Considering the type, frequency and probability of an incident or event, so that effective control measures can be established.
- Prioritising risks and, in line with the school's and locally agreed procedures, implementing control measures to mitigate priority risks.
- Reviewing CCTV systems to monitor activity, ensuring that CCTV is used in accordance with the school's Surveillance and CCTV Policy: ***policy to be finalised once CCTV installed at school: Summer 2026***
- Ensuring all access control systems, e.g. intruder alarms, are in good working order and are activated once the school has closed.
- Seeking professional advice on security issues where necessary.
- Conducting a Security Risk Assessment in collaboration with the Headteacher and governing body on an annual basis.

Children and parents/carers are responsible for:

- Reporting anyone without an ID badge to a staff member.
- Reporting any activity that they believe to be suspicious or concerning to a member of staff immediately – this can be done anonymously, if preferred.
- Familiarising themselves with the requirements of this policy, to ensure they know what to do in an emergency.
- Taking responsibility for their own security.

Working with other agencies

The Headteacher will establish relationships with local services such as the police, the local authority (LA) and others in the community. The School Business Manager will be responsible for maintaining these relationships to gather and share security-related information. Strong links will be developed with the police to enable the school to put arrangements in place to share information quickly and to help with the review of this policy and related security plans. The School Business Manager will seek expert security advice where necessary and use this information when reviewing this policy.

Physical security arrangements

The school will incorporate measures as outlined in the DfE's 'Site security guidance' to ensure that it is taking all the appropriate steps to protect the security and safety of the school premises.

Intrusion detection systems, including fencing, security lighting, security glazing and intruder alarms, will be installed throughout the school estate.

The school perimeter will be protected with a secure fence or railings of a sufficient height to deter intruders. Any gates will be the same height as fencing where possible. Automated gates are installed at the main access points to the school site, ensuring robust perimeter security and the controlled management of access.

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The caretaker will undertake daily visual checks of the school fencing, security glazing, gates and locks on any doors and windows, ensuring that they are maintained to a high standard.

All ground floor or other easily accessible windows above ground floor level will have suitable key operable locks fitted for additional security. Glazing to doors and ground floor windows will include one pane of attack resistant laminated glass.

The school will implement a Searching, Screening and Confiscation Policy, which enables the school to check children, staff and visitors for prohibited items and confiscate them, including deleting inappropriate images or content from phones. Where possible and only if it is appropriate to do so this will be done in the presence of parents/carers if involving accessing and potentially deleting content from a child's phone.

The school will be able to lock down parts, or all, of the school, in accordance with the Invacuation, Lockdown and Evacuation Policy.

Vehicle access will be restricted via the use of building controls that enables part of the school to be locked down, minimising direct access to school buildings. The use of automated gates controls access to the school car park.

Directional signage so that individuals can find the school office from the car park with ease will be added during Summer 2026.

Chemical and biological materials will be stored safely and securely, in line with industry standards.

Automated gates are timed to open and close. The school caretaker will ensure these gates are closed at 9:15am.

Where access to the school is required, such as for a large delivery, permission will be sought from the Headteacher or SBM prior to the event and the caretaker, SBM or Admin Officer will oversee the access.

Staff cars are safely secured in the school car park. The car park is well lit and visible from surrounding roads and houses.

There is an intercom system at the car park entrance, in case contractors or visitors to school need to access the car park.

School security alarms are tested bi-annually by Crest Security. The key holder or site manager ensures that the school alarm is set on a nightly basis. Confidential information will be stored in locked filing cabinets, which only authorised staff have access to.

The school office will be secured whenever it is unattended, as it is the main entrance point to the school. Main vehicle and pedestrian access points will be overseen by the school reception. The main entrance door to the school will be suitably signposted to visitors and contain an appropriate means of access control, e.g. a remote electronic lock release device with an intercom and visual verification. Secondary site access points will be kept locked from the outside unless required, e.g. to receive deliveries, but will be able to be unlocked from the inside in the event of an emergency.

Fire exit doors will be kept free of external door furniture.

From Summer 2026, CCTV cameras will be in use and monitored by the Headteacher and School Business Manager.

All visitors will be escorted to and from their destination within the school by a member of staff.

The school's security lighting will be maintained by the caretaker. Security lighting will be provided around the perimeter of school buildings with dusk to dawn lighting on all elevations where there is an entrance door. Lighting will be designed to eliminate and minimise potential hiding points.

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Appropriate mechanisms will be in place to prevent unauthorised access to the roof and courtyard areas.

Cyber-security

The ICT technician will be responsible for ensuring that appropriate and effective online security systems are in place, including malware, internet gateways, firewalls, filtering and monitoring, and virus control software.

The school uses a secure network that is password protected.

Staff members and pupils are aware of the school's Cyber-security Policy and the measures that are in place to effectively manage risks caused by internet use.

All staff members will be responsible for identifying risks posed to children and themselves, including those in relation to the use of the internet.

Staff members and children will not use their personal devices for school-related work unless authorised to do so by the Headteacher or the Governing Body.

The Acceptable Use Policy is shared with children and parents/carers every year and both sign to state they will abide by this.

The school will only use CCTV cameras that are able to be remote access capability password protected (in place from Summer 2026).

The Cyber-security Policy will be reviewed in light of any new cyber security risks, e.g. a rise in targeted phishing attacks on schools, or statutory guidance, and updated where appropriate.

Equipment and belongings

The school's Computing Suite will be located in a position, e.g. the centre of the school, that makes it harder for an intruder to gain access. The suite will be thoroughly secured and covered by a monitored alarm.

An inventory will be kept of high-value items and items considered to be most at risk with photographic evidence, serial numbers and identification marks.

All electronic equipment will be stored in a secure location at the end of each day. Tablets and laptops will be stored in a lockable cabinet. Tablets and laptops must never be left in classrooms unattended.

After using school equipment, staff members will be responsible for ensuring that it is returned to the appropriate storage location and secured.

Staff members will be responsible for any personal belongings, including teaching equipment, they bring on to the school premises.

Children, parents/carers, visitors and contractors will be responsible for their personal belongings and the school will not be liable for any damage or loss which may occur, in line with the school's Lost Property and Liability Policy.

Children will be advised not to bring valuable items to school unless absolutely necessary.

Where a child requires a valuable item to be brought to school, they can arrange with the Headteacher in advance for a secure place to store the item.

Any valuable equipment that someone wishes to take off the school site will be approved by the Headteacher in advance and a record of the loan kept, in line with the Lost Property and Liability Policy

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Any equipment that is loaned out to staff or children will be inspected upon its return, e.g. a laptop that could carry viruses.

Outside play equipment, as well as sporting equipment, will be tidied away and secured inside the building at the end of use.

The school will provide an area for children to store bikes during school hours. Children are responsible for providing their own lock and effectively securing their bikes. The school is not responsible for any loss or damage that may occur.

Lost property will be stored in boxes near the Reception classrooms, where it will be kept for six months before disposal.

School events

During school events, all rooms except those required will be locked. Unless needed for the event, all equipment will be securely stored away.

The event organiser will be responsible for recording what equipment is being used for the event and ensuring that it is returned.

The School Business Manager and the Headteacher will carry out an extensive risk assessment for each event. The site manager or another key holder will lock the school after the event has finished.

During off-site events, the school premises will be secured.

Individual staff members will not be left alone on the school premises with a parent/carer or visitor. Where lone working is necessary, e.g. a parent meeting with a teacher, a lone worker risk assessment will be carried out.

Access to the premises

The school premises are private property; however, parents/carers of enrolled pupils have an 'implied licence' to access the school premises at specified times.

All staff members will be issued with an ID badge during their induction process, which must be worn at all times.

Upon arrival at the school, visitors will be directed to the school office where they must sign in, giving a reason for their visit, and wait for further direction from a member of the office staff.

All visitors will be made aware of, and will be expected to act in accordance with, the school's Visitor Policy.

All visitors and contractors who are authorised to be on the school premises will be provided with a school ID badge, which will be kept visible at all times.

The office staff will be responsible for ensuring that contractors and visitors sign out when they leave and return their ID badge.

Anyone who does not have an ID badge or is suspected to be an intruder will be challenged.

Individuals who are hiring the school site will act in accordance with the Lettings Policy and their hire agreement.

Integrated access control systems will be installed to control, monitor and deny access when necessary.

The caretaker will ensure that all access control systems are in place and effective – where problems are identified, the caretaker will rectify them immediately.

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Removing people from the premises

In the event of abuse or threats to staff, children, parents/carers or visitors, the school holds the right to bar an individual from entering the premises.

Where an individual has accessed the premises in a way that exceeds their 'implied licence', the school has the right to remove them from the premises; this includes any individual causing a nuisance or disturbance.

Unidentified individuals who refuse to report to the school office, become aggressive or are deemed to be a threat to the safety of the school community, will be escorted from the school premises and, where necessary, the police will be called.

In terms of barring particular individuals, the Headteacher will make a proposal in writing to the governing body and all parties involved will be given the opportunity to formally express their views.

Letters and documentation concerning barring an individual will be signed by the Headteacher, unless otherwise specified by the LA.

Following formal representations being made by the parties involved, the bar will either be confirmed or removed.

All bars will be subject to review within a reasonable timeframe.

The school has the right to take civil action through the courts to stop persistent trespassers.

If a crime is committed on the school premises, the school has the right to remove the individual in question from the site and report the incident to the police.

Violent crime

All staff will be made aware of the indicators which may signal that children are at risk from, or are involved with, serious violent crime.

All staff will be made aware of the associated risks and will understand the measures the school has in place to manage these, which are outlined in the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

Where there are concerns about weapons being brought on to the school premises, the Headteacher and School Business Manager will consider additional security mechanisms, consulting the police where appropriate, to ensure the school community is kept safe.

Searching and screening may take place in accordance with the school Searching, Screening and Confiscation policy.

The Headteacher will liaise with the local police, community safety partners and other educational institutions in the area on how to address youth violence.

Children will be taught about the impact of violent crime and how to protect themselves from becoming involved in criminal acts.

Reporting security concerns

Missing or stolen equipment will be reported immediately to the SLT.

Unidentified individuals will be challenged immediately and reported to the school office.

Concerns regarding the security of the school will be reported directly to the School Business Manager.

The headteacher will promptly risk assess and discuss security concerns with the governing body to identify effective resolutions.

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Complaints about the school's security measures will be dealt with in line with the school's Compliments and Complaints Procedures.

The school will implement procedures to enable children, parents/carers and the local community to report any security concerns anonymously. See Appendix 1 for the Security Reporting Form. This can also be accessed on the school's website.

If the DfE is made aware of an extremist or counter terrorism-related incident at the school, it will work with the LA and other partners to ensure the school is provided with the relevant support.

Emergency procedures

The school will establish formal procedures to responding to emergencies linked to the security of the school estate and will conduct an estate risk assessment which considers emergency scenarios.

The school will draw on the expertise provided by the LA, police and other agencies when developing emergency procedures.

In the event of an emergency or a breach of security, the procedures outlined in the school's Invacuation, Lockdown and Evacuation Policy and Emergency plan will be followed – staff members will be made aware of when it is appropriate to implement these procedures.

All staff members, children and volunteers, will be made aware of the school's emergency procedures as part of their induction, including those in relation to security alerts, trespassers and unidentified objects.

The headteacher will ensure that the appropriate authority is notified about any incidents and the need for emergency procedures, e.g. the police or the LA.

If it is necessary for the school to be locked down, the Headteacher will contact the police for advice.

The Headteacher, or their delegate, will be responsible for communicating with parents/carers while the school's emergency procedures are being implemented.

The Headteacher, or their delegate, will be responsible for dealing with any media enquiries about an incident.

Where appropriate, the school's social media channels will be used to keep the public informed during a serious incident. The headteacher will liaise with the police on how to share this information effectively.

If emergency procedures are carried out, the headteacher is responsible for ensuring that these are properly recorded.

This policy and all associated plans and procedures, such as the Business Continuity Plan, will be reviewed and evaluated following any incident, to ensure that they remain effective.

Staff training and informing children

Staff members will receive cyber-security related training on an annual basis.

All staff members and children will receive training in the school's emergency procedures and will be aware of what to do.

As the competent person, the School Business Manager will have relevant subject knowledge, e.g. security, be trained in matters related to handling health and safety risks and have the experience to apply subject knowledge correctly in the workplace.

Staff will receive safe handling training for chemical and biological materials, in line with the school's COSHH Policy.

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Staff will be made aware of relevant security networks and be able to evaluate and assess the impact of any new initiatives on the school policy and its day-to-day operation, as well as how to protect themselves and pupils from harm, safeguard the school estate and be able to determine when it is appropriate to contact the police/emergency services.

Staff members will receive training in communications handling, particularly in relation to the press and media.

External providers and visitors will be invited into the school when necessary to help deliver security-related messages to staff and children. When determining whether an external provider should be invited into school, the Headteacher will consider the following:

- What the desired learning objectives and outcomes of the session are
- Why an external provider needs to be used rather than an internal member of staff
- Whether the messages can be delivered in line with the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Whether the external provider has the required skills and knowledge
- How the impact of the session will be evaluated

Children will be taught about security-related issues, e.g. staying safe online, through the PSHE curriculum, in line with the PSHE Policy and through the Computing curriculum, in line with the Computing Policy.

Testing security procedures

The School Business Manager and Headteacher will develop a schedule for testing the school's security and emergency procedures.

These tests will be used to identify where improvements can be made and to enable the school to assess what the wider residual effects of an incident are likely to be.

The Headteacher will determine whether neighbouring schools, the local police or other agencies should be involved in helping to evaluate practise drills.

Information security

The Data Protection Officer (DPO) will be responsible for ensuring that there are policies and procedures in place to manage and monitor access to sensitive and personal information, including the Data Protection Policy and Records Management Policy.

The DPO will provide training to staff on school policies and procedures in relation to information security.

Policies relating to information security will be reviewed in light of any new information on security risks or statutory guidance and updated where appropriate.

Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the governing board, site manager and headteacher. The next scheduled review date for this policy is February 2027. Staff members will be notified of any changes made to this policy or to the school's security system.

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Security Reporting Form

Our Security Reporting Form has been developed in line with our School Security Policy. It is in place for you to report any incidents of trespassing, nuisance, disturbances on school premises, verbal abuse, sexual or racial abuse, threats, aggression, physical violence and intentional damage to property occurring on school premises.

Completed forms must sent as soon as possible to: enquiries@admin.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk

Should you wish to report an incident anonymously, you can

-complete the form and send it to school **or**

-ring 01942 883773

If you ring our school office to report a school security incident, please start the phone conversation with:

'I wish to report a security incident at St. George's Central anonymously'

Staff in our school office will then complete the form whilst on the phone

Please provide as much information as you can and do not delay in sending the form or making the call to school

Date of incident:	
Time of incident:	
Location of incident:	

Please describe the incident in as much detail as possible:

Please continue on next page

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Please describe the incident in as much detail as possible:

To be completed by school	
Date incident reported:	
Incident reported to:	
Date/time incident reported:	

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