

**St Pius X Catholic Primary School**  
**Part of the Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust**

### **Children Missing from Education**

St Pius X Catholic Primary School recognises that a child who is absent from school for 10 consecutive school days is a 'child missing from education'. Enquiries to trace the child will have commenced, in accordance with attendance practice, immediately the concern is raised and in any case before the expiry of the 10 consecutive school days.

In such cases, where the whereabouts of a child is unknown, a referral will be made to the local authority. Before doing so, the School Attendance Lead will have made all necessary enquiries to trace the pupil, through any additional contact numbers or home visits. This includes alerting the Trust Attendance Manager, who will ensure the Trust Home-School Liaison Officer makes a priority visit.

It is a safeguarding requirement for the parent to notify the school of the reason for absence, on each day of absence and to ensure the school is informed where there is a change to contact information.

Where school staff have safeguarding concerns about a child, they must escalate their concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

In all cases, the Designated Safeguarding Lead, School Attendance Lead and Trust Attendance Manager must be alerted that a child is at risk of missing from education.

A child missing from education is regarded as a major safeguarding concern and may involve contact being made with the police or the local authority children's services. All information must be recorded on CPOMS.

St Pius X also works within the Middlesbrough LA guidance regarding 'Children Missing Education' and 'On and Off Rolling' (July 2019).

Reviewed: October 2023

Due for Review: October 2024