

ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

At St. Paul's we proactively respond to local and national trends which could affect the wellbeing of young people when it comes to keeping our students safe.

In early 2020, the widespread media coverage of HSB (Harmful Sexual Behaviours) became a national topic and a key focus for Osted, and an area where young people, were far more engaged in than ever before. We want to ensure at St. Paul's that our students know what to do if they experience or witness HSB from everyday sexist 'jokes' or 'banter' to more serious examples such as online harassment, or even inappropriate physical contact, without consent.

Since September 2021, we started to raise awareness of this issue through theatre production; posters; assemblies; PSHE and at Parent Information Evenings. We continue to keep this message 'live' and ongoing for our students and staff; therefore, educating all in order to eradicate a culture which tolerates such negative behaviour, affecting the dignity of the individual and created a driven HSB Charter.

The Charter describes the rights of the individual, the aims of our community and the principles of our strong and caring ethos. The Charter is available to read on our school website Charters-docx.pdf

Some of the language in the Charter is strong. We are not shying away, from the heart of these sensitive issues; the more open we are with students around HSB and their causes, the more protected, educated and empowered all of our young people will be.

Your comments and opinions are valued. Please email shodgson@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk with any thoughts you may have on the Charter or, on our continued approach to this area.

Yours faithfully,

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Mrs S Conaghan

Principal

Mrs S Hodgson

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Senior Assistant Principal & DSL

