



**Our Lady of Good Counsel School**  
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**Ratified by the Board of Management on 23/09/2019 by Chairperson Harold Brooks, Principal Aisling Power.**

**Reviewed and amended 15/06/2021 by Chairperson Harold Brooks, Principal Aisling Power.**

**Review Date; 01/09/2023**

### **Policy on Visits to the School by External Professionals Providing Private Services to Individual Pupils**

Our Lady of Good Counsel (OLGC) School has a Multi-Disciplinary Support Team (MDT) provided by the Brothers of Charity (BOC). The team are based in the school and comprise of the disciplines of psychology, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, and physiotherapy.

The school welcomes visits from external professionals who are providing services to individual pupils attending the school. However, in the best interests of all pupils, we need to place certain structures on visits to the school.

All visits by members of professional bodies need to be arranged in advance with the relevant member of the MDT. Members of the MDT are the lead suppliers of professional services to pupils in the school setting. Any clinical input in school proposed for a pupil by external personnel must be discussed and agreed in advance with the relevant member of the school's MDT.

The Board of Management recognises the benefit of Professional discussion and collaboration, however clinical responsibility towards the pupils of OLGC School rests solely with the MDT assigned by the BOC in the school setting.

## **Reviewed and Adapted 19/05/2021**

### Historical.

Our Lady of Good Counsel (OLGC) School was allocated Multi-Disciplinary Support Team (MDT) from the Brothers of Charity (BOC) until April 19<sup>th</sup> 2021. The team were based in the school and comprised of psychology, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, and physiotherapy.

In April 2021, the Progressing Disability Service, (PDS) came into effect, and pupils in OLGC School needing MDT support had their files transferred to Enable Services. A clinical manager was appointed by the HSE to liaise with the school regarding transfer and delivery of services.

The school welcomes visits from external professionals who are providing services to individual pupils attending the school. However, in the best interests of all pupils, we need to place certain structures on visits to the school.

It is considered best practice that Clinicians initiate a shared care plan for pupils in OLGC School, and communicate agreed recommendations or observations to the Class Teacher thereafter. The Teacher can facilitate visits and engage in discussion with visiting clinicians with parental consent. All visiting staff should adhere to the school's Covid 19 Policy.

Implementation of a shared care plan should take into consideration resources available to the pupil in OLGC School.

The Board of Management recognises the benefit of professional discussion and collaboration, however clinical responsibility towards the pupils of OLGC School rests solely with the MDT assigned by Enable under PDS in the school setting.