**Visiting Speaker Policy, October 2018:**

**School Name:** Edmund Rice Secondary School, Carrick-on-Suir.

**School Address:** Mount St. Nicholas, Carrick-on- Suir, Co. Tipperary.

**School Details:** ERSS Carrick-on-Suir is a Voluntary Roman Catholic Secondary School under the trusteeship and the patronage of the Edmund Rice Schools Trust. The School is grant aided by the Department of Education & Skills and is a single sex (boys) school.

**School Management:** The Board of Management of ERSS Carrick-on-Suir is a statutory Board appointed pursuant to the provisions of the Education Act 1998.

**Mission Statement:**

Inspired by its founder, ERSS Carrick-on-Suir’s mission is to “*To provide a caring Christian community which celebrates effort and talent in an environment of hope and happiness"* , with a vision to *“Learn together, succeed together in a respectful environment.”*

**Ethos**:

As an Edmund Rice School ERSS Carrick-on-Suir seeks to promote the five key elements of an Edmund Rice School as espoused by the ERST Charter:

● Nurturing faith, Christian spirituality and Gospel-based values

● Promoting partnership in the school community

● Excelling in teaching and learning

● Creating a caring school community

● Inspiring transformational leadership

Please Note:

Personal data collected about prospective students/students and their parents/guardians will be retained and used strictly in accordance with the provisions of GDPR legislation as introduced 25th. May 2018. Further details on data protection are set out in the school’s Data Protection Policy.

**Objectives of this policy:**

● To establish a dialogue amongst all staff members with a view to a shared approach to visiting speakers.

● To regularly monitor and evaluate the contribution of visiting speakers and thus improve on the way we choose and organise speakers.

**Our guiding principles around visiting speakers**

We seek at all times to operate in accordance with the requirements of The Department of Education and Skills’ Child Protection for Primary and Post Primary Schools. In this regard we reference and adhere to ERSS Carrick-on-Suir, Child Protection Policy.

The school recognises that outside facilitators can play a valuable role in supporting and augmenting school programmes.

Staff aim to seek speakers and outside contributors who best complement the subject matter and proposed learning outcomes of school curricula and programmes.

Talks and programmes delivered by outside agencies or speakers must be consistent with and complementary to the school’s ethos. Visits should be planned, researched and implemented in partnership with school personnel.

Classroom teachers will at all times be mindful and watchful in regard to any issues which may arise as a result of external inputs. Teachers should ensure that appropriate procedures are followed when dealing with any such issues.

Relevant teachers need to liaise with and be involved with all visitors and external agencies working with the school and the whole staff needs to be made aware of same.

When presenting programmes and events, visitors and external agencies must as far as possible, use suitable, evidence-based methodologies with clear instructional outcomes. Such programmes are best delivered by those specifically qualified to work with the young people for whom the programmes are designed.

Through informal discussion, management, subject teachers and programme organisers will conduct ongoing monitoring of speakers and contributors. Student feedback will also be sought in this process.

**Approval:**

This policy has been distributed to staff, parents and students for their approval.

Amendments have been made after consultation with these stakeholders.

This policy has been ratified by the Board of Management of ERSS Carrick-on-Suir;

Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This policy will be due for review on:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_