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# Barefoot Policy

## September 2026

# Barefoot Policy

St Paul & St Timothy's Catholic Infant School is committed to ensuring that children attending school experience a safe learning environment; this policy is written in line with relevant legislation and other school policies.

Some children may wish to remove their shoes and socks indoors and outdoors. When barefoot, children have a richer sensory experience; can feel the differences between textures and surfaces, make footprints, splash in water and squish mud between their toes. Barefoot experiences are known to nourish, strengthen and promote agility in a child's growing feet, ankles, knees and hips.

**Actions to support the safety of barefoot children:**

Health and Safety Policy – involving the use of risk assessments and regular maintenance of premises and equipment.

Dynamic Risk Assessment of the outdoor environment before each session, and whilst in use.

Dynamic Risk Assessment of the indoor environment before each session, and whilst in use.

Where a hazard or breakage is identified, the area is closed until it is made safe.

At least one member of staff is available who holds a full and current paediatric first aid certificate.

All accidents are recorded using the school system and parents are informed.

In the event of a fire, children's shoes will be returned to them when it is safe to do so.

Parent/ carer signature: Date:

Staff signature: Date:

Current Leader: Kirsty Palmer

Review Schedule: September 2027