

Manchester Communication Academy

Health and Safety



with you, for you, about you.

This document has been approved for operation within	
Date of last review	September 2019
Date of next review	
Review Period	2 Years
Date of Trustee Approval	
Status	Statutory
Person Responsible for Policy	
Owner	Manchester Communication Academy
Signature of Approval	

Introduction

This Health and Safety manual has been prepared by Ellis Whittam on our behalf and with our involvement. It contains our Health and Safety Policy as required by the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and it defines the way we manage the health and safety hazards and risks associated with our school.

Greater Manchester Academies Trust are committed to managing health and safety effectively to protect our employees and other persons with whom we interact because we recognise that we have not only a moral and legal duty but also that our employees are our greatest asset.

Our Health and Safety Policy Statement sets out our commitment and the objectives we aspire to in managing health and safety. It is signed by the most senior person in our organisation to demonstrate that our commitment is led from the top.

Our approach to managing health and safety will be pragmatic and proportionate and will be prioritised according to risk with the objective of maintaining continuous improvement. We accept that we cannot eliminate risk from everything we do but we can manage risk in such a way that exposure to hazards is controlled as far as is reasonably practical.

We recognise that improvement in health and safety will not happen by chance and that planning to manage using a systematic approach through risk assessment is a necessary first step and an ongoing process. In moving forwards we will wherever possible eliminate risk through selection and design of buildings, facilities, equipment and processes. Where risks cannot be eliminated they will be minimised by the use of physical controls or, as a last resort, through systems of work and personal protection.

Our success in managing health and safety will be measurable and we look to establish performance standards against which we can monitor our progress to identify future actions to go into our improvement programme.

Based on our performance measurement in the form of accident monitoring, internal monitoring and external audits we will review our health and safety arrangements periodically and at least annually. The results of our measurement will be recorded and presented to the Board in our Annual Report.

Document Control

The hardcopies of the Health and Safety Policy provided will remain the controlled copies and we will retain a register of these. Any amendments made to the policy will be provided for each of these accordingly to ensure all copies in circulation remain the current version.

Should further copies of the policy be printed either in whole or part, then these will be marked as 'UNCONTROLLED COPY'. Where further controlled copies are required then these should be issued accordingly and added to the register of controlled copies.

Forms from the policy manual are available to be printed or copied from the Ellis Whittam website, and it will remain the responsibility of the manager to ensure the correct form is in use.

Legislation

Extracts of relevant legislation are provided for ease of reference on the Ellis Whittam webpage. Full copies of the legislation are available on the Office of Public Sector Information web page ([www. Opsi.gov.uk](http://www.Opsi.gov.uk)).

Guidance

Guidance on a number of health and safety issues can be accessed by logging onto the Ellis Whittam webpage which we hope you will find useful as a quick reference source.

Should you require further advice or assistance not available here then remember that advice on any health and safety issue is available from the **Ellis Whittam** advice line - **Tel: 0845 226 8393**

Forms

Relevant forms and templates that may be utilised can be accessed by logging onto the Ellis Whittam webpage.

Health and Safety Policy Statement

The governing body of Greater Manchester Academies Trust recognises that it has a legal duty of care towards protecting the health and safety of its employees, students and others who may be affected by the school's activities.

In order to discharge its responsibilities the governing body of the school will:

- bring this Policy Statement to the attention of all employees
- carry out and regularly review risk assessments to identify proportionate and pragmatic solutions to reducing risk
- communicate and consult with our employees on matters affecting their health and safety
- eliminate risks to health and safety, where possible, through selection and design of materials, buildings, facilities, equipment and processes
- encourage staff to identify and report hazards so that we can all contribute towards improving safety
- ensure that emergency procedures are in place at all locations for dealing with health and safety issues
- maintain our premises, provide and maintain safe plant and equipment
- only engage contractors who are able to demonstrate due regard to health & safety matters
- provide adequate resources to control the health and safety risks arising from our work activities
- provide adequate training and ensure that all employees are competent to do their tasks
- provide an organisational structure that defines the responsibilities for health and safety

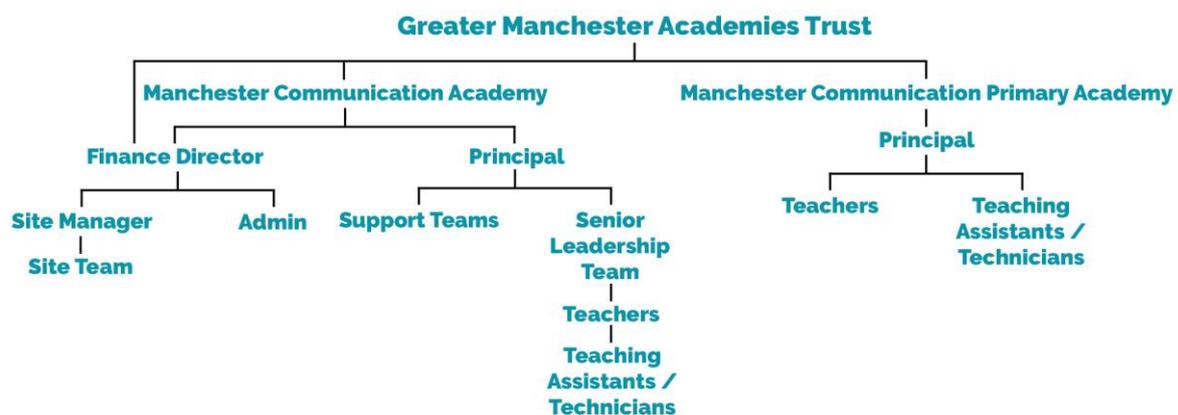
- provide information, instruction and supervision for employees
- regularly monitor performance and revise policies and procedures to pursue a programme of continuous improvement

This Health and Safety Policy will be reviewed at least annually and revised as necessary to reflect changes to the school activities and any changes to legislation. Any changes to the Policy will be brought to the attention of all employees.

Organisation for Health and Safety

Organisation Chart for the Management of Health and Safety

The overall responsibility for health and safety rests at the highest management level. However, it is the responsibility of every employee to co-operate in providing and



maintaining a safe place of work.

This part of our policy allocates responsibilities to line managers to provide a clear understanding of individuals' areas of accountability in controlling factors that could lead to ill health, injury or loss. Managers are required to provide clear direction and accept responsibility to create a positive attitude and culture towards health and safety.

The following positions have been identified as having key responsibilities for the implementation of our health and safety arrangements:

- **Greater Manchester Academies Trust Principal(s)**
- **Senior Leadership Team**
- **Finance Director**
- **Site Manager Teachers**

Health and Safety Responsibilities

The Governors, Principal, Senior Leadership Team and designated health and safety staff will take all reasonable steps to identify and reduce hazards to a minimum. To assist in this all staff and students must be aware of their own and others personal safety, and in any of the schools activities, both on and off site.

Greater Manchester Academies Trust

The Trust as the governing body has the ultimate responsibility for the Health and Safety of the schools. It discharges this responsibility via the Principals, the Senior Leadership Team, the Finance Director, Site Team and the Teachers.

The Trust has nominated the Finance Director to have special responsibility for health and safety.

The Trust will ensure that:

- they provide a lead in developing a positive Health and Safety culture throughout the school
- any decisions reflect its Health and Safety intentions
- adequate resources are available for the implementation of Health and Safety
- an effective management structure for the implementation of Health and Safety is established
- they will promote the active participation of employees in improving Health and Safety performance
- they review the Health and Safety performance of the school annually and plan safety improvements for the following year.
- health and safety objectives are set across the whole school and for each department
- standards of health and safety are set across all areas
- a health and safety plan of continuous improvement is created and monitored for progress against agreed targets
- a risk management programme is developed and implemented across the school
- senior management are competent to fulfil their health and safety responsibilities and that effective training programmes have been put in to place
- a system of communication and consultation with employees is established via the Health and Safety Committee
- matters raised by the Health and Safety Committee are considered for action
- monitoring systems are in place to monitor the effectiveness of the schools risk control
- health and safety policies and procedures are reviewed in light of the results of internal and external audits
- actions required by enforcing authorities are programmed and included within health and safety plans to ensure legal compliance.

Principal(s)

The Principal(s) have overall responsibility for ensuring compliance with Health and Safety legislation in the day to day running of the school but delegates the responsibility for implementation to the Senior Leadership Team and to Teachers.

The Principal will ensure that:

- our Health and Safety Policy is implemented, monitored, developed, communicated effectively, reviewed and amended as required
- a health and safety plan of continuous improvement is created and the Senior Leadership Team monitor progress against agreed targets
- suitable and sufficient funds, people, materials and equipment are provided to meet all health and safety requirements
- the members of the Senior Leadership Team designated with health and safety responsibilities are provided with support to enable health and safety objectives to be met
- a positive health and safety culture is promoted and that a pro-active safety culture which will permeate into all activities undertaken in school and reach all personnel
- a system of communication and consultation with employees is established
- effective training programmes have been put in to place
- an annual report on the safety performance of the school is presented to the Trust.

Senior Leadership Team

The Senior Leadership Team as Heads of Department will ensure that in their areas of control:

- they actively lead the implementation of the Health and Safety Policy
- they supervise their staff to ensure that they work safely
- the completion of written risk assessments of teaching practices and activities including equipment and substances; that any general advice on safety matters given by the DfE, Local Authority and other relevant bodies in relation to the Academy are implemented, that this is then translated into written safe methods of working practice
- safe methods of work are implemented
- inform students, staff and visitors as to their own personal safety and makes sure that they are aware of the health and safety procedures in place
- risk assessments are regularly reviewed
- accidents, ill health and 'near miss' incidents at work are recorded, investigated and reported to the Site Manager.
- they communicate and consult with staff on health and safety issues
- they encourage staff to report hazards and raise health and safety concerns
- safety training for staff is identified, undertaken and recorded to ensure staff are competent to carry out their work in a safe manner
- issues raised by anyone concerning safety are thoroughly investigated and, when necessary, further effective controls implemented
- equipment is maintained in a safe condition
- personal protective equipment is provided and worn by staff and students, and that staff and students are instructed in its use
- any safety issues that cannot be dealt with are referred to the Principal for action
- hazardous substances are stored, transported, handled and used in a safe manner according to manufacturers' instructions and established rules and procedures

- agreed safety standards are maintained, particularly those relating to housekeeping
- all relevant safety documents including DfE Guides, etc. are maintained and made available to all employees
- health and safety rules are followed by staff and students.
- they perform regular health and safety inspections within their department as required by the Principal.

Finance Director

The Finance Director as the person with special responsibility for health and safety will ensure that:

- the Trust, the Principal and the Health and Safety Committee are advised of relevant changes in health and safety legislation, codes of practice and Department for Education standards
- risk assessment requirements are co-ordinated and the implementation of any action required is monitored
- regular Health and Safety Committee meetings are held where health and safety issues can be raised and discussed
- they provide advice on health and safety training requirements

The Finance Director as a Head of Department will ensure that:

- they actively lead the implementation of our Health and Safety Policy
- they supervise their staff to ensure that they work safely
- safe systems of work are developed and implemented
- risk assessments are completed, recorded and regularly reviewed
- accidents, ill health and 'near miss' incidents at work are investigated, recorded and reported
- they communicate and consult with staff on health and safety issues
- they encourage staff to report hazards and raise health and safety concerns
- safety training for staff is identified, undertaken and recorded to ensure staff are competent to carry out their work in a safe manner
- issues concerning safety raised by anyone are thoroughly investigated and, when necessary, further effective controls implemented
- agreed safety standards are maintained particularly those relating to housekeeping
- health and safety rules are followed by all

Site Manager

The Site Manager will ensure that:

- school buildings and plant are maintained in accordance with the Health and Safety Policy
- records of servicing and maintenance are retained and kept up to date
- contractors engaged are reputable, can demonstrate a good health and safety record and are made aware of relevant local health and safety rules and procedures
- safe systems of work are developed and implemented for the Site Team
- risk assessments are completed, recorded and regularly reviewed to cover the activities of the Site team

- they communicate with their staff on health and safety issues relating to building maintenance and the work of contractors
- they encourage staff to report hazards and raise health and safety concerns
- statutory examinations are planned, completed and recorded
- any safety issues that cannot be dealt with are referred to the Finance Director for action
- contact with external organisations such as the emergency services is co-ordinated
- welfare facilities provided are maintained in a satisfactory state
- agreed safety standards are maintained particularly those relating to housekeeping
- details of accidents, dangerous occurrences or diseases that are notifiable are reported to the Enforcing Authorities

Teachers

Teachers will ensure that in their areas of responsibility:

- they actively lead the implementation of the Health and Safety Policy
- they supervise their staff and students to ensure that their lessons and activities are carried out safely
- safe teaching practices are developed and implemented
- risk assessments are completed, recorded and regularly reviewed
- accidents, ill health and 'near miss' incidents at work are investigated, recorded and reported to the Site Manager
- they communicate and consult with staff on health and safety issues
- they encourage staff and students to report hazards and raise health and safety concerns
- safety training for staff is identified, undertaken and recorded to ensure staff are competent to carry out their work in a safe manner
- issues raised by anyone concerning safety are thoroughly investigated and, when necessary, further effective controls implemented
- equipment is maintained in a safe condition
- personal protective equipment where required is provided and that staff and students are instructed in its use
- any safety issues that cannot be dealt with are referred to the Senior Teacher for action
- hazardous substances are stored, transported, handled and used in a safe manner according to manufacturers' instructions and established rules and procedures
- agreed safety standards are maintained, particularly those relating to housekeeping
- all relevant safety documents including CLEAPSS, DfES Guides, etc. are maintained and made available to all employees
- health and safety rules are followed by all staff and students.

Students

All students must:-

- co-operate with Teachers and school staff on health and safety matters;
- not interfere with anything provided to safeguard their own health and safety;
- take reasonable care of their own health and safety; and
- report all health and safety concerns to a Teacher.

Health and Safety Committee

The Health and Safety Committee is the consultative body of the school for health and safety. The Health and Safety Committee will:

- consider and support the school's policies for health, safety and welfare and assist in monitoring and reviewing their effectiveness
- consider forthcoming legislation and assess its implications and where necessary to recommend the establishment of rules or the review of existing procedures of any school activity
- promote health and safety communication and training in the organisation at all levels
- receive detailed reports of investigations into all reportable accidents, dangerous occurrences and cases of reportable diseases to consider the effectiveness of any action taken to prevent future similar accidents
- receive a list of all other recorded accidents or occurrences and to consider the effectiveness of any remedial action taken to prevent future similar incidents
- consider reports of internal and external monitoring of the school
- ensure trends in accident statistics are identified and to make recommendations for action
- keep under review communications and publicity relating to health, safety and welfare and where necessary to recommend any improvements or changes
- consider reports provided by inspectors of the enforcing authority under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, or any other relevant enforcement authority
- consider relevant health, safety and welfare matters raised by members of the Committee.

Employees

All employees must:

- take reasonable care of their own safety
- take reasonable care of the safety of others affected by their actions
- observe the safety rules
- comply with the Health and Safety Policy
- conform to all written or verbal instructions given to them to ensure their personal safety and the safety of others
- dress sensibly and safely for their particular working environment or occupation
- conduct themselves in an orderly manner in the work place and refrain from any antics or pranks
- use all safety equipment and/or protective clothing as directed
- avoid any improvisations of any form which could create an unnecessary risk to their personal safety and the safety of others
- maintain all equipment in good condition and report defects to their supervisor
- report any safety hazard or malfunction of any item of plant or equipment to their supervisor
- report all accidents to their supervisor whether an injury is sustained or not
- attend as requested any health and safety training course
- observe all laid down procedures for processes, materials and substances used
- observe the fire evacuation procedure and the position of all fire equipment and fire exit routes

Contractors

All contractors must:

- take reasonable care of their own safety
- take reasonable care of the safety of students, school staff and others affected by their actions
- observe the safety rules of the school
- submit their health and safety policy and relevant risk assessments to the school for approval
- comply with and accept our health and safety policy, if they do not have one
- dress appropriately, sensibly and safely when on school premises and for the task being undertaken
- conduct themselves in an orderly manner in the work place and refrain from any antics or pranks
- use all safety equipment and/or protective clothing as required by the school and as indicated in the risk assessment for the task
- avoid any improvisations of any form which could create an unnecessary risk to their personal safety and the safety of others
- maintain all equipment in good condition, not use any defective equipment and ensure that any portable electrical equipment bears a current test certificate
- report any safety hazard or malfunction of any item of plant or equipment to their supervisor
- report all incidents to their supervisor and to the Site Manager whether an injury is sustained or not
- ensure that their employees only use equipment for which they have been trained
- attend as requested any health and safety training course
- observe all agreed procedures for processes, materials and substances used
- observe the fire evacuation procedure and the position of all fire equipment and not obstruct fire exit routes
- provide adequate first aid arrangements unless otherwise agreed with the school.

Visitors

- All visitors are required to sign in at the reception. Visitors will be collected from reception by the member of staff concerned or escorted to the appropriate area of the school.
- Hirers of the school premises must use plant, equipment and substances correctly and use the appropriate safety equipment. They will be made aware of their obligations in relation to health and safety when making the booking.
- Whilst on site, all visitors and contractors must wear a visitor's badge. Cleaning contractor's employees must wear an identifiable uniform or an identity badge at all times. Temporary teaching staff on cover duties will be required to indicate their presence by reporting to reception.
- If a member of staff meets someone on site who they do not recognise and is not wearing a visitors badge, they should, if they do not feel threatened, enquire if the person needs assistance and direct them either to the reception or off the site, as appropriate.
- If an intruder is uncooperative in going to the reception or leaving the site, or a member of staff feels threatened, or is threatened with violence or a violent attack takes place, immediate help from the Police should be sought by telephone.

Ellis Whittam (Health and Safety Consultants)

Ellis Whittam, in agreement with management, provides us with the following services:

- development of our documentation throughout the period of our contract and keeping it updated for:
- changes in Health and Safety legislation relevant to us
- organisational changes which affect our management system
- a general risk assessment in the first part of the contract that forms the basis of our risk management programme and helps us plan our future actions to reduce risk.
- a consultant visit to train senior managers and to support our implementation of this Policy by:
 - assisting us to complete specific risk assessments
 - providing further training, as agreed, on relevant agreed topics
 - reviewing and auditing our health and safety procedures and legal compliance
 - providing advice on implementing changes and system procedures

Ellis Whittam is also contracted to:

- fulfil the role of 'Competent Person', providing advice and assistance on Health and Safety issues
- provide for us a telephone advisory service - available 24 hours per day, 365 days of the year
- provide crisis help if we have a serious accident or incident involving the Enforcement Authorities
- provide briefings to help keep us up to date with new and forthcoming legislation

Health and Safety Rules

This section of our Health and Safety Policy specifies the rules laid down for the attention of all employees. These rules are prepared in accordance with legal requirements and acknowledged safe working practices. In addition to the legal duty imposed upon employees to comply with these rules, failure to observe them will be considered to be a breach of the contract of employment and will result in disciplinary action being taken.

Employees are reminded that a breach of health and safety legislation by an employee is a criminal offence and action taken by an Enforcing Officer against an individual may result in heavy penalties.

Safety rules may vary depending upon the nature of work and the circumstances therefore the overriding requirement is that employees are expected to act in a sensible manner and adhere to verbal instructions given by Management.

General

- It is the duty of all employees to co-operate with the Trust in fulfilling our legal obligations in relation to health and safety.

- Employees must not intentionally or recklessly interfere with anything provided in the interests of health, safety or welfare.
- Employees are required to notify to management of any unsafe activity, item or situation.

Working Practices

- Employees must not operate any item of plant or equipment unless they have been trained and authorised.
- Employees must make full and proper use of all equipment guarding.
- Employees must not clean any moving item of plant or equipment.
- Employees must not make any repairs or carry out maintenance work of any description unless authorised to do so.
- Employees must use all substances, chemicals, liquids etc, in accordance with all written instructions.
- Employees must not smoke except in prescribed areas.

Hazard / Warning Signs and Notices

- Employees must comply with all hazard/warning signs and notices displayed on the premises.

Working Conditions / Environment

- Employees must make proper use of all equipment and facilities provided to control working conditions/ environment.
- Employees must keep stairways, corridors, classrooms and work areas clear and in a clean and tidy condition.
- Employees must dispose of all rubbish, scrap and waste materials using the facilities provided.
- Employees must clear up any spillage or liquids in the prescribed manner.
- Employees must deposit all waste materials and substances at the correct disposal points and in the prescribed manner.

Protective Clothing and Equipment

- Employees must use all items of protective clothing/equipment provided as instructed.
- Employees must store and maintain protective clothing/equipment in the approved manner.
- Employees must report any damage, loss, fault or unsuitability of protective clothing/equipment to their supervisor.

Fire Precautions

- Employees must comply with all laid down emergency procedures.
- Employees must not obstruct any fire escape route, fire equipment or fire doors.
- Employees must not misuse any fire fighting equipment provided.
- Employees must report any use of fire fighting equipment to their supervisor.

Accidents

- Employees must seek medical treatment for work related injuries they receive by contacting a designated first aider. Upon returning from treatment they must report the incident to their supervisor.
- Employees must ensure that any accident or injury treatment is properly recorded in the Accident Book.
- Employees must notify management of any incident in which damage is caused to property.

Health

- Employees must report to management any medical condition or medication which could affect the safety of themselves or others.
- Employees must co-operate with the management on the implementation of the medical and occupational health provisions.

School Transport

- Drivers must carry out prescribed checks of vehicles prior to use and in conjunction with the laid down checking procedure.
- Employees must not drive or operate any vehicles for which they do not hold the appropriate driving licence or permit.
- Employees must not carry unauthorised passengers or unauthorised loads.
- Employees must not use vehicles for unauthorised purposes.
- Employees must not load vehicles above the stated capacity.
- Employees must not drive or operate vehicles whilst suffering from a medical condition or illness that may affect their driving or operating ability.
- Employees must not drive whilst using a mobile phone or any other electronic device.

Rules Covering Gross Misconduct

An employee will be liable to summary dismissal if they are found to have acted in any of the following ways:

1. A serious or wilful breach of Safety Rules.
2. Unauthorised removal or interference with any guard or protective device.
3. Unauthorised operation of any item of plant or equipment.
4. Unauthorised removal of any item of first aid equipment.
5. Wilful damage to, misuse of or interference with any item provided in the interests of Health and Safety or welfare at work.
6. Unauthorised removal or defacing of any label, sign or warning device.
7. Horseplay or practical jokes which could cause accidents.
8. Making false statements or in any way deliberately interfering with evidence following an accident or dangerous occurrence.
9. Misuse of any item of equipment, utensil, fitting/ fixture, vehicle or electrical equipment.
10. Deliberately disobeying an authorised instruction.

Arrangement Summary

Risk Assessments

Risk assessments will be undertaken by:

Classroom: Teachers

Maintenance: Site Manager

Cleaning: Cleaning contractor in conjunction with the site manager

School visits: Martin Roberts

Fire: Site Manager

Consultation With Employees

Health and Safety Committee representatives are:

Minutes of meetings are available to view at:

Building, Plant and Equipment Maintenance

The person responsible for the maintenance of plant and equipment is: Site Manager

Safe Handling and Use of Substances

The person responsible for identifying hazardous substances and obtaining Data sheets is:

Maintenance: Site Manager

Cleaning: Cleaning Contractor

Catering: Catering Contractor

Classrooms: Teachers

First Aid and Accidents

The first aiders are:

First Aid Boxes can be found at:

The Accident Book is located:

The person responsible for RIDDOR notifications is:

Monitoring

Health and safety checks will be carried out termly/annually by: Site Manager

Fire

Escape routes and exits are checked by: Site Manager

Alarms are tested weekly by: Site Manager

Fire drills are carried out termly by: Site Manager

Educational Visits

The person responsible for co-ordinating educational visits is: Martin Roberts, Area Leader Community

Contractors and Safety

The person responsible for approving contractors who work within school is: Site Manager

Work Experience

The person responsible for co-ordinating students on Work Experience is:

Arrangements

Accidents, Incident and Ill-Health Recording and Investigation

This policy sets out the procedures that are to be followed when any employee, student, visitor or contractor has an accident, near miss or dangerous occurrence on the school's premises.

Employees who develop a work-related illness must also report via these procedures.

Definitions:

An accident is an unplanned event that causes injury to persons, damage to property or a combination of both.

A near miss is an unplanned event that does not cause injury or damage but could do so.

A work-related illness is illness that is contracted by an employee through the course of work as a result of activities carried out by the school.

The Accident Book

All accidents resulting in personal injury must be recorded on an Accident Report Form (in the Accident Book).

Completed Accident Report Forms will be stored to comply with the requirements of the Data Protection Act.

Completed Accident Report Forms will be reviewed regularly by the Site Manager to ascertain the nature of incidents that have occurred in the school. This review will be in addition to any investigation of the circumstances surrounding each incident.

All near misses must also be reported to Site Manager as soon as possible so that action can be taken to investigate the causes and to prevent recurrence.

Employees must ensure that they are aware of the location of the accident book.

Reporting Requirements

Certain accidents causing injury, both fatal and non-fatal, certain occupational diseases and certain dangerous occurrences are reportable to the Enforcing Authority under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR).

The following events must be reported by to the Health and Safety Executive:

- A death
- A specified major injury as detailed in regulation 4

Injuries that lead to a worker being incapacitated for **more than seven consecutive days** as the result of an occupational accident or injury (not counting the day of the accident but including weekends and rest days) must also be reported within **15 working days** using the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) website.

You **must** also keep a record of an accident if the worker has been incapacitated for **more than three consecutive days**. If you are an employer, who must keep an accident book under the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1979, that record can be treated as a record for the purposes of RIDDOR.

Contact details for the Health and Safety Executive are:

Tel: 0845 300 9923 (Monday to Friday 8:30am to 5:00pm)

Website: www.hse.gov.uk

For further advice on injuries, diseases or dangerous occurrences requiring notification please contact the Ellis Whittam Advice Line. (Tel: 0845 226 8393)

The completed report form sent back by the HSE should be kept with the other accident records and documents; this will confirm the notification has been made.

Accident report, completed notification form and investigation notes, witness statements and photographs are to be kept on file to advise the insurers of a potential claim and to present to the Enforcing Authority in the event of an investigation.

Records are to be kept for 3 years from the date of the incident.

Information on notifications to the enforcing authority must also be sent to Ellis Whittam Ltd.

Non-Consensual Violence

Major or over 7 day injuries to people at work arising from non-consensual violence are notifiable.

Reporting of accidents involving students or visitors

If a pupil or visitor has an accident this must be reported if:

- The person involved is killed or taken to hospital; and
- The accident arises out of or in connection with a work activity

Examples of 'in connection with a work activity' are:

1. Work organisation – supervision of a field trip
2. Plant or substances – lifts, machinery, experiments
3. Condition of premises, play grounds, play or PE equipment
4. Sports activities as part of the curriculum where there is death or hospitalisation

5. Playground accidents due the condition of the premises or inadequate supervision.

Investigation

All injury related accidents that are either notified to the Enforcing Authority or where a serious injury has occurred will be investigated:

16. to ensure that all necessary information in respect of the accident or incident is collated
17. to understand the sequence of events that led to the accident or incident
18. to identify the unsafe acts and conditions that contributed to the cause of the accident or incident
19. to identify the underlying causes that may have contributed to the accident or incident
20. to ensure that effective remedial actions are taken to prevent any recurrence
21. to enable a full and comprehensive report of the accident or incident to be prepared and circulated to all interested parties
22. to enable all statutory requirements to be adhered to

The investigation will include obtaining signed witness statements, photographs and drawings as appropriate.

Asbestos

The school will protect employees, students and other persons potentially exposed to asbestos as far as is reasonably practicable. Everyone who needs to know about the presence of asbestos will be alerted. No one will be allowed to start any work that could disturb asbestos unless the correct procedures are to be employed.

This will be achieved by minimising exposure through:

- the management of asbestos-containing materials in school premises by
 - **Assessment** - The premises will be surveyed to determine whether asbestos-containing materials are present. It will be presumed that materials contain asbestos unless there is strong evidence to the contrary.
 - The amount and condition of the asbestos-containing material will be assessed and measures will be identified to ensure that airborne asbestos fibres are not present or formed in the workplace.
 - **A Written Plan** - A written plan or register that sets out the location of the asbestos-containing material and how the risk from this material will be managed will be prepared and steps will be taken to put the plan into action. The plan or register will be made available and the arrangements will be reviewed at regular intervals or when there has been a significant change to the organisation or personnel.
 - **Access to Asbestos-containing Materials** - Access to asbestos-containing materials in the premises will be controlled so as to prevent inadvertent disturbance of the material and the release of asbestos fibres. Procedures will

be put in place to ensure that anyone liable to disturb asbestos-containing materials is made aware of their location.

- **Monitoring and Maintenance** - The condition of all asbestos-containing materials or materials suspected of containing asbestos will be inspected at agreed intervals to ascertain that there has been no damage or deterioration. Where damage or deterioration is found the asbestos-containing material will be reassessed and repaired or removed as appropriate.
- the management of work in school premises that may contain asbestos

Training and Information - Employees who may come into contact with asbestos containing materials (ACM's) through the course of their work will receive adequate training and information such that they can recognise potential ACM's and know what precautions to take.

Asbestos-related Emergencies

Procedures to deal with asbestos-related incidents will be put in place (including the provision of information and warning systems) unless there is only a slight risk to the health of employees, students and others.

Arrangements for Controlling Work on Asbestos

Any work on, or removal of, asbestos-containing materials will be controlled to ensure that adequate precautions are taken to prevent the release of asbestos fibres.

Work with asbestos and asbestos-containing materials is to be carried out by a licensed contractor (licensed by the HSE) unless the work is exempted from the requirement for licensing.

Selection and Control of Contractors to Work on Asbestos-containing Materials

When contractors are engaged to work on school premises, adequate steps will be taken to ensure the contractors are competent and have sufficient skills and knowledge to do the job safely and without risks to health.

Only contractors licensed by the HSE will be used for the removal of asbestos-containing materials, unless the work involves the removal of materials in which:

- asbestos fibres are firmly linked in a matrix
- the exposure during the removal process is likely to be sporadic or of low intensity

Contractors hired to carry out building or allied trade work that will involve minor work with asbestos must comply with the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012.

Procedures for Dealing with Health and Safety Issues

Where an employee raises a health and safety problem related to work with asbestos, the school will:

- take all necessary steps to investigate the circumstances
- take corrective measures where appropriate
- advise the employee of actions taken

Where a problem arises relating to the condition of, or during work on, asbestos-containing material, the employee must:

- inform the:
- in the case of an accident or emergency, respond quickly to ensure effective treatment.

Communication and Consultation

It is a legal requirement for the school to establish arrangements to communicate and consult with employees on issues affecting their health and safety and to take account of their views.

To achieve this objective we will:

- establish effective lines of communication via the Health and Safety Committee
- involve and consult with employees through:
 - individual conversations or notice boards
 - internal publications
 - staff meetings
 - health and safety meetings
- display the 'Health and Safety Law – What You Should Know' poster
- consult with employees when changes to activities, equipment, work methods etc. are to be introduced that may affect their health and safety

Contractors

When working on Academy premises it is considered that contractors are joint occupiers for that period and therefore we have both joint liabilities in “common areas”. In order to meet our legal obligations with regard to contractors we will ensure that prior to engaging any contractor they are competent and that any works are carried out safely.

The following factors will be considered as part of our procedures for vetting contractors:

- sight of the contractor's own safety policy, risk assessments, method statements, permits to work, etc as applicable
- accreditation with a national scheme of contractor approval eg. CHAS, Safe Contractor, etc
- clarification of the responsibility for provision of first aid and fire extinguishing equipment

- details of articles and hazardous substances intended to be brought to site, including any arrangements for safe transportation, handling, use, storage and disposal
- details of plant and equipment to be brought onto site, including arrangements for storage, use, maintenance and inspection
- clarification for supervision and regular communication during work including arrangements for reporting problems or stopping work in cases where there is a serious risk of personal injury
- confirmation that all workers are suitably qualified and competent for the work (including a requirement for sight of evidence where relevant)
- evidence showing that appropriate Employers and Public Liability Insurance is in place

Clearly, it will not be necessary to go to such elaborate lengths if the contract is very short and will not create hazards of any significance. The complexity of the arrangements will be directly proportional to the risks and consequences of failure.

Similarly we have a parallel duty to the contractor and must ensure that the contractor is not put at risk by our own activities for the duration of the contract.

We will stop contractors working immediately if their work appears unsafe. Staff should report any concerns to the Site Manager immediately.

Design & Technology

This policy outlines the procedures for ensuring safe working in Design and Technology (Textiles Technology, Food Technology, Graphics and Product Design). All staff are required to follow this policy to minimise risks to themselves, to students and to others. Teachers are expected to use this information to help them to plan lessons and decide if an activity can be carried out safely, giving consideration to the age and responsibility of the students.

Communication, Information and Training

The Head of Department is responsible for ensuring that all staff are made aware of this policy and ensuring that the procedures are followed, providing suitable training or directing new staff to an appropriate member of staff, and for recording the dates and content of any training given. This information will be recorded in the Health and Safety file, stored in the DT office.

Trainee teachers who are following a recognised teacher training course should be supervised by a qualified teacher at all times when they are engaged in practical work. Such trainees may use machines and may show pupils how to use machines as part of the lessons that they are teaching provided that appropriate supervision is maintained. This supervision may be progressively reduced, depending on the competence of the individual trainee teacher. In such instances a specific risk assessment of the situation should be carried out, and the degree of supervision needed discussed with the Head of Department.

Generally, the department follows guidance in BS 4163:2007 Health and safety for design and technology in schools and similar establishments – Code of practice and is

also licensed to use CLEAPSS. A copy of the code is available in school and all teachers within the department are given access to the CLEAPSS website.

All Design Technology staff are issued with a copy of this policy and the master copy is kept in the DT office.

Monitoring and Checking

The school requires the D&T department to monitor the implementation of this policy. Records of monitoring are kept by the Head of Department.

Equipment and machines will be checked in accordance with current guidelines and records kept.

Risk Assessments

The school follows the recommendation of the Health and Safety Executive to adopt published 'model' or 'general' risk assessments which the D&T department adapts to the school curriculum and facilities.

Whenever a new course is adopted or developed, all activities (including preparation and clearing-up work) are to be checked against the model risk assessments and significant findings incorporated into texts in daily use, ie, the scheme of work, set of lesson plans, syllabus, technician notes.

If a model risk assessment for a particular operation involving hazards cannot be found in these texts, a special risk assessment must be completed.

Every activity is to be assessed for risk including working with simple hand tools as well as potentially hazardous processes such as wood machining. An attempt is made to balance the desire to eliminate risk with the need to reduce risk in order to maintain practical work, e.g. Certain activities may be demonstrated in order to reduce the level of risk to pupils.

It is the responsibility of all staff and other adults to follow the relevant risk assessments and lesson plans.

Equipment Safety

New equipment will be purchased that is safe and suitable for the intended purpose and to comply with the *Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations*. Equipment listed by specialist educational equipment suppliers is taken to meet these *Regulations* but all other equipment, especially gifts, are to be treated with caution and carefully assessed.

Use of Guards

All staff in the department must use all guards and other safety devices on machines and other equipment at all times. Under no circumstances should any guard or other safety device be removed or not used to enable a task to be done. Any operation which cannot be done with guards and other safety devices in place must not be done.

Maintenance, Inspection and Testing of Equipment

All equipment and machinery must be maintained in a safe condition. To achieve this, equipment will be regularly maintained, inspected and, where necessary, tested.

There are 3 levels of inspection, maintenance and testing of equipment which must be carried out. These are:-

Level 1 A visual check by staff of equipment prior to its use or on a daily basis.

Level 2 A more formal visual inspections which should be carried out termly by staff. This requires checking equipment against an inventory using a checklist. Small items, e.g. hand tools, knives, can be banded together.

Level 3 Formal maintenance/inspection checks carried out by specialist contractors. This is normally undertaken annually except for LEV (Local Exhaust Ventilation) which is carried out every 14 months. This includes PAT testing, no electrical equipment should be used in the academy unless it has in up to date PAT sticker.

When maintenance of equipment is carried out all machines must be isolated from the power supply and the fuses removed or the isolator locked off. A notice stating that the machine is under maintenance should be fixed to the machine. A risk assessment of the hazards involved in the task should be carried out before the work is started.

Recording of Inspections and Testing

All Level 2 formal inspections of equipment by members of staff should be recorded. An up to date record of Inspections will be maintained by the technicians on a weekly basis.

All Level 3 inspections/maintenance must be recorded. It is recommended that the subject leader holds records of examinations, tests and certificates. This information will be kept in the office in the health and safety folder.

If any faults, or the need for maintenance, are identified at any time, they must be reported to the Head of Department. If the fault or need for maintenance makes the equipment unsafe, it must not be used and must be electrically isolated. An appropriate label must be clearly displayed on the equipment.

Pressure Vessels

Autoclaves and pressure cookers need periodic inspection, normally annually, under the *Pressure Systems Safety Regulations*. Records of examinations are kept on file.

Local exhaust ventilation

The school requires the regular testing of local exhaust ventilation equipment (dust extraction and fume extraction from heat treatment areas) every 14 months. The Head of Department has the responsibility of seeing that this happens. The records of the tests are available for staff reference and for inspection by an HSE Inspector on file.

Room Safety

All practical rooms must be locked when not in use
Unsupervised students must not be allowed in hazardous rooms
When starting a practical lessons, staff should check that rooms are clear, all thoroughfares and room exists are free from obstruction, floors are dry and in a safe condition, and the lighting is adequate for the work being undertaken

Fire doors must be unlocked and clear;

Only authorised staff are permitted to switch on the electricity and gas mains isolators. Students may not switch on these – not even under supervision;

Students must not use utensils, tools, machines or other equipment until they have been taught how to use them correctly

Particular care should be given to the distribution and collection of hand-tools and of small items of equipment, the number and condition of which should be checked at both the beginning and the end of an activity or a lesson.

Only one person may operate a machine or piece of equipment at a time.
A specialist room may only be used for other curriculum activities if the person supervising the students understands room hazards in the room and can prevent them having accidents.

Supply or cover teachers must be given information on the room hazards; explaining the location and operation of main services such as electrical isolators, any local hazards and where help can be obtained.

Pupils and staff are not to eat or drink in a room/workshop - this includes break and lunch times.

Gas and electricity must be switched off at the mains at the end of the day - the location of mains switches/taps is clearly indicated in each area.

Large volumes of shavings, sawdust and plastic cuttings are likely to constitute a fire hazard and so clearance and disposal should take place on a regular basis, rather than at the end of the day. Excessive dust from machining operations and 'walked in' dirt contribute to respiratory problems and should be removed by vacuuming on a regular basis, rather than by sweeping.

At the end of the day and particularly at weekends, all tool and storage cupboards should be locked, key switches and main electrical supplies isolated, gas valves closed, all machine tools and bench shears padlocked and all electrical equipment turned off. It is the responsibility of the teacher in charge of the room to make sure that all systems are safe, all hot items are cool and that everything is closed down safely before they leave the building.

All D&T areas are made safe for cleaners or contractors to work in before these persons are allowed to proceed.

Storage

Storage must be kept well organised and tidy. Large items should not be stored high and proper stepladders or similar must be available for reaching high shelves safely;

All chemicals should be stored in accordance with the COSHH Regulations and risk assessments must be in place dealing with their safe use.

Standing on benches, chairs, tables to watch a demonstration/get equipment etc. is not permitted Sharp tools and utensils must be stored so that accidental contact with the sharp part is unlikely and they must be securely locked when not in use

All materials which are hazardous, for example they may be toxic, flammable or corrosive, must be clearly labeled. The labeling must state the material and the nature of the hazard(s)

Keep all working quantities of these materials to a minimum.

Access to hazardous materials must be restricted to authorised staff only (technicians)

All hazardous materials must be stored away from direct access by students;

Stocks of flammable liquids must be stored in a lockable fire-resistant cabinet in a well-ventilated stockroom.

All sharp Design Technology Food knives should be stored in the locked store cupboards All sharp craft knives should be stored in a locked cupboard or room. No sharp knives should be left unattended in a classroom

Shelving

Shelves must not be overloaded and heavy materials must not be stored high up, shelf space to be used sensibly with no items stacked precariously.

Regular checks to be made to ensure that shelving is in a safe condition.

Proper stepladders to be provided for access to shelving that is beyond easy reach from the floor.

Safety Signs, Notices and Displays

Each workroom must have a set of safety rules and procedures displayed clearly. Staff must explain the low, medium and high risk cards and information. The appropriate card must be on display and have been clearly communicated to students

Cautionary notices and signs must be displayed where appropriate.

Personal Protective Equipment

The school accepts the duty to provide eye protection, gloves, overalls and aprons for employees where the risk assessment requires them and safety spectacles for pupils. Eye protection must be worn by all staff and students when using any machine or when soldering using soldering irons. Eye protection should be used for any other operation where the risk assessment shows it is required. Eye protection must conform to BS EN166.

The employer expects eye protection to be available for pupils / students and visitors. Safety spectacles are provided for general use, with a set of goggles or face shields used whenever the risk assessment requires them.

The condition of the eye protection is checked at the start of each term. Eye protectors must be kept clean and scratch free. They must be periodically washed in a mild household disinfectant.

Protective clothing such as aprons must be used in lessons where students could get dirty during practical work, or where hazardous materials are being used.

Nylon or other plastic protective clothing must not be used in high-temperature work. People wearing bandages on the hand or forearm are not permitted to use machinery which has exposed moving parts.

Emergency procedures

Should students or staff need to activate the fire alarm they can do this by lifting the plastic panel and sounding the alarm.

On hearing the fire alarm staff should turn off the gas, electric and any machinery or equipment and make their way to the assembly point

In the event of a fire and if it is safe to do so staff should attempt to extinguish a fire using the appropriate fire extinguisher provided

Staff should have their name plate with them and student should make a neat quiet line in the correct area

Staff and students will be let back in to the academy when advised by a member of SLT.

First Aid

Each practical room must have easy access to a first-aid kit. It should be in a cabinet marked with a green cross and it must be stocked appropriately.

All staff and students working in the department must be made aware of which staff are qualified first aiders.

Disabled Persons including students with Special Educational Needs (SEN)

The school will give full and proper consideration to the needs of disabled employees, students and visitors.

To achieve this, the school will:

- treat all disabled employees, students and visitors with respect and dignity, both in the provision of a safe working environment and in equal access to the school's facilities

- ensure that risk assessments are undertaken of the special needs of the disabled and carry out reasonable adjustments to the premises and/or employment arrangements
- encourage employees with special needs to suggest any premises or task improvements to their line managers
- discipline any employees found treating their disabled colleagues with less than the expected standards of respect and dignity
- in an emergency evacuation, ensure suitable plans are in place which will assist disabled people to leave the premises swiftly.

Risk assessment of students with Special Education needs will consider:

- manual handling of students with physical disabilities;
- students unable to recognise everyday hazards, communicate distress, or move around independently;
- using mechanical aids and equipment;
- using therapy and ball pools;
- administering medical treatment and minimising the risk of infection;
- management of difficult behaviour and the use of restraint;
- lone working where an employee works on a one-to-one basis with a SEN student; and
- transport issues such as getting learning disabled or physically disabled students in and out of transport and making sure that access to the premises is appropriate.

When to Assess

So far as is reasonably practicable risk assessments of the students with special education needs will be made:

- before students are admitted – this is a planning ahead exercise;
- when planning educational activities both on and off site;
- when planning and purchasing new facilities and when work practices are to be introduced or changed;
- when deciding on a placement;
- when an existing student develops a health need, eg after an operation, or where a significant change in their existing needs occurs;
- when a student is to undertake work experience.

Display Screen Equipment (DSE)

All reasonable steps will be taken by the school to secure the health and safety of employees and students who work with display screen equipment.

To achieve this objective the school will:

- identify those employees who are user's as defined by the regulations, see below
- carry out an assessment of each user's workstation
- implement necessary measures to remedy any risks found as a result of the assessment

- provide adequate information and training to persons working with display screen equipment
- endeavour to incorporate changes of task within the working day, to prevent intensive periods of on-screen activity
- review software to ensure that it is suitable for the task and is not unnecessarily complicated
- arrange for the provision of free eye tests when requested, at regular intervals thereafter and where a visual problem is experienced
- arrange for the supply, at subsidised cost, any corrective appliances (glasses or contact lenses) where these are required specifically for working with display screen equipment
- advise existing employees, and all persons applying for work with display screen equipment, of the risks to health and how these are to be avoided
- investigate any discomfort or ill-health believed to be associated with the use of display screen equipment and take appropriate remedial action
- make special arrangements for individuals with health conditions that could be adversely affected by working with display screen equipment.

'Users'

This policy is aimed at those who regularly use DSE:

- a) for continuous periods of more than one hour *and*
- b) for more than 2½ hours per day

Typically this will therefore apply to administrative functions, the teaching of computer skills and other prolonged users. Others, including students, who operate DSE should have a workstation which meets the standards set down in the regulations but are not entitled to financial contributions.

Employees must:

- comply with the instructions and training given regarding safe workstation set-up and use, including the need for regular changes of activity or breaks and the use of the equipment provided
- inform their manager of any disability or health condition which may affect their ability to work using display screen equipment or be affected by working with DSE (this information will be treated confidentially)
- report to their manager any discomfort or health concern believed to be associated with the use of DSE (this information will be treated confidentially)

Eyeteests

Under the DSE regulations staff identified as DSE users are entitled to an eyesight test, every 2 years by a qualified optician (and corrective glasses if required specifically by the Optician for DSE use).

Summary of Key Actions

The key actions necessary to control the health and safety risks arising from the use of Display Screen Equipment (DSE) are to:

- Identify all individuals who are classified as DSE 'Users'.
- Ensure risk assessments of DSE workstations been carried out using the Display Screen Equipment Workstation Assessment Form.
- Supply users with information and/or training on the safe use of Display Screen Equipment.
- Advise staff about setting up laptops on a suitable surface and the risks of working for prolonged periods.
- Ensure remedial actions identified by DSE risk assessments been carried out.
- Review risk assessments annually or sooner if significant changes have occurred.

Driving

The school is committed to reducing the risks to its staff, students and others when being driven in the school minibus and therefore will:

- ensure risk assessments are completed and that journeys are planned
- not put unreasonable time constraints on travel
- ensure drivers are competent and fit to drive
- provide any additional training that may be deemed necessary to reduce driving related occupational risks
- provide sufficient information and guidance for drivers to enable them to understand the additional occupational risks involved in driving
- require drivers to annually submit copies of their current driving licence
- provide adequate insurance for the vehicle, the driver, occupants and third parties
- maintain them to the required legal standard and ensure suitable for their purpose
- provide and maintain additional tools and equipment necessary for the purposes of the journey
- provide access to breakdown support and recovery
- provide no smoking signs for inside the vehicle
- ensure the vehicle carries a suitably equipped first aid box

Drivers

Drivers will remain responsible for their safety and others and must comply with the Highway Code and Road Traffic Act.

It is the responsibility of drivers to inform the Transport Coordinator of:

- anything that could affect their driving e.g. health conditions or injuries, use of prescribed medication
- changes to licence such as limitations, offences recorded, period bans
- vehicle defects that affect ability / safety to drive
- any accidents / incidents that occurred whilst driving on behalf of the school

Before driving, drivers must

- review the need to travel
- have a valid licence for the vehicle they are driving
- carry out a pre-use vehicle check
- allow sufficient time to drive allowing for traffic, poor weather and rest breaks
- ensure sufficient rest
- be physically fit, with zero alcohol level and not under the influence of drugs that may affect the ability to drive
- adjust their driving position, head restraints and mirrors to ensure maximum comfort and safety

Whilst driving, drivers must

- drive in accordance with the applicable law and with consideration for the safety of passengers and other road users
- take regular rest breaks every 2-3 hours or at first signs of tiredness
- remain in control of the vehicle at all times
- not smoke
- not use a mobile phone or other electronic device.

Educational Visits

The Academy policy is to ensure that the safety of pupils, employees and others is managed to minimise risk as far as practicable and in developing its procedures is guided by the guidance and procedures issued by the Department for Education and the Outdoor Education Advisers Panel Guidance for the Management of Outdoor Learning, Off-site visits and Learning Outside the Classroom.

To achieve its objective to ensure safety the Academy will ensure that:

- all visits are approved by the Academy Council and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) as appropriate
- a person is nominated to coordinate educational visits and that person will be trained in the role of an Educational Visit Coordinator (EVC)
- Group leaders are trained and experienced to lead a visit
- all visits are planned
- risk assessments are completed, where appropriate
- all employees are briefed prior to each visit
- emergency arrangements are established for all visits
- the ratio of adults to pupils is appropriate and proportionate to the needs of the visit
- adequate insurance is in place
- adequate child protection measures are in place
- parents are notified of all visits and given the opportunity to withdraw their child from any
 - particular school trip or activity
- consent is obtained from parents for all visits
- arrangements are made for pupils with medical or special needs
- adequate first aid is available
- contingency plans are made

- safety during visits is monitored and reviewed
- visits incorporating an activity that will involve caving, climbing, trekking, skiing or water
- sports, the provider must hold a licence as required by the Adventure Activities Licensing Regulations 2004.

Responsibilities

Group Leader

- To complete all relevant Academy Educational Visits documentation, including risk assessments and consent forms
- To complete risk assessments or acquire assessments completed by external agencies (for example, a tour operator) as appropriate
- To ensure all pupils have made necessary payments and completed the necessary documentation
- For overseas visits, to ensure photocopies of pupil passports (and EHIC cards if relevant) have been taken
- For an overseas visit, to ensure all non-British citizens have visa entitlements to re-enter the country
- To provide reasonable notice to the Area Leader Community (or other nominated person) to allow them to assist in completing agreed tasks
- To plan for pupils with special educational needs, pre existing medical condition or a disability and ensure appropriate provision
- To lead the trip in accordance with the approval given by the Academy Council and ensure all staff and pupils are fully briefed and that emergency arrangements are in place
- Record the details of any accident or incident in line with the Academy policies
- Have completed the Visit Leader training as recommended by the Outdoor Education Advisers Panel.

Area Leader Community (or other nominated person)

- To coordinate all educational visits to ensure Academy Procedures are complied with and all documentation is completed
- To liaise with Group Leaders to ensure the approval requirements for each visit are clearly communicated
- To retain all documentation in relation to each school visit.
- Provide support and guidance to Group Leaders
- Ensure that any accident/incident on a visit is notified to the SLT and a record is kept and that
- future visits are reviewed in light of previous incidents
- Ensure this Policy is kept up to date and that amendments are notified to the SLT
- Have completed the EVC training as recommended by the Outdoor Education Advisers Panel.

Senior Leadership Team

- To consider the suitability of all proposed educational visits

- To 'sign off' all documentation (including risk assessments) prior to approval.

Academy Council

- To approve all school trips.

Visit Procedure

The following steps outline the procedure to be followed for all visits:

1. For standard low risk daytime visits the Group Leader must complete Form EV1 at least 2 weeks before the intended date of the trip and send to Martin Roberts, nominated EVC. High risk or trips involving an overnight stay require form EV2 to be completed at least 1 month prior to the intended trip date.
2. Approval issued by the Senior Leadership Team.
3. Risk Assessment of method of travel and venue (where appropriate) to be sent to the EVC 1 week before the trip date.
4. Parental Consent form approved by Sue Farrimond.
5. The Group Leader will arrange for Parental Consent Forms to be sent and returned to school
6. Group Leader to compile a list of all students going on the trip and send to School Nurse - Sue Warburton, to check for medical information or medicines that may need to be considered/taken on the day
7. School matron provides medical information on students taking part. First Aid kit provided and first aider nominated for the trip.
8. Complete Emergency Contact Information
9. Completion of a school trip list by the Group Leader
10. Brief teachers all teachers and adults accompanying the trip
11. Brief pupils
12. 24 hours before the trip: Inform Student services (Audrey Longshaw and Karen Batchelor):
 - a. Where the trip is going
 - b. the time you will be leaving and returning to school
 - c. a rough number of how many students you will be taking
 - d. a staff mobile contact number in case of an emergency
 - e. Student services will then issue you with a time slot and location to sign your students out of school.
13. Register taken on the day of the trip. Marking a P for present or A for absent.
14. Copies of the register left at main reception and with Student Services. Contact phone numbers for staff on the trip need to be left on main reception, or ask for the MCA staff mobile
15. Visit. Implement and monitor safety standards in line with risk assessment
16. If returning before the close of school, 3pm Mon, Tue, Wed, Thur and 12.30pm on Friday you must ensure all students sign back into school using the 3 readers located in the reception area
17. Notify nominated person of safe return
18. Review visit.

Staffing of Trips

Ratios:

It is important to have a high enough ratio of adult supervisors to pupils for any visit. The factors to take into consideration include:

- Sex, age and ability of group;
- Pupils with special educational or medical needs;
- Nature of activities;
- Experience of adults in off-site supervision;
- Duration and nature of journey;
- Type of any accommodation;
- Competence of staff, both general and on specific activities;
- Requirements of the organisation/location to be visited;
- Competence and behaviour of pupils;
- First aid cover.

Ratios of staff to pupils for **low risk activities** are:

Year 1 - 3	1 Teacher to every 6 pupils for all visits. (under 5s reception classes should have a higher ratio)
Year 4 -6	1 Teacher to every 10 – 15 pupils for all visits.
Years 7 +	1 Teacher for every 15 – 20 pupils for visits in the UK 1 Teacher to every 10 pupils for visits outside the UK or for more hazardous activities

Without special safeguards or control measures, these ratios will not be adequate to meet the needs of most residential or more complex visits. The ratios stated are the minimum acceptable.

Except in special circumstances and with the agreement of the SLT, there must always be a minimum of 2 teachers with any visit. For certain visits a higher ratio will be appropriate because the leader of the visits has to ensure that there is a safe level of supervision at all times.

For visits abroad, at least 3 teachers must accompany the party unless the number of pupils is fewer than 10, in which case there should be 2 teachers.

If an adult who is not a member of staff is accompanying the trip then they must have an up to date and valid CRB check, authorised by the HR department.

No member of staff can be included in the staffing ratios if they are accompanied by their own child who is a minor (under 16).

Group Leaders must be experienced and have undertaken training as recommended by the Outdoor Education Advisers Panel.

Sporting Fixtures

The level of supervision should be at least in the ratio of one teacher to 15 pupils. At the end of a fixture, staff must ensure that all pupils are supervised until they are collected.

The use of **Pupils' cars** to transport other pupils is not allowed.

Emergency Procedures

Teachers should not hesitate to act in an emergency and to take lifesaving action in an extreme situation.

Emergency procedures are an essential part of planning a school visit. If an emergency happens the priorities are to:

- Assess the situation
- Safeguard the uninjured members of the group
- Attend the casualty
- Inform the emergency services and everyone who needs to know of the incident.

Guidance on Emergency Procedures

A copy of the following guidelines must be taken by all Group Leaders and their deputies.

- Establish nature and extent of the emergency.
- Make sure that all other members of the party are accounted for and safe.
- If there are injuries, establish their extent and arrange for first aid
- Establish names of the injured and call relevant emergency services.
- Advise other party staff of the incident and that emergency procedures are in operation.
- Ensure that an adult from the party accompanies casualties to hospital.
- Ensure that the remainder of the party is adequately supervised throughout and arrange for their early return to school.
- Arrange for one adult to remain at the incident site to liaise with emergency services until the incident is over and all children are accounted for.
- Control access to telephones until contact is made with the Area Leader Community and until they have had time to contact those directly involved. Pass full details of the incident (name, nature, date and time of incident, location of incident, details of injuries, names and telephone numbers of those involved, action taken so far).
- Telephone numbers for future communication identify alternate telephone numbers in case telephone lines become jammed).
- The school will arrange to contact the parents of those involved. In serious incidents the parents of all party members should be informed.
- Media:
 - A designated person should act as the point of contact with the media to whom all involved should direct questions.
 - Under no circumstances should the name of any casualty be divulged to the media.
 - The Party Leader should write down as soon as practicable all relevant details. A record should be made of any witnesses. Any associated equipment should be kept in its original condition.
 - Legal liability should not be discussed or admitted.
 - All accident forms should be completed and insurers and the HSE should be contacted
 - Inform parents of any delays that will be necessitated.

Additional Procedures for Visits Overseas

Prior to the visit the tour leader should obtain and take with them:

- European Health Insurance Card (where appropriate) and significant medical histories.
- Details of insurance arrangements and the company's telephone number.
- Location of local hospital/medical services.

In the case of an emergency the framework outlined above should operate. In addition the group leader should notify the British Embassy/Consulate.

After the Trip

The trip leader must inform the nominated person (or whoever has been delegated as the school contact) that the party has returned safely and ensure that all the students are safely collected from school by a responsible adult, such as a parent or guardian.

If any difficulties or incidents occur on a school trip, the Area Leader Community must be informed as soon as possible after the trip returns to school so that appropriate follow up action can be taken quickly.

Electricity

All reasonable steps will be taken to secure the health and safety of employees, students and others who use, operate or maintain electrical equipment.

To ensure this objective the school will:

- ensure electrical installations and equipment are installed in accordance with IEE Wiring Regulations
- maintain the fixed wiring installation in a safe condition by carrying out routine safety tests
- inspect and test portable and transportable equipment as often as required to ensure safety
- inspect and test second-hand electrical equipment lent to, or borrowed by, the school
- promote and implement a safe system of work for maintenance, inspection and testing
- forbid live working unless absolutely necessary, in which case a permit must be issued
- ensure employees and contractors who carry out electrical work are competent to do so
- maintain detailed records

Employees must:

- visually check electrical equipment for damage before use
- report any defects found to their manager. However, if there is any doubt whether the equipment is safe then it should be labelled 'out of use' and withdrawn until it has been tested and declared fit for use by a qualified person.
- not use defective electrical equipment
- not carry out any repair to any electrical item unless qualified to do so
- switch off non-essential equipment from the mains when left unattended for long periods
- not bring any electrical item onto school premises until it has been tested and a record of such a test has been included in the appropriate record
- not leave electric cables in such a position that they will cause a tripping hazard or be subject to mechanical damage
- never run extension leads under carpets or through doorways
- not daisy-chain extension leads to make a longer one
- not use adapter sockets – devices that plug into mains sockets to increase the number of outlets

Summary of Key Actions

The key actions necessary to control the health and safety risks arising from electricity are to:

- The main electrical installation should be tested every five years except for those parts of schools with:
 - a. licensed areas
 - b. lightning protection - which should be tested annually.
- Retain copies of electrical test certificates
- A record must be kept of all portable items of electrical equipment showing:
 - the detail of the item
 - the date of acquisition
 - details of any inspection, testing or repair work

- Arrange for the inspection and testing of portable electrical appliances in accordance with the guidance on electrical testing.

Fire

All reasonable steps will be taken to prevent a fire occurring. In the event of fire, the safety of life will override all other considerations, such as saving property and extinguishing the fire.

In order to prevent fire and to minimise the likelihood of injury in the event of a fire the school will:

- assess the risk from fire at our premises and implement appropriate control measures
 - ensure good housekeeping standards are maintained to minimise the risk of fire
 - provide and maintain safe means of escape from the premises
 - develop a fire evacuation procedure for all buildings
 - provide and maintain appropriate fire-fighting equipment including the sprinkler system
 - provide sand in bags in the Science Department as a precaution when using flammable metals
 - regularly stage fire evacuation drills, inspect the means of escape and test and inspect fire-fighting equipment, emergency lighting and any fire warning systems
 - provide adequate fire safety training to employees, plus specialist training to those with special responsibilities
 - make arrangements for the safe evacuation of deaf or otherwise disabled persons
 - make arrangements for ensuring all students and visitors are made aware of the fire evacuation procedures
 - display fire action notices
 - keep fire safety records
- The school does not require persons to attempt to extinguish a fire but extinguishing action may be taken if it is safe to do so.

Immediate evacuation of the building must take place as soon as the evacuate signal is given. All occupants, on evacuation, should report to the pre-determined assembly points.

Re-entry of the building is strictly prohibited until the fire brigade officer or a senior person present declares it is safe to do so.

Employees are encouraged to report any concerns regarding fire procedures so the school can investigate and take remedial action if necessary.

Summary of Key Actions

The key actions required to ensure fire safety is effectively managed are:

1. Complete and review annually a fire risk assessment
2. Arrange for fire safety checks to be completed and recorded for the following:
 - a) Fire evacuations (drills)
 - b) Fire alarm tests
 - c) Fire escape route checks
 - d) Extinguisher checks
 - e) Emergency lighting tests
3. Post fire evacuation notices
4. Develop personal evacuation plans for people with special needs
5. Provide fire safety training
6. Service the fire alarm, emergency lighting and sprinkler system as appropriate.

Fire Maintenance / Test Procedures

Fire Drills

Termly Fire Evacuations must be carried out at least once in each term	Ensure all occupants are able to evacuate to a place of safety in a reasonable time. (3 Mins.)	Record details of drill, evacuation time and any problems.
Fire Alarm / Panel System		
Daily	Check fire alarm panel for normal working conditions	Report any faults and actions
Weekly	Fire alarm audibility test conducted at a different call point tested each week in rotation. Number each call point for identification. (each zone to be tested every 13 weeks) Check alarm is audible in all areas (test to be carried out during full occupation) Check that any fire doors on automatic door closures linked to the fire alarm are closing properly. Check any doors fitted with electromagnetic locks are released.	Record details of call point test and call point number. Repair / replace defective units
Six Monthly	For systems with battery back up a six monthly battery check by a competent service engineer is required. This check may also include 50% of the automatic smoke / heat detectors, sounders and manually operated devices	Site to keep maintenance records
Annually For 230 volt systems without battery back up	An annual test and examination of the alarm system by a competent service engineer is required. Test and examination of alarm system by competent service engineer including all automatic smoke / heat detectors, sounders and manually operated devices.	Site to keep maintenance records.
Means of Escape		
Daily	Check for any obstructions on escape routes (internally and externally) Doors: check self closing devices, and that push bars/ other emergency fastening devices are operational.	Site to record details and actions only if there is a fault
Weekly	Check all internal fire doors for ease of opening, that they are a good fit, closing fully, fire door seals and self closures working correctly, correctly signed etc.	Site to record details and actions only if there is a fault
Monthly	Check all electronic release mechanisms on escape doors work correctly (i.e. fail safe in the open position on activation of alarm / loss of power)	Site to record details and actions only if there is a fault
Fire Fighting Equipment		
Daily	Check indicator lights functioning (report faults to contractor) Operate and replace batteries in torches if necessary.	Site to record details and actions only if there is a fault

Monthly	In house operational test for a short period (a maximum of one quarter of the rated duration).	Maintenance records to be kept on site.
Yearly	Emergency lighting full duration discharge test by competent person.	Maintenance records to be kept on site.

Fire Safety Training in School

The school will provide adequate fire safety training for staff. The type of training should be based on the particular features of the school and should:

- take account of the findings of the fire risk assessment;
- explain the emergency procedures;
- take account of the work activity and explain the duties and responsibilities of staff;
- take place during normal working hours and be repeated periodically where appropriate;
- be easily understandable; and
- be tested by fire drills.

Students/students will also be involved in some aspects of fire safety training, particularly with respect to fire drills, etc.

In primary schools, training may be no more than showing new staff and students the fire exits and giving basic training on what to do if there is a fire. In a large secondary school, the organisation of fire safety training will need to be more formal.

Fire training should include the following:

- what to do on discovering a fire;
- how to raise the alarm and what happens then;
- what to do upon hearing the fire alarm;
- the procedures for alerting students, students, members of the public and visitors including, where appropriate, directing them to exits;
- the arrangements for calling the fire and rescue service;
- the evacuation procedures for everyone in your premises (including young children or mobility impaired persons) to reach an assembly point at a place of total safety;
- the location and, when appropriate, the use of fire fighting equipment;
- the location of escape routes, especially those not in regular use;
- how to open all emergency exit doors;
- the importance of keeping fire doors closed to prevent the spread of fire, heat and smoke;
- where appropriate, how to stop machines and processes and isolate power supplies in the event of a fire;
- the reason for not using lifts (except those specifically installed or nominated, following a suitable fire risk assessment, for the evacuation of people with a disability);
- the safe use of and risks from storing or working with highly flammable and explosive substances;
- the importance of general fire safety, which includes good housekeeping; and

- the use of premises by outside bodies, e.g. IT training, music, etc.
- All staff identified in the emergency plan who have a supervisory role if there is a fire (e.g. heads of department, fire marshals or wardens and, in complex premises, fire parties or teams), should be given details of your fire risk assessment and receive additional training.
- In addition to the guidance above as a minimum all staff should receive training about:
 - the items listed in your emergency plan;
 - the importance of fire doors and other basic fire-prevention measures;
 - where relevant, the appropriate use of fire fighting equipment;
 - the importance of reporting to the assembly area;
 - exit routes and the operation of exit devices, including physically walking these routes;
 - general matters such as permitted smoking areas or restrictions on cooking other than in designated areas; and

Training is necessary:

- when staff start employment or are transferred into the premises;
- when changes have been made to the emergency plan and the preventive and protective measures;
- where working practices and processes or people's responsibilities change;
- to take account of any changed risks to the safety of staff, students or other relevant persons;
- to ensure that staff know what they have to do to safeguard themselves and others on the premises; and
- where staff are expected to assist disabled persons.

Training should be repeated as often as necessary and should take place during working hours.

Enforcing authorities will want to examine records as evidence that adequate training has been given.

Training of students

It is good practice to provide students with some form of fire safety training so that they are aware of the actions to be taken in the event of a fire.

This should include instruction on the:

- details of the emergency plan;
- importance of fire doors and other basic fire-prevention measures;
- importance of reporting to the assembly area; and
- exit routes and the operation of exit devices.

First Aid

The Academy is committed to providing sufficient provision for first aid to deal with injuries that arise at work or as a consequence of school activities.

To achieve this objective the school will:

1. appoint and train a suitable number of first aid personnel
2. display first aid notices with details of first aid provision
3. provide and maintain suitable and sufficient first aid facilities including first aid boxes
4. provide any additional first aid training that may be required to deal with specific first aid hazards

First Aiders

A First Aider is a person who has a valid certificate in either first aid at work (FAW – a 3 day course) or emergency first aid at work (EFAW – a one day course).

First Aiders training will be refreshed every three years by undertaking the two day First Aid at Work requalification. (This may be taken up to 3 months before / 28 days after the expiry date on the certificate).

First aid personnel will be provided with refresher training at regular intervals to keep their skills up to date.

Assessment of Need

The number of first aiders required will be determined by completing a risk assessment.

The numbers of first aid personnel will be determined by individual circumstances, the level of risk and in line with current government guidance.

The Academy will appoint a minimum of 2 appointed persons, to cover all work patterns and who must have completed training in Emergency First Aid at Work (EFAW).

As a guide the school will also appoint 1 first aider (with a minimum of the EFAW qualification) for each 100 pupils, but must also determine the need for additional cover after considering:

- the number of school buildings and the distance between each
- additional provision for split sites
- proximity to emergency services and emergency response times
- any special risks eg. science, DT – see below
- pupils with special needs
- cover for lunch and break times
- cover for illness
- educational visits when at least one first aider will be with the trip
- out of hours activities including school holidays when the school buildings are occupied

Additional First Aid Provision

In addition to the above in higher risk areas such as science and D&T etc. at least one person will be trained to a minimum level of emergency first aid.

All members of the PE department will be trained to deliver emergency first aid. First aid provision will be available at all times whilst people are present on school premises including out of hours activities. The assessment of need will be reviewed at least annually.

First Aid Boxes

First aid kits, clearly marked, will be provided in the FIRST AID ROOM and other readily accessible locations and be made known to all staff and pupils.

Additional first aid boxes will be provided on sports fields and for offsite visits.

First aid containers will also be available within specific curriculum areas where an increased risk exists. eg. Design and Technology workshops.

Travel first aid kits will be kept in minibuses.

First aid kits will contain a sufficient quantity of suitable first aid materials and nothing else.

First aid does not include the administration of medicines and thus first aid boxes should NOT contain drugs of any kind including aspirin, paracetamol, antiseptic creams etc.

First aid kits should be located near to hand washing facilities as far as possible.

All first aid kits will be checked regularly and maintained by a designated member of staff, items should not be used after expiry date shown on packaging. Extra stock will be kept in the school.

Suitable protective clothing and equipment such as disposable gloves (e.g. vinyl or powder free, low protein latex CE marked) and aprons will be provided near the first aid materials.

Blunt-ended stainless steel scissors (minimum length 12.7 cm) will be kept where there is a possibility that clothing might have to be cut away. These should be kept along with items of protective clothing and equipment.

Small quantities of contaminated waste (soiled or used first aid dressings) can be safely disposed of via the usual refuse collection arrangements. Waste to be double bagged in plastic and sealed by knotting.

First Aid Rooms

The first aid room, where provided, is equipped with a sink and accessible WC.

First Aid Information

Notices are posted in conspicuous positions within a school, giving the location of first aid equipment and facilities and the name(s) and location(s) of the first aid personnel.

New and temporary employees are to be told of the location of first-aid equipment and first aid personnel, and facilities on the first day they join the school as part of the induction training.

First Aid Records

The school ensures that the following records are available:

- Certification of training for all first-aiders and refresher periods;
- Any specialised instruction received by first-aiders or staff (e.g. Epi-pens);
- First aid cases treated (see accident / incident reporting).

Guidelines on Responding to Injuries

Minor injuries

The following injuries are considered minor and capable of being dealt with by a first aider in school: Grazes, small scratches, bumps, minor bruising, minor scalding or burns resulting in slight redness to the skin.

Injuries requiring medical attention:

- Deep cut
- Long cuts. Long cuts are considered to be approximately 1 inch when on the hand or foot and 2 inches when elsewhere on the body.
- The cut is jagged.
- The injury involved a pet, especially a cat.
- The injury involved a wild animal.
- The injury is due to a bite, either human or animal.
- The wound has debris stuck in it after cleansing.
- The wound is bleeding heavily.
- The wound will not stop bleeding after applying direct pressure for 10 minutes.
- The injury is a puncture wound.

Head injuries

Injuries to the head need to be treated with particular care. Any evidence of following symptoms may indicate serious injury and an ambulance must be called.

- unconsciousness, or lack of full consciousness (i.e. difficulty keeping eyes open);
- confusion
- strange or unusual behaviour – such as sudden aggression
- any problems with memory;
- persistent Headache;
- disorientation, double vision, slurred speech or other malfunction of the senses;
- nausea and vomiting;
- unequal pupil size;
- pale yellow fluid or watery blood coming from ears or nose;
- bleeding from scalp that cannot quickly be stopped;
- loss of balance;

- loss of feeling in any part of body;
- general weakness;
- seizure or fit.

Hospital Admission

Where a pupil is required to attend hospital using an ambulance it is not necessary to accompany a pupil to hospital. If parents are unable to attend hospital promptly, a member of staff should go to the hospital. In the exceptional circumstance of parental permission being required, the Senior Teacher can act *in loco parentis*.

If a child is taken directly to hospital they will be accompanied by a member of staff who will stay with the pupil until discharged or until a handover can be made to a parent or guardian.

The member of staff at the hospital must update the senior teacher on the condition of the injured pupil as and when information is made available.

The parent/guardian of a pupil attending hospital must be advised at the earliest opportunity.

Support for the injured pupil and their parents will be provided as determined by the individual circumstances of the incident.

Blood and Body Fluid Spillages

It is important that spillages of blood, faeces, vomit or other body fluids are dealt with immediately as they pose a risk of transmission of infection and disease, e.g. Blood borne viruses and diarrhoeal and vomiting illnesses, such as norovirus.

A spillage kit is available in school to deal with blood and body fluid spillages, the location of the spillage kit will be made known to all staff.

A person responsible for checking and replenishing the kit regularly will be nominated.
General principles of blood and body fluid spillage management:

Body fluid spillages should be dealt with as soon as possible with ventilation of the area. Anyone not involved with the cleaning of the spillage should be kept away from the area and protective clothing should be worn when dealing with the spillage such as gloves and aprons.

Spillage Procedure

Cordon off the area where the spillage has occurred.

Cuts and abrasions on any areas of the skin should be covered with a waterproof dressing;

Use personal protective equipment and clothing to protect body and clothes: disposable gloves and apron must be worn.

Hard surfaces e.g. floor tiles, impervious table tops.

Small spills or splashes of blood: Clean with neutral detergent and hot water.

Large spills

- Remove spillage as much as possible using absorbent paper towels
- Flush these down toilet or dispose of carefully in waste bag
- Cover remaining with paper towels soaked in diluted bleach solution (1:10 dilution with cold water)
- Leave for up to 30 minutes, and then clear away.

Alternatively, large spills may be covered with granules from the spillage kit for two minutes. Spillage and granules should be carefully removed with paper towels and disposed carefully into a waste bag.

Clean area with neutral detergent and hot water.

Soft surfaces and fabrics e.g. carpets and chairs

- Remove the spillage as far as possible using absorbent paper towels,
- Then clean with a fresh solution of neutral detergent and water.
- Carpets and upholstery can then be cleaned using cleaner of choice.

Steam cleaning may be considered.

Contaminated gloves, aprons, paper towels, etc should be carefully disposed of into a leak proof plastic bag, securely tied and placed immediately into the normal external school waste container. Large quantities of contaminated waste should be disposed of in consultation with the local waste authority.

Wash hands after procedure.

As with other all hazardous substances used in school, bleach and disinfectants should be stored, handled and used in accordance with COSHH (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health, 2002) Regulations and the manufacturer's instructions. Product data sheets and safe use instructions should be accessible, along with risk assessments and details of actions required in the event of accidental ingestion, inhalation or contact with skin or eyes.

All chemicals must be stored in their original containers, in a cool, dry, well-ventilated place that is lockable and inaccessible to children, visitors and the public.

Appropriate protective clothing (e.g. gloves and aprons) should be worn when handling bleach and other chemical disinfectants. Contact with skin, eyes and mouth should be avoided.

Food Science

Food prepared in school must be handled and served to comply with good hygiene practice to make sure the food is safe to eat.

Food Hygiene Training

The school will ensure that Food Science teachers and any persons who supports teaching programmes are competent in all aspects of food hygiene that they are required to teach to ensure that students are provided with appropriate experience to enable them to work correctly and safely, Level 2 in Food Safety is considered the minimum qualification.

Food hygiene training will be obtained by attending certificated courses which should be regularly reviewed, updated and refreshed every three years.

Key Considerations for Teaching Food

Food preparation rooms and classrooms provided are of sufficient size to allow people to work and circulate around the room with ease.

Class size can be determined by considering factors such as the size of the room, the equipment available, the age and ability of the students and the experience of the staff. Teachers must work within safe operating limits so that there is a safe teaching and learning environment and that they are able to provide adequate supervision for hazardous activities.

Staff are provided with safe equipment and systems that are regularly checked, inspected and maintained in an efficient state to recognised standards, with records kept. In addition to PAT testing this includes the servicing of gas equipment, fridge and freezer temperature checking, equipment guard checks, where appropriate. Teachers will be trained to the standards specified in Health and Safety Training Standards in Design and Technology published by DATA.

Teachers will teach students about general health and safety requirements relating to the working environment and instil in them the need to work safely at all times.

The students will be made aware of the hazards involved when working using processes, equipment and materials in various situations. They will be taught to assess the risks and identify the control measures taken, to help ensure the health and safety of themselves and others. Reference will be made to BS4163.

Lessons will be planned ahead to avoid risk. Work will be planned to involve the use of a wide range of food, food components and equipment to complete focused practical tasks. Student ability, knowledge, maturity, experience and special needs must be taken account of to provide challenging tasks and potential for achievement.

Teachers should be aware that because of their inexperience, students working with food require a high level of supervision, and should not be left unattended. Students with special needs may have poor coordination, slow reaction times and variable levels of concentration which require extra support and guidance. This will affect the teaching capacity/group size and may require additional support. Sometimes students can be paired with responsible peers to ensure safe working practices.

Teaching sessions must be long enough to complete processes without too high a percentage of time being taken up preparing for and tidying up afterwards. Short sessions can lead to frustration of both staff and students, as there is often insufficient time for full processes to be completed. Very long sessions without a break can give rise to problems with concentration.

Additional teaching support in lessons not only reduces risk but facilitates demonstration and allows for more practical work to be undertaken to the advantage of the students.

Manual Handling

It is recommended that trolleys are used for carrying heavy equipment and foodstuff. Sugar and flour are best purchased in small containers, despite the possible cost savings from purchasing bulk containers.

The use of high-level storage should be avoided. Where this is not possible there must be safe procedures for access to such storage and the provision of suitable and adequately maintained steps/footstools.

Personal Protective Equipment

Appropriate protective equipment, clothing, and storage of such, will be provided including suitably sized oven gloves and clean aprons.

Students should be made aware of the hazards of unsuitable footwear. Soft shoes and open toe sandals offer little protection from falling objects or spillages.

Long hair, jewellery, loose clothing such as ties and unbuttoned cuffs are potential hazards.

Sleeves should be rolled up, watches and ties removed and long hair tied back. Additional personal protective equipment such as gloves and eye protection is required when using hazardous cleaning agents.

Microwave & Combination Ovens

Manufacturer's instructions must be followed.

The ovens must be kept clean, including ensuring that air vents are not blocked or obstructed and that food debris does not build up around the door seal which could lead to leaks.

The ovens must not be used if the door does not close properly or if the door interlock switch does not work properly.

The ovens must not be switched on when empty.

Burns and scalds can be avoided by using oven gloves, removing lids or microwave film away from the face and checking the temperature of food and drink.

It is important to ensure food is thoroughly cooked throughout by stirring and turning the food during cooking.

Only food grade microwave film should be used in direct contact with food during cooking and defrosting.

Food should not be cooked in sealed containers; pierce the film covering containers (unless there are specific manufacturer's instructions to the contrary). Only use containers, films and ingredients which are known to be suitable for heating in a microwave oven.

Users should be made aware of the risk of certain foods superheating.

Deep Fat Frying

Where small electrically powered thermostatically controlled deep fat fryers are provided. The following precautions should be remembered:

- fryers should not be over-filled,
- electric leads should be kept as short as possible,
- fryers should be positioned safely,
- fryers should not be left unattended,
- water must not be allowed to come into contact with hot oil or fat (dry food before deep frying),
- the handle must be positioned safely and fat must be cooled before straining or pouring into
- plastic containers.

All persons must be trained to deal correctly with a fat or oil fire.

Pressure Cookers

Pressure cookers are covered by the Pressure Safety System Regulations 2000 and require annual inspections, against a suitable written scheme of examination.

Knives & Utensils

No student should be allowed to use a knife unless he or she has been properly trained in appropriate techniques.

The degree of supervision which is required when students are using knives depends on the age of the particular students and the tasks for which knives are being used.

Students should be made aware that sharp utensils can cause cuts that falling utensils can present a hazard, and that slipping can occur when pressure is applied.

Knives must be kept sharp and, when they are not in use, they must be stored securely. The knives inventory must be checked at the end of each lesson.

Where possible, the use of knives should be avoided, e.g. by the provision of vegetable peelers, scissors, etc. Mandolins are not recommended for use in schools.

Sharp utensils should not be left projecting from work surfaces and instruction must be given in their correct use, handling, storage and cleaning.

There is a model risk assessment on the CLEAPSS website on Food Preparation: Using Knives, which will be adapted for school use to reflect all reasonably foreseeable hazards.

First Aid

Teachers must be aware of students with particular medical problems, including allergies, so that they are able to take the necessary precautions during lessons.

At least one person holding a current first aid certificate, or who has been trained in emergency first aid, should always be available to attend and to provide first aid when cookery rooms are in use.

A first aid container equipped and maintained in accordance with Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations should be readily available.

Food standard sterile waterproof dressings coloured blue for ease of detection in food should be provided.

Fire Safety

Fire escape routes and fire doors must be operational and clearly marked, should be easily opened and free from all obstructions.

Fire fighting equipment, including fire extinguishers, fire blankets and fire detectors, should be readily available and maintained.

It is difficult to reduce the risk of fat-pan fires to zero, so specific instruction must be given to everyone on how to deal safely with such a fire when it occurs.

Spark devices are safer than matches for lighting gas hobs/ovens. All displays should suitably positioned away from heat sources.

To reduce the dangers of accidents, the number of students working at any one time around heating equipment must be controlled and close supervision given.

Health & Safety Notices & Signage

Appropriate notices and signs are to be clearly displayed including warning signs next to hobs that have no visual indication that they are on/hot, next to freezers, for hazardous materials, for fire exits, escape routes, fire fighting equipment and emergency first aid.

Hand washing/personal hygiene posters are also recommended.

Signs are not a substitute for teaching students safe working practices. However, they do act as a reminder to those students who might forget what they have been taught.

Gas Installations and Appliances

The school will ensure that all work carried out on gas fittings and appliances are in accordance with the requirements of the regulations and the Safety in the Installation and Use of Gas Systems and Appliances Manual.

Maintenance of Gas Equipment

Gas boilers, heaters, ovens and other gas fired equipment will be serviced at regular intervals, usually annually, and in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations.

All work on gas appliances to be carried out by a Gas Safe Registered engineer. Records of all servicing, maintenance and repairs to be kept.

Summary of Key Actions

The key actions necessary to ensure the safety of gas fired appliances are:

- Identify all gas fired appliances and create a maintenance schedule for each
- Arrange for servicing in line with the schedule and keep records
- Prepare a gas leak emergency procedure
- Highlight all gas shut-off points

Gas Emergencies

In the event of a suspected gas leak:

1. Call 24 hour gas emergency service on 0800 111 999
2. Evacuate the buildings and move the students and majority of the staff to a distance of at least 250 metres away. Nominate some staff to stay at a safe distance to prevent access to the site and await the emergency Transco engineer.
3. If it is safe to do so:
 - Put out naked flames
 - Open doors and windows
 - Turn off the gas supply

DO NOT TURN ELECTRICAL SWITCHES ON OR OFF

4. If the general public in the neighbourhood are at risk contact the police on 999

No person shall interfere with any gas appliance or gas fitting or pipe work unless qualified and competent to do so.

Hazardous Substances (COSHH)

All reasonable steps will be taken to ensure all exposure of employees and students to substances hazardous to health is prevented or at least controlled to within statutory limits.

The school will implement the following:

- maintain an inventory of all substances hazardous to used on site and retain copies of relevant hazard data sheets

- competent persons will be appointed to carry out risk assessments of the exposure to substances hazardous to health and advise on their control
- all activities which involve, or may involve, exposure to substances hazardous to health will be assessed and appropriate control measures will be taken if elimination or substitution of the substance is not possible
- fume cupboards and extract systems will be properly maintained by planned preventive maintenance and annual monitoring to ensure continued effectiveness
- systems of work will be reviewed at suitable intervals and revised if necessary
- personal protective equipment (PPE) will be provided and maintained as determined by risk assessment
- assessments will be reviewed periodically or if changes to the operation or any hazardous substances used
- qualified professionals, where necessary, will carry out health surveillance
- employee health records of all exposures to substances hazardous to health will be kept for a minimum of 40 years
- all employees and where necessary students will be provided with understandable information and appropriate training on the nature of the hazardous substances they work with. Employees will be informed about any monitoring and health surveillance results
- no new substances will be introduced into the school without prior assessment.

Substances Hazardous to Health

Substances hazardous to health as defined by the COSHH regulations are:

- a) substances classified as very toxic, toxic, harmful, corrosive or irritant. These can be identified by their warning label and carry the pictograms detailed below.

Current Symbols	New symbols being phased in before Dec. 2015
	

- b) Biological agents directly connected with work including micro-organisms.
 c) Dust of any kind when present as a substantial concentration in the air.
 d) Substances which have a Workplace Exposure Limit (WEL) assigned to them by the Health and Safety Commission document EH40.
 e) Any other substance not specified above which may create a comparable hazard to a person's health.

Principles of Control

Exposure to substances hazardous to health should either be prevented altogether, substituted with a less harmful substance, or (where it is not reasonably practicable) adequately controlled.

In all cases personal protective equipment (PPE) should only be used where it is not reasonably practicable to adequately control exposure by other means. For example, fume cupboards in science labs and local exhaust ventilation systems on woodworking machinery should always take precedence over masks.

If a substance is hazardous by inhalation it is likely to have been assigned a "workplace exposure limit" (WEL). This should be used to assess the level of control.

Where PPE is identified as necessary for use by staff and students it should be ensured it is suitable for the purpose.

Employees have a duty to make full and proper use of all control measures identified as required in the risk assessment and must wear appropriate PPE (lab coat, eye protection, gloves etc.) where this is identified as required. Adequate information and training must be provided on its use and maintenance.

Maintenance, Examination and Testing

Where controls such as fume cupboards, dust extraction for wood working equipment etc are provided it is necessary to ensure that they are properly maintained. This will require visual and operational checks pre use in addition to a thorough examination and tests of engineering controls.

In the case of local exhaust ventilation, tests for fume cupboards, woodworking extraction etc. should be carried out at least every fourteen months. A record of the results of all examinations must be kept for at least 5 years.

All PPE must be kept clean, in good repair and stored correctly to prevent contamination.

Health Surveillance

Health surveillance is typically only required in certain circumstances and is dependent on individual circumstances. Where there is a reasonable likelihood that an identifiable disease or adverse health effect associated with exposure will occur and the risk assessment shows that health surveillance is appropriate for the protection of employees these should be carried out.

Monitoring and health surveillance records relating to named individuals must be kept for 40 years.

Information, Instruction and Training

Information, instruction and training must be given to employees and students who may be exposed, about the risks to health and precautions.

Infection Control

School staff and students are from time to time at risk of infection or of spreading infection.

The school aims to minimise the risk of the spread of infection and will:

- provide employees with information on potential infections and symptoms measures to assist with early identification and prompt implementation of control measures
- inform and take advice from the local Consultant in Local Disease Control (CCDC) and the Environmental Health Department of the Local Authority if an increase in illness is noted in school, or if they have any concerns about infectious disease issues
- maintain up-to-date emergency contact numbers for all students, not only so that parents can be contacted if children are ill and need to be taken home, but also to assist in the investigation of any outbreaks
- maintain high standards of hygiene throughout the school including the promotion of good hand washing
- provide warm water, liquid soap and disposable towels in all toilets and cloakrooms.
- undertake risk assessments to include the infection control risk and identify control measures associated with farm or other similar visits
- ensure spillages of bodily fluids (blood, urine, vomit and faeces) are dealt with immediately and that adequate facilities are provided to provide protection to people involved.
- organise for the safe cleaning of equipment and where appropriate disinfection and thorough, cleaning of the premises
- arrange for safe disposal of any infected materials

Further Information

The Health Protection Agency (HPA) provides details on recommended exclusion periods for the more common communicable diseases in *Guidance on Infection Control in Schools*.

Factsheets on infectious diseases are available from the Health Protection Agency

<http://www.hpa.org.uk/Publications/InfectiousDiseases/Factsheets/>

Staff Illness and Reporting

Staff should notify their manager if they develop any of the following infectious diseases or symptoms:

- skin infections or exposed areas of infestation
- severe respiratory infection (e.g. pneumonia, TB)
- severe diarrhoea
- jaundice
- hepatitis
- Chicken Pox, Measles, Mumps, Rubella
- HIV

Individual suitable controls will need to be applied dependant on the circumstances of each case. In some instances employees may need to be referred to an Occupational Health Practitioner or their GP for advice.

Staff should report diseases including Leptospirosis, Hepatitis, TB, and Tetanus which have been contracted through work as these are reportable under RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations).

Confidentiality

Confidentiality will be maintained at all times in relation to an employee who is known to have any infectious disease.

No health information will be disclosed without the written consent of the employee concerned and any breach of such confidentiality, either inside or outside the school, will be regarded as a disciplinary offence and may result in disciplinary action.

Interactive Whiteboards

All reasonable steps will be taken by the school to secure the health and safety of employees and students when interactive whiteboards are used.

To achieve this objective the school will:

- consider ultra short throw projectors as a first option during the procurement process as these present the safest option for teachers and students
- prior to the installation of any new whiteboard a risk assessment will be completed to cover the positioning of the projector and the exposure to intense light
- try to ensure that projectors are located out of the sight line from the screen to the classroom; to ensure that, when teachers look at the class, they do not also have to stare at the projector lamp. (The best way to achieve this is by ceiling-mounting rather than floor or table-mounting the projector)
- ensure that students and students are adequately supervised when they are asked to point out something on the screen
- provide a stick or laser pointer to avoid the need for the user to enter the beam is recommended.

- provide adequate information and training to persons working with interactive whiteboards especially in relation to beam viewing by teachers and students.

Guidance for Users

- Teachers and students should avoid staring into the projector beam at all times
- Try to keep your back to the beam as much as possible
- Use the stick or laser pointer provided whenever possible.

Legionnaires Disease

All reasonable steps will be taken to identify potential legionellosis hazards and to prevent or minimise the risk of exposure.

The school will:

- Carry out a Legionellosis Risk Assessment
- Prepare a written scheme/plan for preventing or controlling the risk of Legionella
- Implement and manage the scheme/plan
- Keep records for a minimum of 5 years.

Day to day responsibility for monitoring and ensuring that the systems are being correctly operated, lies with the

At risk systems include the hot and cold water storage and distribution system.

To achieve control of legionella bacteria the school will implement the following:

- **Avoidance of Conditions Favouring Growth of Organisms:** As far as practicable, water systems will be operated at temperatures that do not favour the growth of legionella. The recommended temperature for hot water is 60 °C and either above 50 °C or below 20 °C for distribution, as care must be taken to protect people from exposure to very hot water. The use of materials that may provide nutrients for microbial growth will be avoided. Corrosion, scale deposition and build up of bio films and sediments will be controlled and tanks will be lidded.
- **Monitoring and Recording:** Temperatures of water outlets will be checked and recorded to ensure temperature controls to prevent bacterial growth are maintained.
- **Disinfection:** Periodic disinfection of shower heads to remove any scale and bacteria.
- **Emergency procedures:** Establish emergency procedures if during routine sampling/inspection of hot and cold water systems Legionella bacteria is discovered in any systems likely to provide a medium for the spread of infection (e.g. water aerosol spraying equipment) these will be shut down and the situation reported immediately to the Finance Director.
- **Training:** Provide training to the Site Team responsible for the day to day management of the water systems.

Lifts

All reasonable steps will be taken to maintain all lifts throughout the school.

Implementation

The school will ensure that:

- an examination scheme is drawn up by a competent person for each lift

- lifts are maintained in a safe condition and examined/inspected by competent persons (annually for goods lifts and 6 monthly if lifting people)
- the safe working load (SWL) is clearly displayed inside each lift
- notices are posted adjacent to each lift opening advising against the use of a lift in the event of a fire
- arrangements are made for the emergency evacuation of persons in the event of lift failure
- lift motor rooms are kept locked and entry only allowed to authorised persons

Records

All thorough examination reports will be kept for a minimum of 2 years.

Lone Working

Lone working relates to any individual who spends some or all of their working hours working alone without direct supervision and who does not have someone close at hand to assist them in the case of an incident.

Lone working increases the health and safety risks to individuals because they may not be able to summon assistance in the event of an incident and any delay in receiving attention may increase the consequences of any injury.

People falling into this category may include:

- Anyone working outside normal hours on their own
- Cleaners who normally work outside school hours
- Teachers working in workshops or laboratories
- Site Team
- Employees who open up or close the building on their own.

It is acceptable for people to work alone so long as the school has completed a risk assessment and any measures deemed necessary have been put into place.

People who are not lone workers:

- Teachers or others working alone in a classroom or office in the main school buildings when the school is open

Some activities should not be carried out by people working alone and each school should identify those that are relevant to them, typically this may include:

- Working at height on ladders or tower scaffolds
- Use of high risk chemicals
- Use of high risk machinery
- Electrical work
- Entry to areas of restricted or limited access or exit.

Key Actions

- Identify all workers who work alone
- Identify all locations where lone working is carried out
- Complete a risk assessment for all lone working
- Control measures to be identified, prioritised and implemented.
- Higher risk activities/area identified and formal decisions made on authorisation of lone working.
- Formal systems/procedures developed for particular activities/areas as required.

Requirements of lone workers

- It is important that lone workers are considered for any known medical conditions which may make them unsuitable for working alone. Consideration to be given to routine work and foreseeable emergencies which may impose additional or specific risks.
- Lone workers must be suitably experienced, have suitable instructions and if necessary, training on the risks they are exposed to and the precautions to be used.
- Schools should ensure adequate supervision is provided. The adequacy of the supervision will depend on the level of the risk, types and duration of exposure. Adequacy of supervision may involve some of the following:-
 - a. periodic checks on lone workers i.e. visual
 - b. periodic contact with lone worker i.e. telephone
 - c. general or specific alarms for emergencies
 - d. checks on lone workers to ensure they have returned to the school on completion of extra curricular activities.

Rules for Lone Workers

- Anyone working alone must have access to a telephone and ensure that a relative or colleague is aware;
- The caretaker (or other named person) must be informed of anyone intending to work late and a satisfactory arrangement made for locking up the building;
- When the caretaker (or other named person) is not present all lone workers, for reasons of security, health and safety, should lock themselves in the building.
- Staff must not place themselves in danger by challenging intruders or vandals but should call the police for assistance.
- Staff working alone have a responsibility for making themselves familiar with and following the school's safety procedures and location of safety equipment.
- If staff rely on mobile phones they must ensure that their network has good reception within school. Although phones can give extra reassurance, they do not provide complete protection and staff should still be alert for their own personal safety at all times.
- In the situation where two or more people are working in isolated areas of an otherwise unoccupied building, personnel should keep each other informed about their movements.

Opening/Closing School

- When the last person has left the building and notified the caretaker (or other named person), he should then secure the building. This includes the closing of all fire doors and leaving on any emergency and exterior lights.
- When the caretaker (or other named person) arrives in the morning he must make a quick examination of the exterior of the building to make sure that there are no signs of a break-in or of anyone having been in the building. If the caretaker is in any doubt he should contact the Police/security firm and should never enter the building if he is unsure of his safety.
- Key holders are also advised to inform someone when they are attending an alarm call out.

Emergency Considerations

Lone workers should be capable of responding correctly to emergencies. Risk assessment should identify foreseeable events. Emergency procedures should be established and the people concerned trained in using the procedures.

Emergency Procedures may need to cover:

- fires resulting from the process or work being undertaken
- if a person has an accident what needs to be done to recover them, especially important in laboratories

- actions to be taken in case of a chemical spill
- actions to be taken in the event of power failure (for example where the person is reliant on power for their safety systems or for egress from a building eg. power operated doors)

Manual Handling

Manual handling means: the transporting or supporting of a load by hand or by bodily force including lifting, putting down, carrying, pushing or pulling.

A load can include a person or animal as well as inanimate objects but not an implement, tool or equipment while in use for its intended person.

Typical manual handling tasks in school are:

- moving tables and chairs
- carrying piles of books or stationery
- putting out PE equipment
- maintenance activities
- putting out teaching equipment (eg. sewing machines, speakers)

To prevent injuries and long term ill-health from manual handling the school will ensure that activities which involve manual handling are eliminated, so far as is reasonably practicable. Where it is not practical the school will carry out an assessment to determine what control measures are required to reduce the risk to an acceptable level.

To implement this policy the school will ensure that:

- there is no lifting wherever possible and in relation to the handling of students with special needs, this policy is intended to promote a safer handling approach, which means no manual lifting of the whole or a substantial part of a person's body weight.
- manual handling assessments are carried out of activities that:
 - a) pose a foreseeable risk of injury
 - b) cannot be avoided
 - c) cannot be mechanised and consider the risks to students and employees.
- adequate information and training is provided to persons carrying out manual handling activities including details of the approximate weights of loads to be handled and objects with an uneven weight distribution, where appropriate
- any injuries or incidents relating to manual handling are investigated, with remedial action taken employees are properly supervised
- where relevant, employees undertaking manual handling activities are suitably screened for reasons of health and safety, before doing the work
- special arrangements are made for individuals with health conditions which could be adversely affected by manual handling operations
- wherever possible, the school will conduct the risk assessments of students with special needs before they attend and the school should seek to receive information on students in advance.

Reducing the risk of injury

In considering the most appropriate controls, an ergonomic approach to designing the manual handling operation will optimise the health, safety and productivity associated with the task.

Techniques of risk reduction will include:

- mechanical assistance
- redesigning the task
- reducing risk factors arising from the load
- improvements in the work environment
- employee selection

No employee will be required to lift any item that they do not feel confident of doing without risking personal injury.

Moving and Handling People

There are occasions when a student with medical needs requires assistance in moving. While the basics outlined above still apply, there are other considerations. When a move is essential and the person requires help, then their co-operation should be sought where possible. The move should be explained to them so that they can actively participate in it.

Whenever a student with physical disabilities needs regular support in standard moves such as from a wheel chair to toilet or a seat or vehicle, then a full risk assessment must be written up. Clear instructions covering each activity should be included, so that all staff members who are involved in the task may move the person safely and in the same manner. Ancillary equipment such as hoists, sliding boards, swivel plates, etc. must all be used in the correct manner and staff must have received appropriate training in the use of the equipment.

The risk assessment should consider both routine manual handling and emergency situations when manual-handling procedures may have to be adapted (eg evacuation in the event of a fire). The risk assessment will help inform the procedures for that student's needs. Procedures should be developed with the student or their representatives. An individual's needs might vary day-to-day and even during the course of a day.

Schools should endeavour to ensure employees adopt the same handling techniques when assisting students with moving and handling to ensure a consistent and safe approach. This will help to keep the student calm and reduce the risk of struggling, sudden movement or violence. The expert advice of external medical professionals should be considered where complex moving and handling problems of students are presented.

Key Actions

- Senior Leadership Team to identify and list tasks with a potential to cause injury.
- complete a manual handling risk assessment for each task
- bring the assessment to the attention of relevant staff and students, where relevant
- provide manual handling information and where required training for staff and students
- supervise tasks to ensure safe lifting and handling
- review assessments at least annually
- complete risk assessments for students with special needs before they enter school

New and Expectant Mothers

The school recognises that the general precautions taken to protect the health and safety of the workforce as a whole may not in all cases protect new and expectant mothers and there may be occasions when, due to their condition, different and/or additional measures will be necessary.

To implement effective measures for new and expectant mothers the school will ensure that:

- employees are instructed at induction to inform their manager of their condition at the earliest possible opportunity and that the highest level of confidentiality is maintained at all times
- risk assessments are carried out for all work activities undertaken by new and expectant mothers and associated records and documentation maintained
- new and expectant mothers are not allowed to work with chemicals of a mutagenic/teratogenic classification
- necessary control measures identified by the risk assessment are implemented, followed, monitored, reviewed and, if necessary, revised
- new and expectant mothers are informed of any risks to them and/or their child and the controls measures taken to protect them
- any adverse incidents are immediately reported and investigated
- appropriate training etc is provided where suitable alternative work is offered and accepted
- provision is made to support new and expectant mothers who need to take time off work for medical reasons associated with their condition
- where relevant a suitable rest area is provided to enable the new or expectant mother to rest in a degree of privacy and calm
- where risks cannot be eliminated or reduced to an acceptable level then consideration will be given to adjusting working conditions and/or hours or if necessary providing suitable alternative work or suspension with pay

Outdoor Play Equipment

Safe Use of Equipment

Supervision

Children must be supervised at all times whilst using outdoor play equipment and the appropriate number of people required to supervise play areas must be determined for each location.

Supervising staff should be familiar with the equipment, the rules for use and of the ability of the children.

General guidelines

- Staff/supervisors on duty must ensure that outdoor play equipment is visible and can be appropriately supervised when in use.
- Staff/supervisors on duty have a responsibility to make regular checks for defects and report them as appropriate.
- Staff/supervisors have a responsibility to ensure appropriate behaviour policy.
- Consideration needs to be given to weather conditions, outdoor play equipment should not be used during wet or icy conditions.
- Apparatus must only be used at appropriate times when supervised. Parents need to be informed that the apparatus is for school aged children only and not to be used before and after school.

Clothing/Footwear

Suitable clothing should be worn. Hazards can arise from - unfastened coats, woollen gloves, scarves, ties, etc.

Appropriate footwear must be worn. Hazards arise from - slippery soles, open toed and sling back sandals, heels and untied laces, etc.

Zoning of Activities

Consideration will be given to the range of activities occurring within the playground area:

- Ball games/chasing games to be sited away from the climbing area.
- Wheeled toys in particular, are to be used away from the climbing area.

Play equipment standards

All new outdoor play equipment to be designed, constructed, installed and maintained in accordance with European standards BS EN 1176 and BS EN 1177.

Scrambling and climbing elements must not exceed 3 metres, for children below 5 years the height should be a maximum of 1.6 metres.

Height should not be the dominant feature on any item of equipment. Interest challenge and enjoyment should be achieved without the need for height itself.

Structures must be spaced clear of each other to prevent one activity interfering with another, they must also be clear of walls, fences etc.

Suppliers of new equipment will be required to supply information relating to surfacing requirements, intended age range, risk assessment, installation instructions, servicing and maintenance instructions.

Safety surfaces

All products must meet the appropriate BS EN Standards. Both portable and fixed climbing equipment that has a fall height of 600mm must be on an impact-absorbing surface if used outside. (Fall height is the distance from the clearly intended body support to the impact area).

Although impact absorbing surfaces cannot prevent accidents they may reduce the level of injury. There are a range of surfaces available which provide impact attenuation including rubber mats and tiles, bark etc.

The extent of surfacing around static equipment is dependent on the fall height; this should extend at least 1.75m beyond the outermost points of the base of the frame.

When considering so called safety surfaces their likely effectiveness, durability, practicality and management will be taken into account.

Materials such as top soil and turf do have limited impact absorbing properties.

Where bark is used this area should be a minimum of 300mm deep with a recommended particle size of 38mm max and 12mm min.

Loose materials will spread if not suitably contained and will need to be topped up from time to time, thus it is important to have additional bark available to top up to the original level.

Inspection and Maintenance

For new equipment a post installation inspection will be arranged.

BS EN 1176 recommends that all outdoor play equipment be inspected and maintained on a regular basis. Such inspection and maintenance is at 3 levels.

Level 1 checks – Daily / pre use checks by staff (these do not require formal recording)

Concentrating on the following points:

- no evidence of obvious wear / damage
- area safe from health hazards e.g. needles, glass, faeces etc
- impact absorbing surfaces no cuts, tears, wear or unstuck areas
- all fastening tightly secured
- no broken chains, stretched links or loose or twisted shackles
- uprights unbroken and firm in the ground
- Where any defects / hazards are identified appropriate steps must be taken to prevent use until problems have been satisfactorily resolved.

Level 2 checks – termly inspection in house

A more thorough check of the equipment to be conducted termly and these records kept on site.

Level 3 checks – annual inspection

A detailed certified inspection by an independent competent person capable of inspecting to BS EN 1176 and 1177 these checks must be formally recorded and records kept on site.

Such checks ensure safety and identify any improvements required in terms of the European standards.

The competent person conducting the annual inspection will advise on the extent of surfacing required for both static and moving equipment.

Personal Protective Equipment

The school provides personal protective equipment (PPE) when the risk presented by a work activity cannot be eliminated or adequately controlled by other means. When it is provided, it is because health and safety hazards have been identified that require the use of PPE and it is therefore necessary to use it in order to reduce risks to a minimum.

To effectively implement its arrangements for the use of PPE the school will:

- ensure that PPE requirements are identified when carrying out risk assessments
- use the most effective means of controlling risks without the need for PPE whenever possible and only provide PPE where it is necessary
- carry out an assessment to identify suitable PPE
- ensure that if two (or more) items of PPE are used simultaneously, they are compatible and are as effective used together as they are separately
- ensure PPE is available to all staff who need to use it
- provide adequate accommodation for correct storage of PPE
- provide adequate maintenance, cleaning and repair of PPE
- inform staff of the risks their work involves and why PPE is required
- instruct and train staff in the safe use and maintenance of PPE
- make arrangements for replacing worn or defective PPE
- review assessments and reassess the need for PPE and its suitability whenever there are significant changes or at least annually

Employees provided with PPE for their own personal use at work will be required to sign to confirm its receipt.

Physical Education

The Academy is committed to safe practice in physical education and recognises that the school and the teaching staff and others in positions of responsibility have a duty of care for those in their charge to ensure that planning and implementation include recognition of safety as an important element. Young people should learn about the principles of safety as applied to themselves and to the care and well being of others.

This should be a planned and intentional aspect of the curriculum.

The school follows the standards set out in 'Safe Practice in Physical Education and School Sport' produced by the Association for Physical Education.

Implementation

The Head of PE is responsible for ensuring this policy is brought to the attention of all staff in the Department, for ensuring that it is complied with.

The Head of PE is also responsible for completing an Association for Physical Education (afPE) PE risk assessment form for each PE event where significant health and safety hazards are reasonably foreseeable and for bringing risk assessments to the attention of relevant staff.

Staff competence and qualifications

Teachers with responsibility for the planning and delivery of PE programmes should have satisfactorily completed appropriate initial and/or in-service training which cover all those aspects of activity required to be taught, as recognised by the DfE.

Where there are specific National Governing Body Certificates available for certain sport or activities, teachers planning or supervising these activities should be certificated as appropriate.

Only in exceptional circumstances and with great care should teachers of other subjects who have no specialist training in physical education be time-tabled to teach in the PE department. Those teaching staff should not take full responsibility for any aspect of physical activity where there are elements of hazard and attendant risk. This will include swimming, gymnastics, athletics and throwing events.

Manual handling and storage of equipment

Where possible manual handling tasks should be avoided or the risk of handling injury minimised by appropriate task design or the use of handling aids (e.g. trolleys). The layout of storage areas should minimise the need to stretch, reach, bend or twist the body excessively to reach frequently used or heavy items. This can be enhanced by ensuring that storage areas are kept tidy and well organised.

Apparatus Handling by Pupils

It is an integral part of the subject to involve pupils in apparatus handling, particularly in gymnastics. However this must be carried out in such a way as to reduce risk to pupils as far as is reasonably practicable. The school will make arrangements to enable pupils to learn how to handle equipment safely according to their age and strength.

Inspection of equipment

All indoor PE facilities (gymnasiums, halls, sports halls, multi-gyms etc.) and equipment will be inspected termly and records kept.

PE department staff should carry out pre-use visual checks of equipment to identify obvious defects this includes a visual sweep of the area/room prior to use to ensure any hazardous objects are removed.

Games posts to be kept in good condition, lighter portable posts secured to prevent them falling over free standing posts secured and all posts checked regularly.

Hazards and equipment defects

It is the responsibility of everyone in the PE department to notify the Head of Department of any hazards, e.g. defects to equipment, so that appropriate action can be taken.

If the Head of Department considers a defect to be a significant threat to health and safety, the equipment must be taken out of action until the defect to the equipment has been remedied and/or the Head of Department agrees it is safe to be used. A notice must be hung on the equipment indicating that it is faulty and must not be used.

Sporting Fixtures

The level of supervision should be at least in the ratio of one teacher to 15 pupils. At the end of a fixture, staff must ensure that all pupils are supervised until they are collected.

The use of Pupils' cars to transport other pupils is not allowed.

Effective Safety Management in PE:

The effective management of safety for a school P.E. Department has four components:

1. Risk assessment and planning before a lesson.
2. Organisation of routines during and between lessons to include:
 - a. the checking of equipment to be used
 - b. the use of appropriate kit, etc;
 - c. checking all P.E. areas are free from sharp objects and broken glass;
 - d. location of safety equipment;
 - e. reporting accidents.
3. Control to include:
 - a. Where to find safety information.
 - b. Regular safety checks.
4. Monitor and Review - including procedures for reporting hazards/suspected hazards and those for reviewing risk assessments and safety in general.

SECTION 1. Risk assessment and planning before a lesson.

All Departmental staff are required to familiarise themselves with the health and safety policies of the Academy and the Department, copies of risk assessments of the different facilities which must be retained in the Departmental office or in electronic format in an accessible location.

Before a lesson starts staff should:

1. Have carried out a risk assessment, this can be done visually e.g. checking of the surface and checking of equipment before this is handed out. Should any equipment be faulty this must not be used and at the end of the lesson either signed to ensure it isn't used by anyone else or removed from its location to be fixed.
2. Have procured any necessary safety equipment and undertaken any safety measures.

3. Know when to use particular facilities and equipment.
4. Staff should have access to a record of the quantity and condition of all items of equipment that is to be used by the pupils.

Additional Notes/Equipment set up etc.

Risk assessment is a process that has several components:

1. Identify hazards. N.B. These can be routine, e.g. lifting five a side goals, or the throwing of a basketball to an inattentive pupil (which can break a finger). If activities are well-managed, and the pupils concerned are carefully supervised, then the element of risk will be minimised or removed.
2. Look at cause and effect.
e.g. a large class size may adversely affect the safety of the people in a gym/sports hall. Therefore the number of pupils allocated to any one group is ideally restricted to help enable adequate and safe use of the equipment/facilities in each gym/sports hall.

e.g. supervision levels may significantly affect the level of risk. That 'class' is likely to average 28, 29, 30 pupils. However once you move away from 'normal' things should change, so:

- A class with a high number of pupils with special physical or learning needs
- A class with a high number of behavioural issues
- A setted or banded lower ability group

All of the above would mean reducing the class size or using additional staff.

In addition if the staff member is:

- An NQT
- New to the school
- Inexperienced
- Lacking in confidence in that activity

All of these should have a bearing on the class size Finally if the activity is a higher risk activity such as:

- Trampolining
- Swimming
- Some athletics events

This would also mean reducing the ratio.

The lists above are not exhaustive, each situation will be assessed, and a decision made having weighed up the circumstances such as those in the lists above.

3. Examine methods of work.
In each of the P.E. halls/gymnasias certain major areas should be clearly defined, e.g.
 - where pupils perform the activities;
 - where large items of equipment are cited;
 - where smaller items of equipment are stored; where information/rules/work is displayed.

The floors must be kept clean and dry, and adequate lighting, in terms of its location and brightness, must be provided. Where applicable, there must be prominent signs warning of specific dangers and safety rules.

4. Investigate the safety literature for advice.
5. Remove hazards where possible. Clearly good class management and supervision are crucial to this.
6. Estimate any costs incurred in changing practice and obtain or request relevant funding.

7. Implement new practices.
8. Review the changes - is the risk better or worse?

In case of emergency staff should already:

9. Be familiar with evacuation procedures in case of fire or other emergency.
10. Know the location and identity of the officer trained in first aid.

SECTION 2. Organisation of routines during and between lessons.

1. Teachers should make frequent references to the rules and procedures applicable to a particular area or activity. A list of the Department's general rules and procedures, together with a list of those specific to the area, must be prominently displayed in each gym/sports hall.
2. Procedures and expectations before, during and after the PE lesson are communicated to students at the start of each academic year and then continually referred to throughout the year by staff individual teachers.
3. Supervision when changing: When the gender of the teacher / students allows staff should be present in the changing rooms whilst students are changing however if the teacher is teaching an opposite gender group or a mixed sex group then it isn't appropriate to be in the changing rooms. The following procedure should be followed:

Two responsible / reliable students in each group to take on the role of informing the staff member of any incidents that might occur in the changing area. These students should be identified prior to the lesson and be fully aware where the member of staff is located

This scenario is used in the case where one staff member is taking a mixed gender group, and, for example only male PE staff are teaching in the department at the time even though female students are being taught and need to change.

Different attitudes towards privacy, and safeguarding issues do mean that schools have to adopt a safe, vigilant and reasonable procedures to changing. This may mean that constant supervision is not the best method. Safety must never be compromised; a staff member will always be on hand.

4. When walking with students over the bridge the following procedure must be followed:
 - a. Students to meet at the academy side of the bridge and to wait until directed to cross.
 - b. Students must walk in single file over the bridge.
 - c. Staff should be located behind the group to allow for the whole group to be seen as they cross the bridge
 - d. Students **MUST** not distract any traffic by waving or shouting (students **MUST** be reminded of this at the start of the lesson).
 - e. On the way back to the academy students should clean their boots / trainers on the boot brush.
 - f. Students must wait for their teacher to instruct them over the bridge.
 - g. Students must walk in single file over the bridge.
 - h. Once students are over the bridge both gates should be locked to ensure safety of the school site and to ensure no student crosses the bridge unsupervised.
5. When located on the field staff should have with them an Academy radio or PE department mobile phone to allow for contact to be made to the Academy nurse or member of SLT to be made should the situation require.

The P.E Department Safety Code for Students

The gym/sports hall is a much safer place to work if you follow this code:

Before the lesson starts you must:

1. Line up in alphabetical order at the correct meeting point in the quad.
2. Wait sensibly for your teacher to register you.
3. Then enter the changing rooms in a sensible manner and get changed into your PE kit.
4. Ensure that you are wearing the correct PE kit including a hair bobble. Required PE kit is listed in your planner.
5. NO food or drink (except water) should be consumed in the changing rooms.
6. When you are ready meet your teacher at the appropriate area or meeting point.

On Route to your lesson:

1. Never go into your activity area without permission.
2. Never enter store cupboards unless accompanied by a member of staff.
3. Always walk to your activity area and never run or push anyone.
4. If you are on the field you must wait for your member of staff at the bridge and **MUST** not cross until told to do so. You must cross in single file and **MUST NOT** run. When returning from the field you **MUST** clean boots on the boot brush and then walk single file (when directed to do so) over the bridge. **NO** student should distract any of the traffic below by waving or shouting over the bridge.

During the lesson you must:

1. **Always** know exactly what you are doing and how to use an item of equipment. If not, ask your teacher.
2. **Always** follow instructions first time.
3. **Always** report an accident or breakage immediately.
4. **Never** interfere with equipment.
5. **Never** remove or interfere with any safety notices.
6. **Never** put anything in your mouth. Do not eat, drink or chew.

At the end of the lesson

1. **Always** leave your activity area clean and tidy.
2. Shower and dry yourself thoroughly if appropriate.

6. Teachers insist that pupils use the correct names of equipment when talking to staff and peers.
7. Pupils should be encouraged to develop a strong sense of 'health and safety' for themselves and others, and to become familiar with the general and area-specific rules and procedures. Pupils must heed the teacher's advice on how to avoid any potential risks when using particular apparatus, equipment, materials or transport. They are required to behave sensibly at all times, and should be reminded regularly of the dangers that exist whilst doing P.E. Safety training for pupils is therefore important - particularly important is the consideration of situations which do not always appear to be dangerous, but which often are, and of which pupils must be made aware.
8. When appropriate, pupils are required to perform certain activities with a prescribed number of safety monitors, e.g. trampolining.
9. Doors must be locked if staff leave the activity area they are in. Pupils are not allowed to enter or work in any activity area unless actively supervised.
10. Pupils and staff are not to eat or drink (other than water) in any activity area or changing room- this includes break and lunch times (unless the student has a medical condition which requires them to consume food or other liquids).
11. At the end of a lesson staff are to ensure that all equipment has been rendered safe and should remove and report any breakages.
12. Staff should ensure that the pupils leave the area in an orderly manner. If fire exits are used this can reduce the congestion, which is often heavy, in the corridors.
13. Particular care should be given to the distribution and collection of equipment; the number and condition of which should be checked at both the beginning and the end of an activity or a lesson.
14. Notices identifying large items of equipment, giving instructions on how to use them safely, and warning of any potential hazards, must be prominently displayed in positions adjacent to them.

SECTION 3. Control.

1. Where to find information:
 - a) Safe Practice in Physical Education and School Sport can be located in the Physical Education Department office and teachers should refer to this with regards to specific activities and if they have any concerns and queries.
 - b) Teachers need to be familiar with the procedures for reporting accidents, particularly those that constitute an emergency (see reporting flow chart for procedures).
2. Regular safety checks:
 - a) Gym equipment/apparatus is regularly monitored by all teaching staff (see below for details) paying particular attention to wall bars/fitting brackets. An annual safety check by a specialist contractor is also carried out.
 - b) The portable electrical equipment (such as sound systems) is checked annually.
 - c) Lighting to be maintained in a condition that produces adequate light for the required activities. Any defects in lighting should be fault logged and reported to the premises manager.
 - d) Heating must be sufficient to provide comfort and to comply with statutory requirements - Any defects in heating should be fault logged and reported to the premises manager.
 - e) Floors to be regularly inspected to ensure they remain clean, even, non-slip and splinter proof - Any defects in the flooring should be fault logged and reported to the premises manager.
 - f) Benches will be inspected to ensure that they remain free from splinters.
 - g) Vaulting horses, beams and benches must be stable.
 - h) Changing rooms/showers will be checked for broken tiles, sharp edges, and hygienic cleaning. Issues should then be reported to the premises manager.
 - i) A first aid box is kept in the PE department office and returned to matron when items have been used to replenish this.
3. Trainee teachers and new teaching staff are given an induction programme that includes training in safety procedures. All of the department's staff will be trained on the use of new equipment.
4. All members of the PE department will be trained to deliver emergency first aid.

SECTION 4. Monitor and review.

1. Procedures for reporting safety matters: such as a suspicion/reporting of faulty equipment including faulty/inadequate fire fighting equipment:
 - a. **Always** inform the Head of Department and colleagues. Also inform the Premises Officer as appropriate, ensure that this is done verbally and written (e.g. through email correspondence). Once the Head of Department has been informed it will be his/her responsibility to make appropriate decisions, e.g.
 - i. Immediately taking the relevant piece of equipment out of service.
 - ii. Organising a replacement item of equipment.
 - b. Safety matters are standard items on the agendas of the Department meetings.
2. Procedure for Circulating Safety Information.

On receipt of a safety concern these are categorised by the Head of Department under one of three headings:

- i. **Immediate action required** - staff are verbally informed by the Head of Department / post holder and then emailed a copy of the new/revised instruction as soon as possible (if appropriate). The related Risk Assessments are then to be altered as appropriate if required. The document will then be discussed at the next department meeting.
- ii. **Medium/long term action required** - Staff are informed and the document is circulated to all P.E. staff and then filed. The Practical Requirement sheets and related Risk Assessments are then altered as appropriate. The document will be discussed at the next department meeting.
- iii. **No action required** - Staff will be informed at the next department meeting.

Dealing with and reporting incidents

If an accident occurs within a lesson or extra curricular the following procedure must be followed:

1. Staff member to assess the student and the severity of the injury. If staff first aid trained then they must follow their first aid training.
2. If staff feel that the injury is severe then the school nurse should be contacted via her school mobile or radio. OR two sensible members of the class should be sent to get school nurse if she isn't contactable via school mobile or radio.
3. If the injury is that severe that the student isn't to be moved staff should clear the area around the student and ensure that they are kept warm and spoken to whilst waiting for the school nurse.
4. Once the school nurse has arrived she will take over at this point and administer any first aid required / contact parents / hospital / doctors.
5. If the injury doesn't require the academy nurse then staff to issue first aid as appropriate and make recommendations as required e.g. advise student to go to SID / matron should the pain continue.
6. In both situations (nurse present or not) staff MUST complete the accident reporting form in as much detail as possible and as soon as possible which is located in the PE department office, ensuring names of any witnesses are collected for accident investigation purposes.

Extra curricular:

1. If the injury / accident occurs during extra-curricular staff to follow the same procedure above unless academy nurse isn't present and then it may be required for the member of staff to contact parents / hospital / doctors.
2. Prior to calling of an ambulance (if required) staff should make an attempt to contact a member of SLT and HOD. A member of the SLT & HOD should be contacted when any situation during extra curricular (practice or fixtures) occurs.

Pressure vessels

Pressure vessels used in the school science departments include autoclaves and domestic pressure cookers (used as autoclaves).

Because of the high pressures at which they operate and the steam that is generated they are subject to the requirements of the *Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2001*. The metal from which the pressure vessels are constructed may become corroded. Pressure vessels include some mechanism for regulating the pressure of steam that builds up internally; normally steam is released to maintain a constant working pressure. Severe corrosion and failure of pressure-regulating and other safety valves could lead to an explosion.

To ensure the safety of the pressure vessels used and to meet the requirements of the legislation the school will:

- establish the safe operating limits of the equipment;
- provide adequate instructions to ensure the equipment is operated safely, and
- instructions for procedures to be followed in case of emergency;
- ensure that the equipment is properly maintained;
- have a suitable written scheme drawn up or certified by a competent person for the examination, at appropriate intervals, of the equipment;
- arrange to have examinations carried out by a competent person at the intervals
- set down in the scheme;
- keep adequate records of the most recent examination.

Autoclaves and pressure cookers need periodic inspection under the *Pressure Systems Safety Regulations*.

The examination normally takes place each year in

The examination is carried out by the inspector employed by the insurance company who uses a written scheme of examination provided by the company.

Records of examinations are kept in the **Science Prep. Room**.

Radiation

Teaching about ionising radiation in school helps students to develop a balanced attitude towards the subject, for many the study of ionising radiation at school may be their only opportunity to achieve this.

School work involving ionising radiation is very safe because great care has been taken in the choice of sources, control measures and procedures. However, all radioactive substances can cause harm if misused.

To comply with legislation and to ensure the school follows best practice the school has appointed:
..... as Radiation Protection Adviser (RPA)
and: as Radiation Protection Supervisor (RPS).

The Local Rules for the use of ionising radiations have been adapted from the CLEAPSS model in consultation with the RPA and it is a function of the Teacher in Charge of Science to see that they are adhered to. Staff using ionising radiations have been issued with their own copies, as a part of their training.

The *Radioactive Sources History* (ie, authority to purchase, record of delivery, details of events in the life of the source and eventual certificate showing method of disposal) is kept in the Science Prep. Room.

The *Use Log* (showing the times that any sources are removed from and returned to their store) is kept in the Science Prep. Room.

The *Monitoring Record* of tests for leakage of radioactive sources and contamination by radium sources is kept in the Science Prep. Room. Testing normally takes place each year September.

It is the function of the Head of Science to ensure these records are all kept up to date.

Risk Assessment

Risk assessment is a systematic examination of what within our school can cause harm to people and it helps us determine whether we are doing enough or further actions are required to reduce the likelihood of injury or ill health.

Our policy is to complete a risk assessment of all our known and reasonably foreseeable health and safety hazards covering all our premises, people, equipment and activities in order to control risks and to plan and prioritise the implementation of the identified control measures.

We will ensure that:

- assessments are carried out and records are kept
- control measures introduced as a result of assessments are implemented and followed
- employees are informed of the relevant results and provided with necessary training
- any injuries or incidents lead to a review of relevant assessments
- assessments are regularly monitored and reviewed
- suitable information, instruction and training will be provided to all persons involved in the risk assessment process

We may be controlling risks in various ways, determining the effectiveness of those controls is part of our risk assessment process.

It is the responsibility of the Principal to ensure risk assessments are conducted, in practice the actual assessment process will be delegated to Heads of Departments and Managers.

Generic/Model risk assessments are acceptable so long as the assessor:

- satisfy themselves that the 'model' risk assessment is appropriate to their work; and
- adapt the model to their own actual work situations.

When completing risk assessments it is necessary to refer to the relevant subject guides:

Design & Technology

CLEAPSS Risk assessments in technology <http://www.cleapss.org.uk/>
BS 4163:2007 Health and Safety for Design and Technology in Schools and Similar Establishments

Science

CLEAPSS <http://www.cleapss.org.uk/>
CLEAPSS School Science Service Laboratory Handbook CLEAPSS Hazcards

Food Science

CLEAPSS Food Technology <http://www.cleapss.org.uk/>

Art

National Society for Education in Art & Design (NSEAD)

<http://www.nsead.org/hsg/index.aspx>

Physical Education

Safe Practice in Physical Education and School Sport' BAALPE/afPE <http://www.afpe.org.uk/>

Offsite visits

Health and Safety of Students on Educational Visits. DfE

Safeguarding

The school will:

- contribute to inter-agency working for safeguarding and child protection in line with statutory requirements
- implement a suitable safe recruitment process
- implement and enforce a child protection policy and a staff behaviour policy or code of conduct
- provide appropriate training to all staff members
- provide the designated safeguarding lead with appropriate authority, time, funding, resources, training and support to allow them to effectively carry out their duties
- implement a suitable procedure for handling allegations against members of staff
- maintain trust in the teaching profession
- provide a safe environment in which children can learn
- provide training to pupils about safeguarding as part of a balanced curriculum

Staff Responsibilities

The school requires all staff to:

- assist in providing a safe environment in which children can learn
- raise all concerns with the designated safeguarding lead, including concerns about other staff members
- always err on the side of caution and report suspected cases of abuse or neglect
- report concerns directly to children's social care if it is not possible to raise them with the designated safeguarding lead
- always act in the best interests of the child

If at any point there is a risk of immediate serious harm to a child, staff members should make an immediate referral to children's social care. If the child's situation does not improve, staff members with concerns should press for re-consideration.

Recruitment

The law places requirements on all employers to ensure that all staff engaged to work with children are suitable to do so. We will take all reasonable steps in the employment process including carrying out checks on:

- Employment history considering any and all gaps in employment history
- Qualifications and professional registration
- Proof of identity (birth certificate and passport); and
- References.

We will also check current or prospective employees' criminal records and whether they are included on lists of people barred from working with vulnerable groups.

Disclosure and Barring Services (DBS) and other checks

A DBS check will be made for all staff members who will be required to engage in regulated activities prior to employment and the school will carry them out in line with current legislation. Enhanced DBS checks and/or barred list checks will be made for staff members as necessary. Post-employment DBS checks will be carried out for staff members who did not previously take part in regulated activities but who now will be involved in such activities. The school will implement suitable procedures to ensure that staff promoted or moved to such positions will not be permitted to start their new roles until the proper DBS checks are complete.

Record Keeping

We will ensure that appropriate, accurate, legible and contemporaneous records of safeguarding concerns are made and stored securely in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

Security

- All staff should be conscious of all aspects of the security of people and property. In particular, the emergency exit doors on the outer perimeter of the buildings should only be used in the event of emergencies and kept secure at all other times.
- Maintaining security is aimed at reducing the opportunity for unauthorised persons to enter the buildings through non-designated access points. It is also necessary to be alert to the possible presence of unauthorised persons on site who may constitute a threat to staff, students and bona-fide visitors and contractors.
- Staff will be required to wear their Academy Identity Badges at all times.

Science

This policy sets out the schools arrangements for ensuring that practical work within the science department is carried out safely and that safety control measures applied are pragmatic and proportionate so as not to inhibit good teaching.

The task of overseeing health and safety within the science department is that of the Head of Department.

Information

All staff are issued with a copy of this policy which they should keep in their personal health and safety portfolio.

Any new instructions, restrictions or rescinded (lifted) restrictions made by the school are communicated to all staff in writing.

Monitoring and checking

The school requires the science department to monitor the implementation of this policy. Records of monitoring are kept by the Head of Department.

Training

Any non-science staff who have to supervise any class in a laboratory will receive brief training in laboratory rules.

Records of the training received by members of the science staff are kept on file.

Risk Assessments

The school follows the recommendation of the Health and Safety Executive to adopt 'model' or 'general' risk assessments adapted to the school curriculum and facilities.

Whenever a new course is adopted or developed, all activities (including preparation and clearing-up work) are to be checked against the model risk assessments and significant findings incorporated into texts in daily use, ie, the scheme of work, set of lesson plans, syllabus, technician notes.

If a model risk assessment for a particular operation involving hazards cannot be found in these texts, a special risk assessment is to be completed. In order to assess the risks adequately, the following information is collected.

- Details of the proposed activity.
- The age and ability of the persons likely to do it.
- Details of the room to be used, ie, size, availability of services and whether or not the ventilation rate is good or poor.
- Any substance(s) possibly hazardous to health.
- The quantities of substances hazardous to health likely to be used, including the concentrations of any solutions.
- Class size.
- Any other relevant details, eg, high voltages, heavy masses, etc.

Lesson plans have been checked against the model risk assessments, staff should deviate from it only if their proposed activities have been also checked with the models and where appropriate agreed with the Head of Department.

Where an activity must be restricted to those with special training, that restriction is included in a note on the text.

Fume Cupboards

The school will arrange regular testing of fume cupboards at a maximum interval of 14 months but require teachers to perform a quick check before use. Records of the tests are kept on file. All users have been trained to carry out a quick check that a fume cupboard is working before use.

Pressure Vessels

Autoclaves and pressure cookers need periodic inspection, normally annually, under the *Pressure Systems Safety Regulations*. Records of examinations are kept on file.

Equipment Safety

All staff selecting equipment for purchase will check that it is safe and suitable for the intended purpose (to comply with the *Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations*). Equipment listed by specialist educational equipment suppliers is taken to meet these *Regulations* but all other equipment, especially gifts, is treated with caution and carefully assessed.

Any user who discovers a hazardous defect in an item of equipment must report it to the Head of Department or other nominated person.

Personal Protective Equipment

The school accepts the duty to provide eye protection, gloves and laboratory coats for employees where the risk assessment requires them and safety spectacles for students. The condition of the eye protection is checked at the start of each term.

Chemicals

The safe storage and, where necessary, disposal of chemicals including highly-flammable liquids, will be arranged in accordance with the requirements of the *Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations (DSEAR)* in order to ensure that chemicals are stored securely, the risks of fire, explosion and spillage are minimised, labels are readable and that a spill kit is available and properly replenished.

Hazardous activities involving chemicals is restricted to those who have received special training and as identified in the texts in daily use as part of the risk assessment.

Waste disposal

Waste chemicals and equipment are disposed of in an environmentally-responsible manner in accordance with relevant legislation.

Safe disposal of Sharps

All sharps must be correctly and safely disposed in a leak-proof, puncture resistant, lockable container. The container should not be filled more than two thirds then sealed and disposed as per the school procedure.

Security

Access to laboratories and preparation rooms will be controlled to prevent unauthorised access. All science rooms including store rooms are to be kept locked at all times except when in use. It is the task of the staff member leaving such a room to see that the room is empty and that the door is locked. All laboratories which are left open are cleared of all hazards, including shutting-off all services when supervision by a suitably-trained teacher or teaching assistant comes to an end. No class is allowed to be in a laboratory without adequate supervision.

All science areas are made safe for cleaners or contractors to work in before these persons are allowed to proceed.

Fire fighting equipment

Two 2 kg carbon-dioxide extinguishers and one fire blanket provided for fire fighting are the standard for Science classrooms.

When using flammable metals, it is better to have a bag of sand immediately available in case of fire. Dry powder extinguishers may cause permanent damage to computers and lead to such a mess that industrial cleaning will be required. A fire blanket can be used to smother fires, often causing less damage than a carbon dioxide extinguisher, which may blast apparatus across the bench.

Spills

Trivial spills are dealt with using damp cloths or paper towels. Spills of any amount which do not give rise to significant quantities of toxic or highly-flammable fumes ('minor spills') are dealt with by teachers using a 'spill kit' provided for this purpose.

Major spills are those involving the escape of toxic gases and vapours or of flammable gases and vapours in significant concentrations. (Small amounts can be 'major spills' if spilt in small rooms.) Staff are trained in the appropriate procedures which may involve calling the Fire Service. This training is supported by regular drills arranged by the Head of Department.

Stress

The Health and Safety Executive define stress as "the adverse reaction people have to excessive pressure or other types of demand placed on them". This makes an important distinction between pressure, which can be a positive state if managed correctly, and stress which can be detrimental to health.

Stress at work can come about for a variety of reasons. It may be excessive workload, unreasonable expectations, or overly-demanding work colleagues. The school will endeavour to ensure a pleasant working environment and that employees are as free from stress as possible.

We will:

- work to identify all workplace stressors and conduct risk assessments to eliminate stress or control the risks from stress
- regularly review risk assessments
- consult with employees on issues relating to the prevention of work-related stress
- provide access to confidential counselling for employees affected by stress caused either by work or external factors
- provide training for all managers and supervisory staff in good management practices

Employees who experience unreasonable stress which they think may be caused by work should raise their concerns with their Manager or through the school's grievance procedure.

Following action to reduce the risks, they shall be reassessed. If the risks remain unsustainable by the employee concerned, efforts shall be made to reassign that person to other work for which the risks are assessed as tolerable.

Supporting Students with Medical Needs

The school's policy is to support students to attend school who have a medical condition. The school will therefore support the administration of short and long term medication and medical techniques where this is necessary for the pupil to continue to be educated at school. The school will also put in place procedures to deal with emergency medical needs.

The school will establish procedures to ensure that all concerned, staff, parents, students and, where relevant, health professionals are aware of the student's condition and what steps have been agreed either to manage the condition on a daily basis or to be implemented in case of an emergency.

It is stressed however that the administration of medication is undertaken on a voluntary basis by staff and it will only be done where the procedures are followed.

Health Care Plans

Parents are responsible for providing the school with up to date information regarding their child's health care needs and providing appropriate medication.

Individual health care plans are in place for those students with significant medical needs e.g. chronic or ongoing medical conditions such as diabetes, epilepsy, anaphylaxis etc. These plans will be completed at the beginning of the school year / when child enrolls / on diagnosis being communicated to the school and will be reviewed/updated annually.

All staff are made aware of any relevant health care needs and copies of health care plans are available on the schools computer network.

Staff will receive appropriate training related to health conditions of students and the administration of medicines by a health professional as appropriate.

Administering Medicines

No child under 16 should be given medicines without their parent's written consent. Any member of staff giving medicines to a child should check: the child's name; prescribed dose; expiry date; written instructions provided by the prescriber on the label or container.

If in doubt about any procedure staff should not administer the medicines but check with the parents or a health professional before taking further action. If staff have any other concerns related to administering medicine to a particular child, the issue should be discussed with the parent, if appropriate, or with a relevant health professional.

In some circumstances such as the administration of rectal diazepam, it is good practice to have the dosage and administration witnessed by a second adult.

Self-Management

It is good practice to support and encourage children, who are able, to take responsibility to manage their own medicines from a relatively early age. As children grow and develop they should be encouraged to participate in decisions about their medicines and to take responsibility.

Older children with a long-term illness should, whenever possible, assume complete responsibility under the supervision of their parent. Children develop at different rates and so the ability to take responsibility for their own medicines varies. This should be borne in mind when making a decision about transferring responsibility to a child. There may be circumstances where it is not appropriate for a child of any age to self-manage. Health professionals need to assess, with parents and children, the appropriate time to make this transition.

Where children have been prescribed controlled drugs, staff need to be aware that these should be kept safely. However children could access them for self-medication if it is agreed that it is appropriate.

Refusing Medicines

If a child refuses to take medicine, staff should not force them to do so, but should note this in the child's record and follow the agreed procedures. Parents should be informed of the refusal on the same day.

Educational Visits

The school will consider what reasonable adjustments they might need to make to enable children with medical needs to participate fully and safely on visits. This might include reviewing and revising the visits policy and procedures so that planning arrangements will include the necessary steps to include children with medical needs. It might also include risk assessments for such children.

Sometimes additional safety measures may need to be taken for outside visits. It may be that an additional supervisor, a parent or another volunteer might be needed to accompany a particular child. Arrangements for taking any necessary medicines will also need to be taken into consideration. Staff supervising visits should always be aware of any medical needs and relevant emergency procedures. Copies of health care plans should be taken on visits in the event of the information being needed in an emergency.

Sporting Activities

Any restrictions on a child's ability to participate in PE should be recorded in their individual health care plan. All adults should be aware of issues of privacy and dignity for children with particular needs.

Some children may need to take precautionary measures before or during exercise and may also need to be allowed immediate access to their medicines such as asthma inhalers. Staff supervising sporting activities should consider whether risk assessments are necessary for some children, be aware of relevant medical conditions and any preventative medicine that may need to be taken and emergency procedures.

School Transport

Where students have life threatening conditions, specific health care plans should be carried on vehicles. The care plans should specify the steps to be taken to support the normal care of the student as well as the appropriate responses to emergency situations.

All drivers and escorts should have basic first aid training. Additionally trained escorts may be required to support some students with complex medical needs. These can be healthcare professionals or escorts trained by them.

Some students are at risk of severe allergic reactions. Risks can be minimised by not allowing anyone to eat on vehicles. All escorts should also be trained in the use of an adrenaline pen for emergencies where appropriate.

Non Prescription Medication

Non prescription medication should not be administered by school. This includes paracetamol and homeopathic medicines.

Staff may not know whether the student has taken a previous dose, or whether the medication may react with other medication being taken. **A child under 16 should never be given aspirin containing medicine, unless prescribed by a doctor.**

Where it is necessary to administer non-prescription medicine to a child, specific written permission must be obtained from parents / carers and the administration documented.

If a pupil suffers regularly from acute pain, such as migraine, the parents should authorise and supply appropriate painkillers for their child's use, with written instructions about when the child should take the medication. A member of staff should notify the parents that their child has requested medication and supervise the student taking the medication if the parents have agreed to it being taken.

Violence to Staff

The school recognises that in certain situations violent behaviour towards staff may occur and therefore will take all reasonable measures to protect staff from violence and aggression.

We define violence and aggression as:

- actual or threatened physical assaults on staff
- psychological abuse of staff
- verbal abuse which includes shouting, swearing and gestures
- threats against employees

To achieve this objective we will:

- carry out risk assessments of potential conflict situations to determine the control measures necessary to protect staff
- ensure that premises are kept secure
- inform all employees of the procedure following a violent or challenging behaviour incident
- not tolerate violence or challenging behaviour towards our employees
- train our employees who may be exposed to violence or challenging behaviour situations
- support the employees involved in any incident
- support their decisions regarding the pressing of criminal charges
- provide any counselling or post-incident assistance required by the employees
- keep records of all incidents of violence and aggression and review the control measures with a view to continual improvement in employee safety

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The school's policy is to support students to attend school who have a medical condition. The school will therefore support the administration of short and long term medication and medical techniques where this is necessary for the pupil to continue to be educated at school. The school will also put in place procedures to deal with emergency medical needs.

The school will establish procedures to ensure that all concerned, staff, parents, students and, where relevant, health professionals are aware of the student's condition and what steps have been agreed either to manage the condition on a daily basis or to be implemented in case of an emergency.

It is stressed however that the administration of medication is undertaken on a voluntary basis by staff and it will only be done where the procedures are followed.

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In some circumstances such as the administration of rectal diazepam, it is good practice to have the dosage and administration witnessed by a second adult.

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Older children with a long-term illness should, whenever possible, assume complete responsibility under the supervision of their parent. Children develop at different rates and so the ability to take responsibility for their own medicines varies. This should be borne in mind when making a decision about transferring responsibility to a child. There may be circumstances where it is not appropriate for a child of any age to self-manage. Health professionals need to assess, with parents and children, the appropriate time to make this transition.

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Sometimes additional safety measures may need to be taken for outside visits. It may be that an additional supervisor, a parent or another volunteer might be needed to accompany a particular child. Arrangements for taking any necessary medicines will also need to be taken into consideration. Staff supervising visits should always be aware of any medical needs and relevant emergency procedures. Copies of health care plans should be taken on visits in the event of the information being needed in an emergency.

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- ensure that premises are kept secure
- inform all employees of the procedure following a violent or challenging behaviour incident
- not tolerate violence or challenging behaviour towards our employees
- train our employees who may be exposed to violence or challenging behaviour situations
- support the employees involved in any incident
- support their decisions regarding the pressing of criminal charges
- provide any counselling or post-incident assistance required by the employees
- keep records of all incidents of violence and aggression and review the control measures with a view to continual improvement in employee safety

Voice Care

Introduction

Teachers are particularly at risk of developing voice problems. Female voices are more vulnerable and some subjects, e.g. physical education, music and technology create more risk to the voice than others.

Environmental factors can contribute to voice strain. In schools these can include:

- class size
- class layout and design
- noise
- acoustics
- chalk dust, fumes, irritants
- uncomfortable temperature, poor ventilation

Research also indicates that as the voice influences the listener's reaction, the teacher's voice quality can affect pupil learning.

The most common voice misuse is shouting and screaming, strained loud voice and also excessive throat clearing. The usual symptoms of voice problems are:

- throat pain when speaking or swallowing
- sore throat in the morning which disappears when the voice "warms up"
- hoarse, tired voice in the evening
- increase in mucus
- rapidly-changing pitch or loss of control of voice

Aim

We aim to ensure that appropriate steps are taken in to minimise the risks to our employees' voices. To achieve this we will;

- identify those teaching areas where a risk of voice loss may occur
- assess the risk of voice loss in each area
- implement measures to reduce the risk of voice loss as far as reasonably practicable in areas identified as at risk
- provide information to employees on the risk of voice loss and how to reduce the risk
- keep records of reports of voice problems
- refer affected employees to occupational health

Employees will be encouraged to seek medical help if there is:

- persistent hoarseness for more than 2-3 weeks
- regular hoarseness or voice loss
- significant voice quality changes
- constant vocal fatigue
- difficulty or pain when swallowing

Monitoring and Review

We will:

- keep a log of any incidents or requests for help
- work with Heads of Department to make appropriate risk assessments

- ensure that appropriate action is taken
- log progress and outcomes as part of our health and safety management system
- make a termly report to the Principal

The Principal will report on any cases to the Governing Body.

Work at Heights

The school will take all reasonable steps to provide a safe working environment for all employees who may be affected by work at height activities.

The school will ensure that:

1. all work activities that involve work at height are identified and assessed
2. the need to undertake work at height will be eliminated whenever it is reasonably practicable to do so
3. all work at height is properly planned and organised
4. all employees required to use stepladders or ladders are competent
5. regular inspections of all stepladders and ladders are undertaken
6. any contractors on school property comply with this policy
7. ladders and stepladders are secured to prevent unauthorised use.

Risk Assessment for Work at Height

For all activities involving work at height a risk assessment must be conducted and the findings recorded. This assessment should consider both the work to be done and the most appropriate access equipment to be used (not just what is available) to achieve a safe system of work.

When determining control measures the following hierarchy of controls for work at height as follows must be considered:

- avoid the risk by not working at height, for example by working from existing platforms, using long reach equipment etc. If it is not practicable to do the work safely in some other way then:
- use work equipment or other measures to prevent falls; and
- where the risk of a fall cannot be eliminated further controls to minimise the distance and consequences of a fall should one occur.

The detail of the assessment will depend on the level of risk involved, as a general guide the risk assessment should consider:

- The task and activity involved
- The people (medical conditions etc.)
- Equipment to be used including erection and dismantling
- The location (proximity to roads, overhead electrical cables etc)
- The environment, poor conditions and slippery surfaces (weather, temperature etc.)
- The affect on pedestrians, falling objects

Using Ladders (Including stepladders)

Ladders should not be used simply because they are readily available, the risk assessment should determine if a ladder or stepladder is appropriate for the task.

Ladders and stepladders should only be used for short duration tasks (less than 30 minutes), light duty tasks or where more suitable access equipment cannot be used due to existing features of the site which cannot be altered.

For example whilst a ladder may reach, if the task requires strenuous work, carrying bulky / heavy equipment or likely to take more than 30 minutes then an alternative means of access such as a tower scaffold or podium steps would be more appropriate.

Only those persons who have been trained to use ladders safely may use them.

All ladders should be secured against unauthorised use

Prior to use it should always be ensured that the ladder is in good condition and fit for purpose. Where ladders are to be used to work from it should be ensured that:

- a secure handhold and support are available at all times;
- the work can be completed without stretching;
- the ladder can be secured to prevent slipping.

Equipment Identification / Inspection

The school will compile a register of equipment (excluding kick stools). Where there is more than one piece of equipment each should be indelibly marked with an identifying number.

Equipment for work at height, should be inspected prior to use and by a competent person termly/6 monthly. The inspection will depend upon the complexity of the equipment.

In the case of tower scaffolds a competent person must inspect these prior to its first use and thereafter every 7 days that it remains in place.

Work Experience Placement

This Policy on work experience relates to the placement of pupils on employers' premises in which the pupil carries out a particular task or duty, or range of tasks or duties, more or less as would an employee, but with the emphasis on the learning aspects of the experience.

The safety of pupils, whilst on work experience schemes, is recognised as of prime importance by the school and we have appointed a named coordinator to action, control and assess work experience schemes. The coordinator will take reasonable steps to satisfy themselves that the placements they arrange will be safe and to ensure pupils are not exposed to significant risks to their health and safety.

Pupils on work experience placements with a host employer are regarded in health and safety law as their employees. The host employer therefore has a responsibility to ensure pupils are not exposed to significant risks to their health and safety.

Health and safety law defines all those under 18 as a young person and therefore at potentially increased risk in a workplace environment due to their lack of experience and maturity.

For learners with learning difficulties and disabilities (LLDD) additional safeguards may be identified and thus placements should be considered and risk assessed on an individual basis.

Key Actions

- Arrange for pre-placement checks of health, safety and welfare standards of employers (placement providers) to be carried out. Child safeguarding issues must also be considered. Using the Work Experience Placement Assessment Form.
- Brief pupils prior to placements starting on their own health and safety responsibilities - and those of the employer - while on placement. Issue each pupil with a copy of the booklet: "Be Safe! An introductory guide to health and safety".
- Monitor pupils health, safety and welfare while on placement and provide 'pastoral' support.

Risk Assessments

Before a pupil is allowed to start on a programme of work experience the host employer must carry out a risk assessment. A Placement Employer Risk Assessment Form should be used for this purpose. Any risks identified must either be controlled or the pupil excluded from exposure to them.

The host employer must also provide the parents, or guardians, with the key findings of the risk assessment and the preventative and protective control measures introduced to minimise, or ideally eliminate any significant risks.

The parent or guardian must sign the risk assessment form and return it to the school.

Induction

Pupils also need to be inducted by the employer on commencement. The induction should take place on the day the pupil first attends the work placement and before the pupil is placed in any actual work situation.

Prohibited and Restricted Activities

Work experience placements must not take place where the work concerned is subject to a statutory restriction based on a young person's age, or is restricted more generally for activities that are:

- beyond their physical or psychological capacity
- exposes them to substances chronically harmful to human health, e.g. toxic or carcinogenic substances, or effects likely to be passed on genetically or likely to harm the unborn child
- exposes them to radiation
- involves a risk of accidents which they are unlikely to recognise because of their lack of experience, training or attention to safety
- involves a risk to their health from extreme heat, noise or vibration

There is an exception to these restrictions. Young persons over the minimum school leaving age can carry out such work as long as it is necessary for their training, if they are supervised by a competent person, and any risk will be reduced to the lowest level that is reasonably practicable.

Restrictions also apply in the following cases:

- Agriculture - restrictions on the employment of young people
- Lead - prohibition of employment on employment in certain processes
- Potteries - prohibition of employment on employment in certain processes
- Wood Working Machinery - prohibition on employment of untrained young people

Preparation of and Support for Learners on Placements

The school will brief pupils on:

- realistic expectations for their placement
- supervision arrangements and health and safety responsibilities of pupils and employers
- safeguarding arrangements
- arrangements for mid-placement visit and 'pastoral' support during the placement
- arrangements for debriefing, assessment and recording

The school will make suitable arrangements to visit/monitor pupils on placement as they retain the duty of care for the pupil during the placement.

The frequency of visits will vary depending on feedback from pupils and/or their parents, an accident or incident.

Host employers should be asked to report immediately (to a previously agreed contact) full details of any accident involving a pupil.

The school will provide each pupil with emergency contact details for a member of school staff who can be contacted should an incident occur or if significant concerns arise. This includes early mornings, evenings and weekends, or if a pupil is attending their placement at irregular hours.

Emergency contact details must also be available and maintained in situations where a placement continues after the end of the school term into a holiday period.

Working Hours

The Working Time Regulations apply to pupils on work placements. Pupils should not work for more than five days in any consecutive seven day period. However, the number of hours worked and pattern of work is normally a matter for agreement by the placement provider, school and pupils. Pupils should not be asked to work excessively long hours, or unnecessarily unsocial hours, and should not work more than a standard eight hour day.

Pupils may not be assigned to work during the 'restricted period' between 22:00 and 06:00 (or after 11:00 or before 07:00 depending on the working pattern of the company).

Young persons are entitled to a daily rest period of at least 12 consecutive hours in each 24-hour period in which they are at work and to a weekly rest period of at least 48 hours in each seven-day period during which they are at work.

Pupils are also entitled to rest breaks if their working time is more than four and a half hours. The rest break should be at least 30 minutes.

Safeguarding

There is no requirement to DBS check all staff of the host employer that may come into contact with a pupil on placement. Only a member of staff with day to day responsibility for the pupil or as part of their job description – this could be the manager, a supervisor or a mentoring employee – should be required to have a DBS check.

In the vast majority of placements – as the employer/employees involved will not have regular **unsupervised** access to young people at work – there is no need for DBS checks to take place. Around 550,000 work experience placements take place each year, and it is estimated that DBS checks take place for just one per cent of these.

However, DBS checks must be considered in all the following cases:

1. Pupils identified by the school as vulnerable for educational, medical, behavioural or home circumstance reasons, including those who have special educational needs or are young (aged under 16).
2. Pupils on placements lasting more than 15 days over an extended period, especially where these involve:
3. Regular lone working with an employer over long periods (rule of thumb would suggest anything over half a day at a time)
4. placements located in particularly isolated environments with 1:1 working
5. placements involving a high degree of travelling on a 1:1 basis
6. placements which include a residential element

The fact that a particular placement falls into one of the above categories does not necessarily mean that a DBS check will be required. Such a decision will depend on an assessment of the overall potential risks posed to a young person and will take into account any systems in place to minimise these risks.

If any of the above three cases apply, additional safeguards should be put in place. These include:

- school staff or other partners who arrange, vet or monitor the work placements should have training in child protection
- employers, supervisors or training providers hosting pupils should be asked to endorse a child protection policy or statement of principles
- school and local authority policies and procedures should define what actions need to be taken by whom and when if any child protection issues are raised, before, during or after the placement
- pupils should also be given clear advice and a point of contact in the school in case of any problems

For clarity, DBS checks and additional safeguards (as above) are not necessary:

- for short-term extended work experience for half a day or a day a week lasting one term or less
- for block placements lasting up to three weeks
- where the placement involves contact with visitors who will only have contact with children/young people on an ad hoc or irregular basis for short periods of time
- where people will have contact with children/ young people simply because they are in the same location or as part of their work, but who will not have regular, unsupervised access to the children/young people at work
- where the placement involves Secondary School age pupils undertaking voluntary work, citizenship or vocational studies or work experience in other schools. In these cases the school placing the pupil should ensure that they are suitable for the placement in question.

Monitoring Health and Safety

Measurement is essential to maintain and improve our health and safety performance to identify how effectively we are controlling risks and how well we are developing a positive health and safety culture.

There are two types of performance monitoring, active and reactive.

Active monitoring

Monitoring is a line manager's responsibility and in this section there are monitoring checklists for each of the key management positions to be used to determine achievement against relevant health and safety standards. In completing the checklist managers are providing evidence that they have carried out monitoring within their areas of responsibility and they are reinforcing their commitment to health and safety objectives in general and helping to develop a health and safety culture.

This approach to proactive monitoring gives the company feedback on its performance before an accident, incident or case of ill health.

Managers and supervisors with defined health and safety responsibilities must monitor in detail the areas for which they have day to day control. Much of this checking will be informal and not recorded but formalised, structured checks are also essential to ensure all areas are covered and to demonstrate compliance to senior managers who must in turn seek assurance that first line monitoring is taking place.

Employees who take a proactive interest or represent groups for health and safety can also be involved with monitoring and may take the format of a health and safety tour or if more formally via a devised checklist.

Refer: Health and Safety Inspection Form Reactive Monitoring

Reactive monitoring of events including accidents, incidents, cases of ill health or property damage provide an opportunity to check performance and learn from mistakes and improve control measures.

Trends and common features arising from accident and incident investigation can identify jobs or activities where future health and safety initiatives would be most beneficial. Investigations may also provide valuable information in the event of legal action or an employee claim.

Health and Safety Monitoring Checklist

Finance Director

To be completed: Annually

Date:

Subject	Yes	NO	Comment
Health and Safety Management			
Is the health and safety policy statement current and up-to-date			
Is the Health and Safety Policy statement displayed on the Health and Safety Notice Board?			
Has a report on the last year's health and safety performance been prepared for submission to the Trust?			
Has a Health and Safety Plan for the school year been prepared?			
Are there adequate resources to implement the Health and Safety Plan?			
Are there any remedial actions outstanding from the previous Health and Safety Plan?			
Are we on target with our current Action Plan?			
Risk Assessment			
Have Teachers completed or reviewed risk assessments in the last 12 months?			
Are there any issues that require attention, following the completion of the risk assessments?			
Have staff had the risk assessments brought to their attention?			
Are DSE assessments up to date?			
Contractors and Maintenance			
Have the health and safety credentials of all contractors been checked including the adequacy of their insurance?			
Is the Approved List of contractors up to date?			
Has the Health and Safety performance of the Catering and Cleaning Contractor been reviewed over the last 12 months?			
Training			
Is the health and safety training programme being implemented across all departments?			
Are training records up to date?			
Fire and Emergencies			
Has the fire risk assessment been reviewed within the last 12 months?			
Have all the actions from the previous fire risk assessment been completed?			
Are fire safety records up to date?			
Communication and Consultation			
Has the Health and Safety Committee met at the agreed intervals over the last 12 months?			

Have the Health and Safety Committee minutes been circulated?			
Are all departments represented on the Health and Safety Committee?			
Are there any outstanding actions from the Committee minutes?			

Principal

To be completed: Annually **Date:**

Subject	Yes	NO	Comment
Health and Safety Management			
Is the Health and Safety Policy statement current and up to date?			
Is the Health and Safety Policy statement displayed on the Health and Safety Notice Board?			
Has a report on the last year's health and safety performance been prepared for submission to the Trust?			
Has a Health and Safety Plan for the school year been prepared?			
Are there adequate resources to implement the Health and Safety Plan?			
Are there any remedial actions outstanding from the previous Health and Safety Plan?			
Are we on target with our current Action Plan?			
Risk Assessment			
Have Teachers completed or reviewed risk assessments in the last 12 months?			
Are there any issues that require attention, following the completion of the risk assessments?			
Are DSE assessments up to date?			
Contractors and Maintenance			
Have the health and safety credentials of all contractors been checked including the adequacy of their insurance?			
Is the Approved List of contractors up to date?			
Has the Health and Safety performance of the Catering and Cleaning Contractor been reviewed over the last 12 months?			
Training			
Is the health and safety training programme being implemented across all departments?			
Are training records up to date?			
Fire and Emergencies			
Has the fire risk assessment been reviewed within the last 12 months?			
Have all the actions from the previous fire risk assessment been completed?			
Are fire safety records up to date?			
Communication and Consultation			
Has the Health and Safety Committee met at the agreed intervals over the last 12 months?			
Have the Health and Safety Committee minutes been circulated?			
Are all departments represented on the Health and Safety Committee?			

Are there any outstanding actions from the Committee minutes?			
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Site Manager

To be completed: Termly

Date:

Subject	Yes	NO	Comment
Health and Safety Notice			
Is the 'Health and Safety Law" poster and Employers Liability insurance certificate displayed? Is the Insurance certificate in date?			
Risk Assessment			
Are risk assessments for the Site Team complete?			
Have the risk assessments been reviewed within the last 12 months?			
Have the risk assessments been brought to the attention of the Site Team?			
Has any training that has been identified been completed by the Site Team?			
Fire and Emergencies			
Has the fire risk assessment been reviewed within the last 12 months?			
Have all the actions from the previous fire risk assessment been completed?			
Are all emergency exits clearly marked?			
Is the fire alarm tested every week?			
Are all fire exit doors fully operational?			
Have fire doors been checked to ensure they open fully and close on to the rebate?			
Has the fire alarm and emergency lighting been checked and serviced in the last 12 months?			
Is the emergency lighting checked monthly and records kept?			
Is the fire logbook up to date?			
Are the locations of all fire extinguishers clearly visible?			
Have all extinguishers been serviced within the last 12 months?			
Are notices displayed informing all persons what to do in the event of fire and the location of the assembly point?			
Are fire escape notices posted at all fire exits and on the Health and Safety Notice Board?			
Electricity			
Is the fixed electrical testing up to date?			
Is the portable appliance inspection and testing schedule up to date?			
Gas Safety			
Are gas appliances inspected and tested at prescribed intervals?			
Are records kept?			
Are the gas supply isolators readily identifiable and accessible?			
Is a copy of the emergency procedure displayed at or near the gas meter?			
General Safety			
Are all light fittings functioning correctly?			

Are fixtures, furnishings and fittings in a good state of repair?			
Are all transparent surfaces, e.g. glass doors, large windows etc. clearly marked?			
Are there any outstanding items of building maintenance that may cause a significant health and safety issue?			
Are building safety checks being completed?			
Are toilets and changing rooms being cleaned to a high standard?			
School Equipment			
Are service arrangements in place for all items of plant and equipment?			
Has all equipment been serviced in accordance with service agreements?			
Are service logs kept up to date?			
Are statutory inspections complete and are certificates kept on file?			
Lifts			
Are lifts subject to a 6 monthly examination by a competent person, and are reports kept?			
Are lifts serviced and records kept?			
Are all servicing and lift examination reports kept readily available for examination?			
Are the lift motor control rooms kept locked at all times?			
Are there emergency evacuation procedures in place in the event of the lift becoming stuck?			
Are procedures established to deal with lift failures?			
Fitness Suite and Gymnasium			
Is all the fitness equipment subject to a service contract?			
Are service visits up to date and recorded?			
Is all the gym equipment subject to a service contract?			
Are service visits up to date and recorded?			
Fume Cupboards			
Are fume cupboards in Science subject to an annual air flow test?			
Are fume cupboard test records kept up to date?			
Technology			
Is all the equipment in the Technology classrooms subject to a service contract?			
Are service visits up to date and recorded?			
Is the LEV in the Technology classrooms serviced annually and tested every 14 months?			
Are service records and LEV test certificates up to date?			
Contractors and Maintenance			
Is the Approved List of Contractors up to date?			
Have the Catering and Cleaning Contractors' health and safety arrangements been reviewed within the last 12 months?			
What is the accident/incident history of the main contractors?			
Ladders and Stepladders			
Are all ladders and stepladders in good condition?			
Has the condition of all ladders and stepladders been checked and records kept?			

Are ladders and stepladders secured against unauthorised use?			
Are the ladders/stepladders provided adequate for the heights to be accessed and the activities to be carried out?			
Has instruction been provided in the correct use of ladders and stepladders			
Legionella			
Are the hot and cold water temperatures recorded adequate to control the growth of legionella?			
Are the temperature monitoring records up to date?			
Are shower heads being disinfected at least termly and are records being kept?			
Plant Rooms			
Are plant rooms kept locked and keys retained under the control of a responsible person?			
Are plant rooms clean, tidy and not used as storage areas?			
Are main isolation switches clearly labelled?			
Are protrusions, pipework, ducting, low ceiling heights, etc that may cause tripping hazards or head bumps highlighted and padded?			
Is lighting adequate including provision of emergency lighting where plant room has to be accessed in emergencies?			
Security			
Are all security gates being locked at the end of each day?			
Is the boundary security fence being checked at least weekly and records kept?			
Is signage adequate to direct visitors to reception?			
Is the CCTV system working effectively? Are all high risk areas covered?			
Is the external lighting adequate and functioning correctly?			

Senior Leadership Team / Teachers

To be completed: Termly

Date:

Subject	Yes	NO	Comment
Health and Safety Guidance			
Do you have access to the latest version of the relevant HSE/DfE/CLEAPSS guides?			
Risk Assessment			
Have risk assessments been completed and/or reviewed within the last 12 months?			
Have risk assessments been brought to the attention of other relevant staff?			
The Classroom (Slips and Trips)			
Are classroom floors in good condition?			
Is there adequate space?			
Are trailing electrical leads/cables prevented wherever possible?			
Are corridors and pedestrian walkways kept clear of obstructions?			
Are students bags stored safely during and between lessons?			

Are procedures in place to deal with spillages?			
Fire and Emergencies			
Are the fire exit doors in the classrooms:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unobstructed; • kept unlocked; • and easy to open from the inside? 			
Is fire-fighting equipment in place in the classroom?			
Are fire evacuation procedures clearly displayed?			
Are you aware of the evacuation drill, including arrangements for the children?			
Are flammable materials stored in a fireproof container?			
Are windows closed and all electrical items turned off at the end of each day?			
Electricity			
Are all-visible items of the fixed installation e.g. sockets, switches etc. free from any obvious signs of damage?			
Are all sockets free from any obvious signs of overloading?			
Is there safe access to isolation switches?			
Do all portable electrical appliances appear to be free from any obvious signs of damage?			
General Safety			
Are permanent fixtures in good condition and securely fastened, eg cupboards, display boards, shelving?			
Is furniture in good repair and suitable for the size of the user, whether adult or child?			
Is portable equipment stable, eg a TV set on a suitable trolley?			
Is classroom furniture in good condition and safe?			
Are items stored at height safe?			
Manual Handling			
Have trolleys been provided for moving heavy objects, eg computers?			
Work at Height (Falls)			
Do you have an 'elephant-foot' stepstool or stepladder available for use where necessary to reach high shelves or to put up displays or posters?			
Work Equipment			
Is the equipment in the classroom in good repair and are all safety devices operating correctly?			
Is all equipment properly guarded?			
Are guards secured and in good repair?			
Are students instructed in the safety procedures for each item of equipment they use?			
Are equipment safety checks being recorded and kept up to date?			
Ventilation and Heating			
Does the classroom have adequate ventilation?			
Can a reasonable room temperature be maintained during use of the classrooms and libraries – min 18c. Higher than normal levels of physical activity, eg. Gyms and drama workshops – min 15c			

Are measures in place, for example blinds, to protect from glare and heat from the sun?			
Are any blinds provided working effectively?			