



Ancaster

Church of England Primary School

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

Church School Vision

In the spirit of St. Martin, the Centurion Saint, we are a welcoming and inclusive community where every individual is celebrated. As we journey together through exploration and learning, our curriculum strives to promote local and global citizens who realise they have the power to change. Our high expectations for all, underpinned by our core Christian values of Wisdom, Courage and Respect, allow us to challenge everybody to be the best they can be.

This Policy has been created to ensure that the children, staff and any visitors to our school are safe.

The Governing Body are committed to ensuring:

- the provision of safe and healthy conditions for pupils, employees and visitors;
- compliance with all relevant health and safety legislation;
- seeking the co-operation of staff, pupils, parents and contractors to achieve these objectives in order to minimise injuries and work-related ill health.

Signed by Chair of Governors: Signed by Headteacher:	Approved by the Governing Body and Headteacher at a meeting held on:
Next Date of Review: May 2026	Associated policies: Risk assessment, Safeguarding, work/life balance

How does our Christian Vision impact on our Health and Safety at Ancaster?

Our work around Health and safety is heavily influenced by the 4 guiding lights in which our curriculum has been constructed taking inspiration from our Church School Vision that guides us forwards.

Inclusivity- We aim to be inclusive to all of our community and to ensure that each individual's health and safety is of paramount importance.

Exploration – We will fully consider each area of our school and act immediately where there is a risk to anyone's health or safety.

Empowerment- We empower all of our community to raise any issues around health and safety and respect and act upon any concerns immediately.

Values Led- Our core values of Wisdom, Courage and Respect are central to the work that we undertake within our school. We will all acquire the knowledge that we need to succeed by attending any training that is required by the school to develop our ability to stay safe ourselves and to create a safe environment where we can all flourish and stay safe. We will ensure that we are continuously witnessing the deep levels of respect on offer throughout the school environment and will establish effective relationships that continue to round us personally.

Ancaster Church of England Primary School will:

Apply and communicate sensible risk management and safe working practices. This will involve:

- Regular assessment of hazards and associated risks
- Implementing preventive and protective control measures against those risks to an acceptable/ tolerable level
- Monitoring the effectiveness of those measures by senior leaders
- Provision of information, instruction, training and protective equipment to staff (and pupils where required)
- Review of risk assessments, policies, procedures and practices at regular interval and where additional information is gained through changes in government guidance, monitoring or following an incident.
- Implement measures to ensure social distancing is observed across the site and in all buildings consistent with and appropriate to the numbers of pupils, staff and visitors in the school
- Maintain an appropriate hygiene regime to be followed by all pupils, staff and visitors
- Operate an enhanced cleaning regime
- Ensure that staff are informed and instructed to ensure competence and awareness of health & safety precautions required
- Educate pupils about health and safety and to encourage and re-assure them about the measures in place to protect themselves.
- Require all employees and encourage and support all pupils to show a proper personal concern for their own safety, for that of the people around them.
- Require staff to exercise increased due care and attention and observe safe working methods.
- Provide for children of critical workers and vulnerable children to be accommodated alongside returning year groups
- Put in place the support required for the return of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in line with education health care (EHC) plans in conjunction with families and other agencies
- Put in place measures to check on staff wellbeing (including for leaders).
- Draw up contingency plans for:

- Someone falling ill or demonstrating symptoms on site
- Deep cleaning in the event of an outbreak of Covid on site
- Provide appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) as required by staff.

Rationale:

It is impossible to list every hazard likely to be present at any time and therefore everyone must be continually vigilant to ensure that any new hazards are identified and appropriate arrangements implemented to control the risks.

If in doubt about anything to do with health and safety, stop and ask; where necessary specialist advice will be obtained.

This Health and Safety Policy will be reviewed and amended as necessary in the light of new developments and information gathered from monitoring.

1. Organisation and General Responsibilities

1.1. Governing Body

The Governing Body are responsible for ensuring that:

- a health and safety policy is prepared, implemented and reviewed to ensure it remains valid;
- health and safety standards are monitored by direct involvement or by considering inspection reports;
- actions are prioritised where resources are required;
- health and safety is an agenda item at Governors' meetings;
- a Governor is given specific responsibility for health and safety;
- the Governor with specific health and safety responsibilities and the Head Teacher receive health and safety management training and are competent to deal with the health and safety aspects of the work;
- assistance is obtained from specialists when in any doubt about the health and safety standards to apply;
- the Director of Children's Services is informed of any situation of concern where appropriate health and safety standards cannot be implemented.

2.2. Head Teacher

The Head Teacher is responsible to the Governing Body for ensuring that:

- hazards are identified and arrangements are made and implemented to control the significant risks and comply with the relevant health and safety legislation;
- the significant findings regarding the above are recorded in the Health and Safety Policy;
- the arrangements are monitored to ensure they are working;
- employees are aware of what is expected of them and that they are capable of dealing with the health and safety requirements of their work;
- any problems in implementing appropriate health and safety standards are reported to the Governing Body;
- specialist help and assistance is obtained where necessary;
- the reports of health and safety monitoring are communicated to the Governing Body along with details of significant injuries to employees, pupils and visitors.

2.3. School Health and Safety Co-ordinator

The School Business Leader is also the Health and Safety Co-ordinator and is responsible for assisting the Head Teacher with the above and specifically for:

- liaising with employees and Health and Safety Advisors where appropriate to ensure that hazards are identified and appropriate risk control arrangements implemented;
- monitoring the health and safety standards of the school on a day to day basis, reporting any problems that cannot be rectified to the Head Teacher.

2.4. All Employees

Are responsible for:

- taking reasonable care for their own health and safety and that of other employees and visitors who are affected by their activities;
- where appropriate, exercising effective supervision of pupils so as to minimise risks to their health and safety;
- using any work equipment in accordance with the training and instructions provided;
- co-operating as is necessary to implement the arrangements of this policy;
- monitoring the health and safety standards of their own areas, ensuring that appropriate risk control measures are implemented;
- reporting to the Head Teacher any health and safety matters they cannot, or do not feel competent to deal with themselves and any shortcomings they see in the health and safety arrangements.

2.5. Pupils

Pupils are expected:

- to exercise personal responsibility for their own health and safety and that of their classmates;
- to observe standards of dress and behaviour consistent with the safety of themselves and others;
- to observe the rules of the school and in particular the instructions of teachers.

3. Arrangements and Significant Findings of Risk Assessments

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3.1. General Hazards

A high standard of housekeeping is expected to reduce the risk of accidents. Furniture and equipment shall be kept tidy and not allowed to pile up so as to cause a toppling hazard. Unwanted items are to be cleared out and not allowed to accumulate in such ways as to congest the working areas. Pupils' bags are not to be left in walkways or areas where they create tripping hazards.

Specific attention is to be given to avoid slipping and tripping hazards such as trailing cables, damaged floor coverings, slippery floor surfaces. Staff are expected to rectify these situations where possible or report them to the School Business Leader. (A book to report any specific hazards is available in the office, this is checked by the caretaker on a regular basis)

Step stools, step ladders and ladders are provided and must be used where necessary to reach above head height. Staff are to inspect these before use and report any defect to the Caretaker. Staff are not to use chairs, boxes or similar items and are not to climb up the face of cupboards or storage racks.

Filing cabinet drawers shall not be overloaded and employees must not open more than one drawer at once as this presents a toppling hazard. Desk and cabinet drawers are to be closed immediately after use and not left open.

Damaged or defective furniture and equipment is to be reported to the Caretaker. Also any sharp edges which may cause injury and/or damage to clothing must also be reported.

Pupils are reminded on a regular basis about the risk of fingers being trapped in doors. The caretaker is responsible for checking routinely that the self closers operate properly, ensuring that adjustments are carried out if doors close too quickly. The vulnerable doors have been identified as the main entrance door, the doors to the pupils' toilets (because pupils tend to wait outside these for their friends) and the doors in the nursery classrooms. These doors have been fitted with finger protector strips to eliminate the risk of injury.

All radiator spindles must be fitted with a hand wheel or cap to prevent penetration injuries.

Heaters with hot surfaces are fitted with guards to prevent injuries and hot water temperatures in pupils' areas are set so as not to exceed 43 degrees C to prevent scalding.

Running is not permitted within the school premises and care is necessary when using doors, particularly those without viewing panels. Doors must not be opened without regard for someone coming from the opposite direction.

3.2. Vulnerable Glazing

The vulnerable areas of glazing have been protected with anti-shatter film to prevent serious injuries in the event of breakage. This includes all wired glass in doors/side panels and below 800mm from the floor. In addition, the glazing in windows facing the play ground and all glazing below 2 metres in the hall have been safeguarded.

3.3. Electrical Equipment

Staff shall not attempt repairs nor make modifications to electrical equipment other than those normally associated with daily operations. Any defects or malfunctions must be reported.

The fixed electrical installations in the school are inspected and tested on a 5 yearly basis by electrical contractors and any maintenance to prevent danger is carried out.

Only electrical equipment provided by the school shall be used. Formal visual inspections/tests of portable electric equipment are carried out annually to identify any maintenance that is required to prevent danger. Low risk office equipment, such as computers where the mains cables are organised to prevent damage, are unlikely to require maintenance to prevent danger and are not included.

Staff are alerted to the dangers of defective wiring and equipment and are encouraged to visually inspect electrical equipment before use and to report any defects immediately.

It is essential that, where portable electrical equipment is used outdoors, a residual current device (RCD) is used to reduce the risk of serious electric shock. Staff must use RCD adapters if one is not fitted into the fixed wiring and to cease using any equipment which causes the RCD to trip.

3.4. Working at Heights

Staff are reminded that falls from heights are the most common cause of fatal and serious accidents at work.

The need to reach things at heights should be eliminated wherever possible e.g. displaying pupils' work and storing things below head height, using window poles instead of climbing to open windows. Where this is not possible, proper access equipment must be used and the following rules followed:

Staff shall not use ladders or step ladders if they are working alone in or around the school; if an incident occurs there is no one to call for assistance.

Before using a ladder or step ladder, make sure it is the right equipment for the work. Scaffold towers or specialist access equipment may be required to reach the position and enable the work to be carried out safely. In these cases the equipment must be erected in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions by a person who is competent, having received sufficient instruction and training.

Ladders and Step Ladders – General Rules

- Check that equipment is in good condition; do not use ladders or step ladders with cracked, broken or splintered stiles/rungs/steps/hinges/cords/clips or other defects.
- Check the ladder is clear of overhead electrical cables.
- Set the ladder at the correct angle (1 out to every 4 up)
- Never climb higher than the fourth rung from the top to ensure adequate hand hold.
- If using the ladder for access onto a flat roof or platform etc. make sure it extends at least 1.1m above the stepping off point so as to provide an adequate handhold, especially for coming down.
- Move ladders and step ladders so as to avoid the need to overreach.
- Secure the ladder at the top wherever possible; this ensures the ladder cannot slip sideways or backwards and whilst doing this get someone to foot the base.
- If this is impracticable, see that it is firmly secured at the base or footed by a responsible person.
- Ladders less than 3m in length, where securing or footing is not practical, can be used unsecured or footed, providing they are set at the correct angle on a firm, level, non slippery surface.
- Ladders over 3m in length must be secured as above or footed.
- Make sure that extension ladders have enough overlap to prevent collapse.
- Stand the ladder or step ladder on a firm level base and not on loose material.
- Clean wet, icy or greasy rungs or steps before use; make sure footwear is in good condition and free from mud or grease on the soles before climbing.
- Carry light tools and equipment in pockets or a holster/tool bag slung from a strap over the shoulder; use a hoist line to raise larger items when at the working position.

- Step ladders must be long enough to reach the work and provide a secure hand hold. Do not stand on the top step or platform on a step ladder unless it is constructed with a secure hand hold.
- Always spread step ladders to their fullest extent for stability and check that retaining hinges/cords/clips are secure.
- Whenever possible place step ladders at right angles to the work, i.e. with the front or back of steps facing the work. Pushing, pulling or reaching sideways whilst on step ladders should be avoided because it is less stable; where this is unavoidable another person should support the steps to prevent them tipping.

3.5. Substances Hazardous to Health

Where possible all substances used in the school should be non hazardous e.g. not labelled 'Toxic', 'Harmful', 'Corrosive' or 'Irritant'.

All substances must be properly labelled, stored, used and - when necessary - disposed of in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions. Staff should be aware of the requirement to assess the risks to health of any hazardous substances brought into the school to ensure the appropriate risk control measures are devised, implemented and where appropriate, recorded.

Some hazardous substances are unavoidable: the COSHH assessment for cleaning substances and legionella bacteria are given below. The control measures for the hazardous substances used in Science, Technology, Art are as recommended in the relevant section.

School Cleaning Substances

Liquid cleaners, disinfectants and bleach carrying the 'Irritant' and 'Harmful' warning labels are used for general purpose cleaning in the school.

These substances are necessary; substitutes without these hazards are considered not to be effective.

The following measures are used to control the risks to health from the use of these substances:

- The substances are kept secure at all times when not in use to prevent access by pupils and unauthorised persons.
- The substances are only to be used as directed by the manufacturers on the containers.
- Substances shall not be mixed together. This is particularly important with bleach, where toxic fumes can be generated if this is mixed with other substances.
- Skin contact with the substances straight from the containers or prolonged/repeated contact with diluted solutions can cause health problems e.g. redness of skin, eczema or dermatitis. Contact with the skin is to be avoided by the wearing of protective gloves. These are to be inspected before use and replaced if damaged. At least one spare pair of gloves is kept in stock at all times.
- Accidental splashing on the skin or in the eyes needs to be washed immediately with plenty of water and further medical assistance sought if any problems persist. Any skin problems associated with the use of these substances shall be reported to the Head Teacher and, where appropriate, to a medical practitioner.
- Where substances are transferred into smaller containers for use, they are marked with their contents, dilution ratios and appropriate hazard sign.

The above measures are considered necessary to comply with the COSHH Regulations and it is concluded that these will adequately control the risks to health presented by the use of these substances.

Legionella Bacteria

There is a small risk of legionella bacteria developing in the domestic water system. If droplets are inhaled, as when taking a shower, this could lead to legionnaire's disease which can be serious for vulnerable persons. A company specialising in water hygiene has been commissioned to assess the risks and the recommended remedial work has been carried out to prevent contamination and stagnant water gathering

in dead legs of pipework etc. Once a year during the summer holidays a specialist company is contracted to clean and chlorinate the water storage tanks, pipework and shower heads etc. In addition, the caretaker is responsible for ensuring that the hot and cold water services are thoroughly run through prior to the school re-opening after more than 5 days closure.

3.6. Fire Risk Assessment

A fire risk assessment has been carried out as required by the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999.

Manual Handling of Items and Loads

Manual handling operations are required to some extent in most of the school's activities and it is not reasonably practicable to avoid them. Most of these within the classroom do not generally involve significant risks and are within the capabilities of all staff. The measures detailed below are considered adequate to reduce the risks of injury to the lowest level reasonably practicable.

Staff shall not attempt to lift or move anything they consider to be too heavy or awkward for them. If help is not at hand the matter should be reported to the Head Teacher.

When lifting boxes, parcels etc. the back must be kept straight and lifting carried out using the leg muscles. Never bend from the waist and lift with the legs straight as this puts strain on the back muscles and spine and may lead to injury.

Special care is to be exercised where pupils are involved with the moving of objects e.g. moving trampolines or pianos. Staff are required to assess these operations and only allow pupils to be involved where they will not struggle and to ensure that adequate precautions are taken to prevent injury.

The manual handling of any objects which present a significant risk of injury and which cannot be avoided is only to take place following a risk assessment to determine the control measures to reduce the risks to an acceptable level.

The following operations have been assessed and, along with the manual handling training that has been provided, are considered to be adequate to reduce the risks to the lowest extent reasonably practicable.

Chair and Table Moving

Measures to reduce the risk of injury:-

- using correct lifting techniques;
- carrying no more than 3 chairs at a time;
- using special trolley for moving stacks of chairs;
- carrying no more than 1 table at a time (single tables);
- obtaining assistance where the timescale involved could lead to over-exertion.

Miscellaneous Packages and Items

Measures to reduce the risk of injury:-

- using correct lifting techniques;
- using the trolleys and barrows provided;
- obtaining assistance where the weight/size of load is beyond individual capacity.

Furniture, Lockers, Display Boards etc

Measures to reduce the risk of injury:-

- using the correct lifting techniques;
- using the trolleys and barrows provided;

- obtaining assistance in proportion to the weight/size and distances involved;
- wearing protective equipment such as gloves and safety footwear.

3.7. Moving and Handling Assistance for Pupils with Special Needs

An assessment of the moving and handling needs of pupils with special needs will be carried out before the pupil starts at the school. Where necessary, advice and guidance will be obtained from parents, the Health Authority and Health and Safety Advisors.

The assessment will identify the moving and plan appropriate for each pupil. The hierarchy of measures in these plans shall be as follows:

- Hazardous moving and handling operations shall be avoided, so far as is reasonably practicable, by re-organising activities.
- Where the above is not reasonably practicable, measures shall be implemented to reduce the risk of injury to the lowest level reasonably practicable; training for staff in using the correct techniques, team lifts, the use of wheelchair ramps, transfer boards, handling belts, sliding sheets, turntables etc.
- The moving and handling plans will be recorded in the pupil's care plan.
- The assessments shall be reviewed each term or when significant changes occur.

3.8. Display Screen Equipment (DSE)

Computer equipment is used extensively by staff in the school office and some teachers. These members of staff have been designated as 'users' under The Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992.

- 'Users' are provided with information and training about the risks to their health and how to minimise them.
- Workstations used by the above 'users' have been assessed to ensure they satisfy minimum requirements, and the risks are reduced to the lowest level reasonably practicable.
- Frequent changes of activity occur, therefore no special breaks need to be planned into work routines to prevent the onset of fatigue.
- 'Users' are entitled to eye tests and any special spectacles required for display screen work. Initially 'users' are to request these through the Head Teacher who will provide referral letters to take to an optician of their choice.
- Work related upper limb disorders such as pain to the muscles, ligaments and nerves of the hand and arm can be brought about by repetitive movements associated with intensive keyboard or mouse operations. Properly arranged workstations and organisational systems will minimise the risks of these disorders. Staff should be aware of this type of injury and report any pain, discomfort, swelling or weakness experienced during or shortly after keyboard/mouse work.

3.9. Smoking at Work

Smoking is not permitted in the school. This is to prevent unwanted exposure to environmental tobacco smoke which is a health hazard and to minimise the risk of fire.

3.10. Contractors' Activities

Construction and maintenance work involves major hazards, and particular care is necessary when these activities take place on the school site. Contractors have a duty to carry out their work in accordance with relevant statutory provisions. The school has a duty to ensure the health and safety of pupils, employees and visitors on the site and must exercise sufficient control to make sure that contractors discharge their duties.

Only contractors who are on the County Council's approved list or can show in some other way that they are competent to carry out their work in accordance with the relevant statutory provisions, will be selected for

work on the premises. Before work commences, the Head Teacher or delegated members of staff must ensure that arrangements to control the risks are implemented by the contractors to protect pupils, staff and visitors. The Head Teacher or delegated member of staff shall then monitor the contractor's activities to ensure the arrangements are adequate. Any situation where the control measures are insufficient must be raised immediately with the contractors.

The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994 (CDM Regulations) will apply to larger projects. I.e. all demolition work irrespective of size and construction work which involves more than four persons or takes longer than 30 days. In these cases, the Head Teacher or delegated member of staff is responsible for seeking specialist advice regarding what must be done to comply with these Regulations.

3.11. First Aid Arrangements

Having staff trained in emergency first aid is appropriate for the risks and numbers of persons present. It is the policy of the school that all staff members undertake emergency first aid so that there is always cover for the most likely times that injury occurs and for absences/school trips etc. This training is repeated every 3 years to maintain competence. 3 members of staff also undertake paediatric first aid training. First aid boxes stocked with the recommended contents are located around the school and the contents are checked monthly replacing any items used. (First aiders and location of boxes is posted in the staffroom and front office). All staff should familiarise themselves with the location of these so that, in the event of an injury or acute illness, these can be located quickly. In these cases, an ambulance can be summoned from the telephone in the office.

Staff should administer first aid treatment in accordance with their training and always err on the side of caution by referring pupils for further medical attention as set out below or when in doubt.

Head Injuries

Head injuries can easily be underrated. Any significant knock to the head which shows signs of swelling, grazing, crushing, or which changes the behaviour of the pupil, should be referred immediately for further medical attention. Slight knocks to pupils who have had previous head injuries could be serious, and these also should be referred immediately for further medical attention. Parents are to be contacted immediately where further medical attention is necessary and informed via the standard letter of any nonsignificant head bumps which show no signs or only slight reddening.

Other Injuries

Broken bones may sometimes not be obvious in children. Any injury which results in continued pain or changed mobility should be referred immediately for further medical attention.

3.12. Medicines and Infection Control

The storage and provision arrangements for pupils' medicines are set out in a separate statement in the School Medicines Policy.

Pupils who are unwell with an infectious disease should not be at school and should be kept away until they are better or no longer pose a risk of infection to others. The recommended periods of exclusion should be in accordance with the guidance set out in the Department of Health poster 'Guidance on infection control in schools and nurseries'.

Infection Control

Aids and hepatitis B viruses are a risk to staff involved in the provision of first aid. The universal precautions for cleaning up body fluid spillages detailed in the Department of Health poster 'Guidance on infection control in schools and nurseries' should be followed to prevent the spread of infection. This poster is displayed in the Front General Office.

3.13. Injury Reporting

- Minor injuries to staff and pupils shall be recorded in the accident book by the person administering first aid.
- The Head Teacher is responsible for ensuring that forms are completed for more serious injuries and for carrying out the statutory reporting procedures for 'major' and 'over 3 day absence' injuries as required by the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995. PO3 forms are accessed on line. Please contact the SBL who will access the form and support with completion on the EvoSafe system (LCC website). These forms are used to notify the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) of any 'major' injuries to staff, pupils or visitors and any 'over 3 day absence' injuries to staff.
- 'Major' injuries to pupils and visitors are those which require them being taken directly to hospital. This only applies to injuries which arise in connection with work, either through a premises fault or through work organisation such as lack of care, not those which arise from play or sport activities or which arise from health condition. 'Major' injuries to staff are basically any break of the large bones or any injury which requires hospitalisation for more than 24 hours. All 'major' injuries must be notified to the HSE immediately by telephone 0115 971 2800, followed with a PO3 form within 10 days.
- 'Over 3 day absence' injuries to employees do not require telephone notification but the PO3 form must arrive at the HSE within 10 days of the injury.
- Some incidents which do not result in injury must be reported by telephone and PO3 form to the HSE. These are known as 'Dangerous Occurrences' and are only those which are specified by the Regulations. These are mainly large incidents in the construction and manufacturing sectors but some, such as a fire or electrical short circuit which disrupts activities for more than 24 hours or the failure of a lift, will apply.
- The Health and Safety Team (01522 552205) shall be contacted if in doubt about these reporting procedures.

3.14. Pregnancy and Work

Staff who become pregnant shall inform the Head Teacher so that an assessment can be carried out to ensure that any risks created by their work are identified and eliminated or controlled. Advice on pregnancy and work is given in the County Council leaflet PO/EL/12 and in the Department of Health poster 'Guidance on infection control in schools and nurseries' which is displayed in the Front General Office. Additional advice is given to staff members at 28 weeks (third trimester) in line with advice.

The school keeps up-to-date with advice issued by organisations including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE
- NHS
- Department for Health and Social Care
- PHE
- The school's local health protection team (HPT)

The school follows the Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists' guidance: 'Coronavirus (COVID-19) infection and pregnancy'.

3.15. Young people working or on work experience in the school.

If young people come to the school to work, or are on work experience, special Regulations apply. A 'young person' is someone who has not attained the age of 18 and a 'child' is someone not over compulsory school age. Where such young people are involved, specific risk assessments need to be undertaken to identify any measures that are required to reduce the risks because of their immaturity, inexperience and lack of awareness. Where a 'child' is involved, the findings of the risk assessments and the protective/preventive measures to be taken must be communicated to the person having parental responsibility for the child.

All young people will work directly under the supervision of an experienced member of staff who is responsible for ensuring the appropriate measures are taken to protect their health and safety. The activities that young persons are likely to be involved in are low risk. To ensure that persons having parental

responsibility for a 'child' are aware of this, they shall be informed as described above; a copy of this policy shall be forwarded to them with the confirmation letter.

3.16. School Security

Access to the school is only via the reception entrance which is monitored at all times to prevent unauthorised access.

- All other doors are locked from the outside to prevent unauthorised access, but these can be readily opened from the inside in case of emergency.
- The car park is fenced from the areas occupied by pupils and the pedestrian gates are closed during school time.
- When pupils are outside at play times or during sports, they are supervised closely to ensure they do not go through the gates onto the road.
- All visitors are required to report to the Reception /Office or to the Caretaker on arrival.
- The names of all visitors and their time of arrival and departure should be recorded, and a badge issued for identification whilst on the school site.
- Unknown persons on the school site not wearing a visitor's badge are to be asked what they are doing and if they require assistance. In some cases, it may not be appropriate for a lone member of staff to make this approach; in these cases the Head Teacher is to be informed and, if necessary, the police called for assistance.

3.17. Violence at Work

The school seeks to minimise staff vulnerability to violent disturbing behaviour, including threats, intimidation and verbal abuse as well as physical assault. This kind of behaviour will not be tolerated from pupils or parents and further action such as exclusion/banning/prosecution will be considered. The following steps should be followed:

- Staff who have any qualms about parental interviews should arrange for a colleague to be present;
- Staff should not become confrontational even if provoked; offer to arrange another meeting with senior colleagues and close the interview;
- Do not hold meetings with parents in isolated classrooms and have clear objectives and a set timescale;
- Do not make home visits alone;
- If verbally or physically abused, leave or call for assistance immediately;
- Staff should report any concerns and all incidents of verbal abuse, threats or actual assaults to the Head Teacher. This will enable incidents to be monitored, investigated, and appropriate action taken.

A register is kept of those who have demonstrated violent tendencies in the past. Reference should be made to this register when arranging meetings with parents so that appropriate support can be organised.

- Staff who suffer violence at work will be sympathetically treated and a variety of support systems are available.

Further advice on violence at work is given in the leaflet PO/EL/18.

3.18. Educational Visits

Staff should note that pupils face far higher risks on school visits than they do in the school. The hazards of all visits must be identified and appropriate risk control measures built into the arrangements. A summary of these must be recorded for all visits undertaken. A separate Visits Policy has been produced and the DfE document 'Health and Safety of Pupils on Educational Visits' is used as a guide for the risk control arrangements.

3.19. Statutory Notices

The Head Teacher is responsible for ensuring that a 'Health and Safety Law' poster is displayed where staff can read it.

3.20. Health and Safety Representatives and Consultation

The role of trade union appointed health and safety representatives is recognised and encouraged. The staff may appoint a health and safety representative who will be consulted during the preparation and review of the health and safety policy of the school to enable effective co-operation in the promotion and development of the health and safety arrangements. Facilities and time off from normal duties will be provided so that they can carry out the functions of a health and safety representative as detailed in the Safety Representatives and Safety Committee Regulations 1977.

Health and safety is a standing item on the agenda of all staff and full governors' meetings at the school.

3.21. Staff Induction Procedures

The capabilities of all new members of staff with regard to their own health and safety and that of pupils in their care will be taken into account before employment starts. Adequate information and training will be given to ensure that they are aware of the school's health and safety arrangements, particularly:-

- evacuation procedures;
- first aid and injury reporting arrangements;
- any other relevant emergency procedure.

3.22. Physical Education, Sport and Play Activities

Most injuries to pupils occur during these activities.

General rules for play times:

- A sufficient number of staff, as determined by the Headteacher, will be available to supervise play times and will be positioned where they can see all pupils.
- Staff shall watch for and control over-enthusiastic behaviour. In particular, running and ball games shall only take place in the designated areas. Running and ball games are prohibited in the 'Quiet' areas.
- The retrieval of balls from neighbouring gardens by climbing fences or entering without specific permission is prohibited.
- Staff shall not carry hot drinks whilst on play time supervision duties.
- Fixed outdoor play equipment shall be visually inspected on a daily basis by staff. A termly inspection will be made and a record kept. All play equipment is annually inspected by a specialist contractor.

General rules for sport and physical education

It is the policy of the school to follow the guidance in the document 'Safe practice in Physical Education' published by the British Association of Advisers and Lecturers in Physical Education (BAALPE) and the guidance from the relevant national governing body for the activity concerned.

Only suitably qualified members of staff are to supervise physical education and particular attention should be paid to the following:

- Physical activities should be quietly undertaken and there should be strict control, especially if competitive games are being played;
- Ensure pupils are involved in activities appropriate to developing their existing abilities;
- Staff shall position themselves where they can see all pupils;
- Appropriate clothing should be worn at all times. Loose and floppy clothing should be tucked in shorts; no baggy tops should be allowed;
- Long hair should be tied back;
- Watches, large rings and ring type earrings must be removed;
- Sports areas and pitches should be checked before activities start, to make sure there are no dangerous objects around the side of the hall or any of the outside areas being used;
- Ensure all equipment is safely set up before using;
- Check equipment for signs of wear/defect regularly;
- Limit the number of pupils using any one piece of apparatus;
- If pupils are involved in moving equipment, make sure this is done using the correct techniques with enough pupils to ensure that they do not have to struggle;
- Apparatus being used should be at least two metres from any wall;

- Pupils must be supervised at all times in the hall;
- Make sure that equipment is put away safely.

3.23. Vehicles on the Premises

Vehicles manoeuvring around the premises, particularly reversing in restricted areas, are a major risk and can cause serious, even fatal injuries. Special care is necessary to ensure that pupils are kept away from the vehicles on the school premises. In particular:

- Pupils shall not be allowed on the playing field whilst grass mowing takes place;
- Pedestrians must use the separate entrance provided;
- Delivery and contractors' vehicles must be prevented from entering the premises at school starting and leaving times;
- Bus discharge and pick up arrangements must be planned to avoid pupils having to cross the road and avoid the need for reversing whilst pupils are around.

3.24. Science, Technology and Art

A separate health and safety policy has been produced for science which is based on the CLEAPPS School Science Service Model Health and Safety Policy in Science for Primary Schools (L224).

The advice and guidance in the following documents are practiced to control the risks:

CLEAPPS	L5p Safe use of Household and Other Chemicals
	L86p Electrical Safety - Primary
	L164a Heating in Primary Science
	L190p Studying Microorganisms in Primary Schools
	GLU Glues and Adhesives

The Association for Science Education (ASE) - 'Be Safe - Some aspects of safety in school science and technology for key stages 1 & 2'

The National Association of Advisors and Inspectors in Design and Technology (NAAIDT) - 'Make it safe!'
DfE - 'Safety in Practical Studies' and 'A Guide to Safe Practice in Art and Design'

In particular teachers shall ensure that:

- Sharp knives and sharp ended scissors are stored securely and only used by older pupils under close supervision.
- Round ended scissors to be used where possible.
- Only non-hazardous paints and glues are used.
- Pupils shall be shown how to use the simple hand tools available to them in the classroom safely and it must not be assumed that they have been taught this previously because they have used the tools before.
- Eye protection is used by pupils where materials or tools are likely to produce chips or splinters which fly off.
- Hot wire polystyrene cutters are only to be used in well ventilated rooms.
- Pupils do not use spray glue.
- Only low temperature glue guns are to be used by pupils
- In cookery lessons the quantities of hot liquids are to be kept to a minimum and pans positioned so as not to be knocked over.

3.25. Working Alone

Some activities involve special risks and shall not be carried out whilst alone on the premises. If an accident occurs, there will be no one to help or summon assistance. These will include those listed below:

- Working at heights of more than 2 metres (from floor to feet position).
- Moving and handling tasks where assistance is required to minimise the risk of injury.
- Work in roof spaces.

- Meetings with people who have a record of violent behaviour or meetings where conflict or disagreement is anticipated.

These require specific risk control measures which are not detailed here.

Working alone on the premises should be avoided where possible but where this is unavoidable the doors should be secured to prevent intruders. (Doors which provide emergency escape can be readily opened from the inside.) A telephone must be readily available. In addition everyone who works alone on the premises must make sure that someone knows where they are and what time they will be finished. These persons should be instructed to make contact if the person working alone is overdue and raise the alarm if there is no reply.

3.27. Working Time

The school recognises that when people work too many hours, their health can be affected and the risk of mistakes/accidents is increased. Compliance with the requirements of the Working Time Regulations 1998 is seen as the way to minimise these risks. Normal school arrangements usually ensure that staff receive the in-work/daily/weekly breaks and annual leave entitlements specified in the Regulations. Some members of staff, during term time, work many hours more than the normal school week, both at the school and at home. When averaged over the reference period of 17 weeks, which will take account of school closures, the limit of 48 hours per week set by the Regulations is unlikely to be exceeded. Any member of staff whose workload dictates that they are required to work excessive hours should raise this with the Head Teacher.

Fire Risk Assessment – Record of Significant Findings

Fire hazards identified in the premises:

Combustible materials and flammable liquids/gas hazards

- Pupils' coats and outdoor clothing, books, papers, cardboard/paper displays, carpets in most rooms, soft toys, soft balls/footballs, bean bags, plastic covered foam filled gymnasium mats, dressing up clothes, foam filled chairs oil for heating, waste paper/packaging, tea towels, Christmas decorations during Dec/Jan.

Source of ignition hazards:

- Fixed and portable electrical equipment, oil fired boiler for the hot water radiator central heating system.

Risk assessment and control measures

Preventing a fire starting:

- The main control measure to prevent fires starting in the school is to ensure that combustible materials do not accumulate around the electrical equipment and that staff are aware of this and routine monitoring is carried out by the Head Teacher. A high proportion of the combustibles are kept in storerooms, items being stacked carefully to prevent any likelihood of contact with the lights.
- Waste bins are emptied into plastic sacks at the end of each day, the sacks are placed in bins located clear of the buildings at the back of the school. Any large amounts of waste packing materials are removed to bins immediately. Paper recycling to be emptied regularly.
- Smoking is not allowed in the school.
- The boiler is located in a separate room which is kept free of combustibles. Supplementary heaters are not needed. The oil tank is well clear of the premises and surrounded by a brick bund wall to contain any leakages. The area inside the bund wall is kept free of combustibles.
- The fixed and portable electrical equipment is inspected/tested at the recommended frequencies and maintained where necessary to prevent danger.
- The only cooking appliances are a microwave cooker in the staffroom, a cooker in the kitchen and 'Baby Belling' electric oven which is used occasionally in classes for simple cookery demonstrations.

- A meeting is held with contractors before any maintenance work is carried out at the school. The measures necessary to safeguard pupils and staff are agreed, along with fire prevention measures where blowlamps, pitch boilers or other heat producing equipment is to be used.

Limiting the injury and damage if a fire starts

General

- No one is particularly at risk from fire. Combustible materials are kept to a minimum to limit the size of any fire that starts.

Fire Detection and Warning

During the normal school day, staff are in and around all parts of the building every few minutes and a fire developing would be noticed quickly. A break glass operated, electrical fire alarm is fitted with break glass points at each exit door. The sounders can be heard throughout the school.

Means of Escape (a plan is a good way of assessing these, attach one if possible)

- Exit doors fitted with 'push bar to open' devices provide escape routes from the hall and the classrooms to the outside of the school. The exit door from the only classroom without an external fire exit door is only four metres away from an exit door which is in continuous use. This classroom also has an emergency exit but has limited use due to access onto the main road.
- All entrance doors in normal use are secured with a push button lock from the outside; these can be opened easily from inside with a turn latch.
- Emergency lights are positioned in the corridors and all exit doors are signed with the 'Fire Exit' notices incorporating 'Pictograms'.

Fire Fighting Equipment

- Water extinguishers (9 litres) are located in the hall and in the main corridor. A foam extinguisher (9 litres) is located in the boiler house

Planning for an Emergency

- Procedures to follow in the event of a fire are displayed on notices around the school. Staff are instructed about these on their induction and the procedures are tested by carrying out a fire drill once every term. Special procedures for evacuating disabled pupils have been devised and are practised on fire drills.

Maintenance and testing of Fire Equipment

The following is carried out by the Caretaker:

- The fire alarm is tested weekly from a different point;
- Fire extinguishers are checked visually on a weekly basis to ensure they are present and unused;
- The emergency lights are tested in accordance with BS 5266 (checked monthly that lights illuminate when power switched off, every 6 months this repeated but lights left on for at least 1 hour, every 12 months this repeated but lights left on for at least 3 hours).

Fire extinguishers are serviced annually and the fire alarm is serviced by specialists on a contract basis.