



The Federation of Spixworth Schools

Health and Safety Policy

Agreed by Governing Body: Autumn 2021
To be reviewed: Autumn 2022
Group Responsible: Full Governors

Part 1: Governing Body Statement of Intent

Effective health and safety management is integral to delivering our ambition for excellence in education and our performance as a school. Our overall objective is to provide and maintain a safe and healthy environment for our staff and pupils and others with whom we work.

We will achieve this by:

- Developing and maintaining a positive health and safety culture with an emphasis on continually improving our performance taking into account human and cultural factors
- Ensuring that health and safety management is an integral part of decision making and organisational processes
- Adopting a sensible and proportionate approach to managing risks, with well informed decision making processes for higher risk activities and ensuring a disproportionate amount of time is not spent on trivial or everyday risks
- Providing a safe and healthy working environment for our staff, pupils and others working in the school
- Ensuring safe working methods are in place and providing safe equipment.
- Communicating and consulting with our staff and their trade union representatives
- Complying with statutory requirements and where possible best practice
- Investigating and learning the lessons from accidents and work related ill health incidents
- Providing effective information, instruction and training to enable our staff to be competent in their roles
- Monitoring and reviewing systems and preventative measures to make sure they are suitable, sufficient and effective
- Ensuring adequate resources are available to fulfil our health and safety responsibilities and objectives
- Working with and monitoring our contractors to ensure consistent and comparable health and safety standards

We recognise that overall responsibility for health and safety lies with all levels of management having direct responsibility for activities and staff under their control. However, all staff have a legal and moral responsibility to take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and for others who may be affected by their acts or omissions.

Name of Chair of Governors: Joanna Thompson

Date: September 2021

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Approved By: Health, Safety and Well-being Manager

Date: January 2021

Health and Safety Policy

Part 2: Responsibilities and Organisation

Introduction

To comply with the Governing Body Statement of Intent the following responsibilities have been assigned:

The Governing Body

Responsible for ensuring that suitable organisational arrangements are in place for the management and control of health and safety within the school. In particular, we will ensure that:

- A written policy statement is created and communicated which promotes a positive attitude towards health and safety in staff and pupils
- Responsibilities for health, safety and welfare are allocated to specific people and those people are informed of these responsibilities
- A lead governor for health and safety is nominated
- People have sufficient experience, knowledge and training to perform the tasks required of them
- Clear procedures are created which assess the risk from hazards and produce safe systems of work
- Sufficient funds are allocated to operate safe systems of work
- Health and safety performance is monitored and targets for improvement are set
- The school's health and safety policy is reviewed at least every two years
- Our management of health and safety considers the needs of anyone with a protected characteristic under the Equalities Act

The Executive Headteacher

Responsible for all staff and activities under their control and will ensure that the requirements of relevant safety policies and procedures are implemented and complied with. In particular, they will:

Be fully committed to the Governing Body's Statement of Intent, ensuring that a positive health and safety culture is demonstrated and promoted through their leadership.

Ensure that appropriate risk assessments are undertaken by competent persons and that suitable control measures are taken on a risk basis to manage the health and

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safety risks to staff and any other people who may be affected by the school's activities

- Monitor and review health and safety performance through:
 - Undertaking health and safety inspections of work areas/practices in line with relevant policy
 - Setting health and safety targets and objectives through appraisals and other supervisory reviews
 - Reviewing incidents and accidents
 - Monitoring commissioned and contracted work under their control for compliance
 - Ensure that the management of health and safety in the areas under their control considers the needs of anyone with a protected characteristic under the Equalities Act
- Develop safe systems of work and procedures and ensure that they are implemented
- Ensure prompt action is taken to resolve any situations that may adversely affect the health and safety of staff or other people
- Ensure that they undertake all relevant training and staff are given adequate information, instruction, training and supervision to carry out their duties, paying particular attention to new/inexperienced employees and trainees
- Ensure that all plant and work equipment provided is: selected through a risk assessment process, suitable, properly maintained and subject to all necessary tests and examinations
- Ensure that accidents and incidents (including near misses and violence and aggression) are reported and investigated and the findings acted upon without delay
- Ensure there are meaningful, effective arrangements in place for consulting employees and their trade union representatives on health and safety matters that affect them
- Ensure information that may assist safety representatives in their role is provided to them When commissioning work through partners and contractors, ensure that they are selected and managed in line with statutory requirements and Council policy
- Ensure that they seek timely assistance and advice where expert help is required from the Health, Safety and Well-being team

- Report to the Governing Body at least annually on the school's health and safety performance

Lead Governor for Health and Safety

The Lead Governor / Trustee has the following responsibilities:

- To be fully and visibly committed to the Statement of Intent for health and safety
- To scrutinise and review health and safety performance
- To provide support and challenge to the Executive Headteacher and the Governing Body in fulfilling their health and safety responsibilities
- To ensure in particular that risk assessments of the premises and working practices are carried out and documented

Health and Safety Coordinator / Premises Manager

The Health and Safety Coordinator has the following responsibilities:

- To coordinate and manage the annual risk assessment process for the school
- To coordinate performance monitoring processes
- To make provision for the inspection and maintenance of work equipment
- To manage the keeping of records of all health and safety activities including management of building fabric and building services in liaison with NPS and other contractors.
- To advise the Executive Headteacher of situations or activities which are potentially hazardous to the health and safety of staff, pupils and visitors.
- To ensure that staff are adequately instructed in safety and welfare matters about their specific workplace and the school generally.

Teaching and support staff holding positions of special responsibility

This includes Heads of Schools, Subject Leaders, Business Managers, Caretakers/Site Managers

They have the following responsibilities:

- Apply the school's Health and Safety Policy and the relevant health and safety Codes of Practice to their own department or area of work and be directly responsible to the Executive Headteacher for the application of the health and safety procedures and arrangements
- Carry out regular health and safety risk assessments of the activities for which they are responsible

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- Ensure that all staff under they manage are familiar with the relevant health and safety Codes of Practice, for their area of work
- Resolve health, safety and welfare issues that staff refer to them, or refer to the Executive Headteacher any matters for which they cannot achieve a satisfactory solution within the resources available
- Carry out regular inspections of their areas of responsibility to ensure that equipment, and activities are safe and record these inspections where required
- Ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the provision of sufficient information, instruction, training and supervision to enable other staff and pupils to avoid hazards and contribute positively to their own health and safety
- Investigate any accidents that occur within their area of responsibility

Class Teachers

Class teachers are expected to:

- Exercise effective supervision of their pupils, to know the procedures for fire, first aid and other emergencies and to carry them out
- Follow the particular health and safety measures to be adopted in their own teaching areas as laid down in the relevant Codes of Practice
- Give clear oral and written instructions and warnings to pupils when necessary
- Follow safe working procedures
- Require the use of protective clothing and guards where necessary
- Make recommendations to their Head of School or manager regarding equipment and improvements to plant, tools, equipment or machinery
- Integrate all relevant aspects of safety into the teaching process
- Report all accidents, defects and dangerous occurrences to their manager

Employee Consultation/Safety Representatives

The Governing Body believe that consulting employees on health and safety matters is important in creating and maintaining a safe and healthy working environment.

Safety representatives of trade unions recognised by Norfolk County Council will be consulted on all matters of health and safety that may affect staff and on the provision of health and safety information and training. Non-union staff will also be consulted directly.

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Before making any decisions which could have health and safety consequences for staff, the governing body will inform safety representatives about the proposed course of action and give them an opportunity to express their views.

Staff

All staff have individual responsibility to take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and for others who may be affected by their acts or omissions. In particular, they must:

- Comply with the school's health and safety policy and procedures at all times
- Co-operate with managers in complying with relevant health and safety safe systems of work and procedures
- Use all work equipment and substances in accordance with instruction, training and information received
- Wear, use, store, maintain and replace personal protective equipment as appropriate
- Not intentionally misuse anything provided in the interests of health, safety and welfare
- Take part in and contribute to health and safety inspections, risk assessments etc. as appropriate
- Report all accidents (personal injury and vehicle), ill health, incidents of violence and aggression, near misses, hazardous situations, general health and safety concerns, defective equipment or premises
- Attend all training relevant to their role

Pupils

Pupils, allowing for their age and aptitude, are expected to:

- Take personal responsibility for the health and safety of themselves and others
- Observe standards of dress consistent with safety and/or hygiene
- Observe all the health and safety rules of the school and in particular the instructions of staff given in an emergency
- Use and not wilfully misuse, neglect or interfere with things provided for their health and safety

Parents/Carers

Parents/Carers have individual responsibility to take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves while on school premises and for others who may be affected by their acts or omissions. In particular, they must:

- Comply with the school's health and safety policy and procedures at all times, in particular the instructions of staff given in an emergency

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- Take personal responsibility for the health and safety of themselves and others while on school premises, including at the school gates at drop off and pick up times
- Use and not wilfully misuse, neglect or interfere with school property provided for their health and safety
- Report any accident or near miss on school property immediately
- Comply with the Parental Code of Conduct

Part 3: Procedures and Arrangements

The following procedures and arrangements have been adopted to ensure compliance with the Governing Body's Statement of Intent.

Lead Governor for Health and Safety

The lead governor with responsibility for scrutiny of health and safety performance is Joanna Thompson.

Risk Assessment:

General Risk Assessment

General Risk Assessment will be coordinated by School Support Manager following [guidance and templates available on Infospace](#). The Executive Headteacher will be responsible for ensuring the actions required are implemented.

Fire Safety

A fire risk assessment will be carried out and local fire safety procedures developed for the premises by the Executive Headteacher following [guidance and templates available on Infospace](#).

Manual Handling

Manual handling risk assessments will be carried out by the Caretaker following [guidance and templates available on Infospace](#).

Computers and Workstations

Computer and workstation risk assessments will be carried out by the School Support Manager following [guidance and templates available on Infospace](#).

Hazardous Substances

The Caretaker will identify hazardous substances for which no generic assessment exists in the Codes of Practice mentioned below, following [guidance and templates available on Infospace](#).

Violence to Staff

Assessment of the risks of violence to staff will be carried out by the Executive Headteacher following [guidance and templates available on Infospace](#). This assessment cross-refers to the school's behaviour policy.

Lone Working

Assessment of the risks of lone working staff will be carried out by the Executive Headteacher following [guidance and templates available on Infospace](#).

Risk Assessment of Curriculum Activities

Risk Assessments for curriculum activities will be carried out by relevant Subject Leaders using [health and safety curriculum Codes of Practice available on Infospace](#).

Caretaking Code of Practice

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Assessment of the risks to Caretakers will be assessed by the Caretaker following the [Caretaking Code of Practice guidance available on Infospace](#).

Handling Money

Assessment of the risks of handling money (if applicable) will be carried out by the School Support Manager following [guidance available on Infospace](#).

Home Working

Assessment of the risks of staff working from home will be carried out by the Executive Headteacher following [guidance and templates available on Infospace](#).

Consultation with Employees

Union-appointed safety representatives are recommended.

Consultation with employees not represented by a union is provided through Governing Body.

Safe Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment will be inspected, maintained and, where necessary, tested by appropriate contractors appointed by the Governing Body

Routine local testing of emergency lighting, fire alarm call points, flushing of infrequently used water outlets and monthly water temperature monitoring will be carried out by the caretaker/site manager.

Any problems or defects regarding plant and equipment should be reported to the School Support Manager.

Information, Instruction and Training

Information and Advice

A [Health and Safety Law Poster](#) is displayed at: Entrance lobby.

Health and safety advice is available from the Executive Headteacher/health and safety coordinator

Health and Safety Training:

Induction

Health and safety induction training will be provided for all new employees and for work experience placement students by the Executive Headteacher/Head of School following [guidance and templates available on Infospace](#). This covers the following areas as a minimum:

- Fire arrangements for the workplace, including assembly point, exit routes, fire alarm sounder and specific details as they relate to the premises.
- First aid arrangements – first aid contacts and location of first aid equipment.

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- Details of asbestos containing materials which are relevant to the place(s) of work
- Welfare facilities – toilets, kitchen, rest areas.
- Incident reporting requirements.
- Display Screen Equipment assessment
- Staff responsibilities (general, specific arrangements such as checking portable electrical equipment using the checklist, responsibility for pupil safety in lesson planning and delivery).
- Relevant risk assessments which apply to the work and safe working practice
- Arrangements for competency development such as mentoring, job shadowing, training courses and what work tasks cannot be carried out until the required competency level is achieved.
- Means to report building defects and Premises Head of School/line manager information.
- Premises security and any lone working requirements.
- Pupil safety and safeguarding

Short health and safety e-learning modules are provided which cover core subjects including manual handling, display screen equipment and fire. Use of these courses may not necessarily replace the need for staff to attend a formal training course or receive further instruction and information, for example, lifting techniques for manual handling.

Staff and governors named below have received or will receive health and safety training in the following areas:

Strategic Health and Safety Management and Premises Management Training

- Health and Safety Awareness for Governors: 2x Governors
- Health and Safety Management for Headteachers: Executive Headteacher
- Health and Safety for Managers: Executive Headteacher
- Premises Management 1 – General: Executive Headteacher
- Premises Management 2 – Asbestos: Executive Headteacher
- Premises Management 3 – Fire Safety Risk Assessment: Executive Headteacher
- General Risk Assessment: Executive Headteacher

Curriculum/Subject Specific Health and Safety Training

Primary and Secondary PE and School Sport

- Norfolk PE Teaching Competence Standards (NPETCS) (primary support staff and cover supervisors): HLTA

Occupational Risks

- First Aid at Work: 1x Teacher, 2x HLTA, 1x TA, 1x Admin
- Emergency First Aid at Work: All Staff
- Paediatric First Aid (for schools with children up to age 5): 2x HLTA
- Norfolk Steps training: All classroom and admin staff

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Caretaking/Site Management

- IOSH Working Safely (Norse Commercial Services): Caretaker
- *Ladder Use and Inspection* (Norse Commercial Services) : Caretaker

Health and Well-Being

- Well-Being Facilitators: 6x Mental Health Champions

Training Records and Training Needs Identification

Health and safety training records are held by: School Support Manager

Training needs will be identified, arranged and monitored by: Executive Headteacher

Incident Reporting and Investigation

All accidents and cases of work-related ill health involving employees (or non employees where the injury is potentially caused by a deficiency in activity, equipment or premises must be recorded. In NCC Schools this should be made via the OSHENs online incident reporting system.

Minor injuries to non-employees (i.e. pupils and visitors) where first aid is given will be reported on the [First Aid Record of Treatment form available on Infospace](#). These forms are kept at: School Office and Medical Room

The Executive Headteacher will investigate all incidents and act on findings to prevent a recurrence.

First Aid

First aid boxes are kept at: Medical Room

The following employees are available to provide first aid: All staff

Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions

Prescribed medication will be administered to pupils following [guidance and documentation on Norfolk Schools](#).

The 3-day First Aiders are responsible for management of administration of medicines to pupils.

Site Security and Visitors

All visitors must report to The School Office where they will be asked to sign the visitors book and wear a visitors' badge.

Other arrangements to ensure the security of pupils and employees on site are:
Gates are locked promptly each morning and not opened until the end of each day.
All staff approach unfamiliar adults in school
Red/Blue badge system is well understood by all stakeholders
External doors stay locked.

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On-Site Vehicle Movements

The risks of persons and vehicles coming into contact will be controlled by the following measures:

Speed limit in the school carpark

Any contractors needing to drive onto the main school site are closely monitored

Selection and Management of Contractors / Construction & Refurbishment works

Contractors and Construction Projects are selected approved and managed by NPS and/or the Governing Body. [Guidance and templates available on Infospace.](#)

Management of Asbestos

The asbestos register and asbestos management plan is held at: School Office. School Support Manager is responsible for ensuring that contractors who may be working in areas where asbestos has been identified sign the register and that any changes to the register are notified to NPS.

Educational Visits

Educational visits, including residential visits and any school-led adventure activities, will be organised following guidance produced by the Outdoor Education Advisers Panel and adopted by Norfolk County Council.

Travel to and from School

Yellow zigzag lines are present outside the school premises. Regular reminders will be given for these to remain clear. Drivers will be encouraged not to leave their engines idling while waiting outside school.

Bicycle/scooter racks are provided on school premises. Bicycles/scooters will not be ridden inside the school gates. Safety helmets should be worn and can be stored inside the buildings.

Children walking to and from school will be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Written parental permission for a child to walk alone, in Year 5 or Year 6 only, will be required. A form for this purpose is available from the school office.

Occupational Health

Access to occupational health services is via NCC HR department

Emergency Procedures – Fire and Evacuation

Escape routes are checked by the Caretaker daily, 4x annually by the Executive Headteacher/all staff via drills; T&P Fire: Biannually

Fire extinguishers are maintained and checked by T&P Fire: Churches Fire Annually

Alarms are tested by the Caretaker weekly

Emergency evacuation procedures will be tested once every term.

Monitoring

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Routine inspections of the premises to ensure safe working practices are being followed will be carried out by the Caretaker, Executive Headteacher and Heads of Schools

Inspections of individual departments and specific work areas will be carried out by Subject Leaders or nominated staff.

Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed at least every 2 years.