



Gaddesden Row JMI Health & Safety Policy

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed in full by the Governing Body every 2 years.

The policy was last reviewed on *16th March 2021*

It is due for review on *March 2023* (up to 24 months from the above date).

It is adapted and reviewed in-line with Hertfordshire's model policy.

Signature
Head Teacher

Date

Signature
Chair of Governors

Date

HEALTH AND SAFETY STATEMENT

Introduction

1. This document provides a customisable template to assist schools in producing a written health and safety policy.
2. The model policy is based upon Hertfordshire County Council's criteria for schools where it is the employer, it's for the Governing Body / Trust of Foundation, VA and Academy¹ schools to determine whether to adopt such arrangements.
3. Schools should ensure the policy is customised to fit their individual circumstances. Some areas requiring customisation are highlighted in red, in order to help to meet the requirements of different schools some alternative wording is suggested and such alternatives are separated by / within square brackets []. Further customisation will be required for those schools where the Local Authority (LA) is not the employer.

Writing a Policy Statement

4. Under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, it is the duty of an employer to have an up to date written statement of health and safety, this general policy must be complemented by a school policy statement.
5. Adapting the model policy is the best way of complying with the LA's Health and Safety Policy, demonstrating compliance with statutory duties could be difficult in the absence of a school policy.
6. The safety policy should be signed and dated by the head teacher / chair of governors.²
7. The main points required in a Health and Safety Policy Statement are:

Part 1 Statement of Intent

Outlining your commitment to providing a healthy and safe environment for all users of the establishment: - staff, pupils, visitors and contractors.

Part 2 Organisation (roles and responsibilities)

The organisation section should describe the roles and responsibilities of key personnel, for example:

- Governors
- Headteacher
- Those with responsibility for specific areas or activities which may have been delegated to them e.g. Heads of Department, Deputy Heads, Site Managers, Caretakers etc.
- Other employees (both teaching and non teaching) and any volunteers

The procedures for joint management / employee consultation should be detailed. It

¹ References to academies should be taken to include free and studio schools.

² References to governors should be taken to mean whoever is responsible for fulfilling governance functions

should be decided whether you require a safety committee (this is unlikely to be the case in small establishments and primary schools) where such a committee exists, then briefly describe its constitution and functions within the policy.

It is recommended that Health and Safety is included as a standing agenda item at relevant staff/team meetings. This enables you to demonstrate communication lines are in place enabling staff to participate in health and safety.

Part 3 Arrangements

The arrangements section details the school's local procedures for controlling significant risks and makes clear any specific roles and responsibilities in managing these.

The model policy details as appendices some of the key areas for which local arrangements may be required, depending on the nature of the risks not all may be relevant.

[DfE Health and Safety: advice for schools](#) provides a similar list of areas for inclusion in a school health and safety policy.

Arrangements for policy review

8. Governors are required to take steps to ensure that they are kept informed of the County Council's advice and guidance on health and safety matters.
9. It is recommended that Health and Safety is a regular item on the agenda of either a full meeting of the governing/senior management body or an appropriate sub-committee of governors (e.g. premises, resources etc).
10. Establishments will need to review and amend where necessary their Health and Safety policy from time to time. It is recommended that a review be carried out annually. (The legislation requires this is done no longer than every 2 years)
11. Once completed the policy should be communicated to all staff (teaching and support staff) and be linked to the induction of all new staff.

Further Information

12. For further information and guidance contact: the Health and Safety Team
Tel: 01992 556478 healthandsafety@hertfordshire.gov.uk
13. A summary of changes from the previous version of the model policy (V5 2014) is provided below.

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

Gaddesden Row JMI School

PART 1. STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Governing Body of Gaddesden Row JMI School will strive to achieve the highest standards of health, safety and welfare consistent with their responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and other statutory and common law duties.

This statement sets out how these duties will be conducted and includes a description of the school's organisation and arrangements for dealing with different areas of risk. Details of how these areas of risk will be addressed are given in the arrangements section.

This policy will be brought to the attention of, and/or issued to, all members of staff. A reference copy is kept in the school office and on the shared drive.

This policy statement and the accompanying organisation and arrangements will be reviewed every 2 years.

This policy statement supplements:

- Hertfordshire County Council's (HCC) Health and Safety Policy.
- Educational Visits
- Child Protection
- Supporting pupils with medical needs
- Behaviour
- Absconding Pupils

Kathryn Siggers Chair of Governors	David Merriman Headteacher
Date:	Date:

PART 2. ORGANISATION

As the employer the LA has overall responsibility for Health and Safety in Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools.

At a school level duties and responsibilities have been assigned to staff and governors as detailed below.

Responsibilities of the Governing Body

The Governing Body are responsible for ensuring health and safety management systems are in place and effective. They fulfil a strategic role in health and safety and are not expected to be involved in day to day management of the school.

As a minimum these systems should adhere to the LA's health and safety policy, procedures and standards as detailed in the [Education Health and Safety Manual](#).

A Health & Safety Governor, David Logan, has been appointed to receive relevant information, monitor the implementation of policies and procedures and to feedback health and safety issues and identified actions to the Governing Body.

The Governing body will receive regular reports from the Headteacher or other nominated member of staff in order to enable them to provide and prioritise resources for health and safety issues.

Where required the Governing body will seek specialist advice on health and safety which the establishment may not feel competent to deal with.

HCC's Health and Safety Team, Tel: 01992 556478 healthandsafety@hertfordshire.gov.uk provide competent health and safety advice for Community, Community Special and VC schools.

Responsibilities of the Headteacher

Overall responsibility for the day to day management of health and safety in accordance with the LA's health and safety policy and procedures rests with the Headteacher.

The Headteacher has responsibility for:

- Co-operating with the LA and Governing Body to enable health and safety policy and procedures to be implemented and complied with.
- Communicating the policy and other appropriate health and safety information to all relevant people including contractors.
- Ensuring effective arrangements are in place to pro-actively manage health and safety by conducting and reviewing inspections and risk assessments and implementing required actions.
- Reporting to the Governing body on health and safety performance and any safety concerns/ issues which may need to be addressed by the allocation of funds.
- Ensuring that the premises, plant and equipment are maintained in a safe

and serviceable condition.

- Reporting to the LA any significant risks which cannot be rectified within the establishment's budget.
- Ensuring all staff are competent to carry out their roles and are provided with adequate information, instruction and training.
- Ensuring consultation arrangements are in place for staff and their trade union representatives (where appointed) and recognising the right of trade unions in the workplace to require a health and safety committee to be set up.
- Monitoring purchasing and contracting procedures to ensure health and safety is included in specifications & contract conditions.

Whilst overall responsibility for health and safety cannot be delegated the Headteacher may choose to delegate certain tasks to other members of staff.

The school secretary takes responsibility of the day to day health and safety. The school caretaker takes care of premises.

The caretaker will:

- Apply the school's health and safety policy to their own department or area of work.
- Ensure health and safety risk assessments are undertaken for the activities for which they are responsible and that identified control measures are implemented.
- Take appropriate action on health, safety and welfare issues referred to them, informing the head of any problems they are unable to resolve within the resources available to them.
- Carry out regular inspections of their areas of responsibility and report / record these inspections.
- Ensure the provision of sufficient information, instruction, training and supervision to enable staff and pupils to avoid hazards and contribute positively to their own health and safety.
- Ensure that all accidents (including near misses) occurring within their area of responsibility are promptly reported and investigated.

Responsibilities of employees

Under the Health and Safety at Work Act etc. 1974 all employees have general health and safety responsibilities. All employees are obliged to take care of their own health and safety whilst at work along with that of others who may be affected by their actions.

All employees have responsibility to:

- Take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and others in undertaking their work.
- Comply with the school's health and safety policy and procedures at all times.
- Report all accidents and incidents in line with the reporting procedure.
- Co-operate with school management on all matters relating to health and safety.
- Not to intentionally interfere with or misuse any equipment or fittings provided in the interests of health safety and welfare.
- Report all defects in condition of premises or equipment and any health and safety concerns immediately to their line manager.
- Ensure that they only use equipment or machinery that they are competent / have been trained to use.
- Make use of all necessary control measures and personal protective equipment provided for safety or health reasons.

PART 3. ARRANGEMENTS

Detailed information on the LA's expectations are provided in the [Education Health and Safety Manual](#).

- Appendix 1 - Risk Assessments
- Appendix 2 - Offsite visits
- Appendix 3 - Health and Safety Monitoring and Inspections
- Appendix 4 - Fire Evacuation and other Emergency Arrangements
- Appendix 5 - Fire Prevention, Testing of Equipment
- Appendix 6 - First Aid and Medication
- Appendix 7 - Accident Reporting Procedures
- Appendix 8 - Health and Safety Information and Training
- Appendix 9 - Personal safety / lone Working
- Appendix 10 - Premises Work Equipment
- Appendix 11 - Flammable and Hazardous Substances
- Appendix 12 - Asbestos
- Appendix 13 - Moving and Handling
- Appendix 14 - Contractors
- Appendix 15 - Work at Height
- Appendix 16 - Display Screen Equipment
- Appendix 17 - Vehicles
- Appendix 18 - Lettings
- Appendix 19 - Minibuses
- Appendix 20 - Stress
- Appendix 21 - Legionella

APPENDIX 1

RISK ASSESSMENTS

General Risk Assessments

The school conducts and documents risk assessments for all activities presenting a significant risk. These are co-ordinated collaboratively by the Headteacher, Secretary and Caretaker following guidance contained in the [Education Health and Safety Manual](#) and are approved by the Headteacher.

Risk assessments are available for all staff to view and are held centrally in the school office. These assessments will be reviewed on an annual basis or when the work activity changes, whichever is the soonest. Staff will be made aware of any changes to risk assessments relating to their work.

Individual Risk Assessments

Specific assessments relating to staff member(s) or pupil(s) are held on that individual's file and will be undertaken by the Headteacher. Such risk assessments will be reviewed on a regular basis.

It is the responsibility of all staff to inform their line manager of any medical conditions (including pregnancy) which may impact upon their work.

Curriculum Activities

Risk assessments for curriculum activities will be carried out by the relevant class teacher using the relevant codes of practice and model risk assessments detailed below.

Whenever a new course is adopted or developed all activities are checked against these and significant findings incorporated into texts in daily use: lesson plans.

All LA schools have a subscription to CLEAPSS and their publications³ are used as sources of model risk assessment within science, art and DT.

In addition the following publications are used within the school as sources of model risk assessments:

- Be Safe! Health and Safety in primary science and technology, 4th Edition ASE] ISBN ISBN 978-0-86357-426-9]
- [National Society for Education in Art & Design (NSEAD)
- <http://www.nsead.org/hsg/index.aspx>]
- [Safe Practice in Physical Education and School Sport' Association of PE 'afPE' <http://www.afpe.org.uk/>]

³ CLEAPSS www.cleapss.org.uk

APPENDIX 2

OFFSITE VISITS

The LA has adopted the Outdoor Education Advisory Panel's national guidance for learning outside the classroom and offsite visits and all offsite visits will be planned following this guidance available via

<http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/edlearn/schlife/outside/offsitevisits/>

The LA's Offsite Visits Advisor must be notified of all level 3 trips, which include self-led adventurous activities, fieldwork trips to open or "wild" country, and all trips overseas. This will be done via the use of Evolve, the online notification and approvals system.

Evolve will be used for the planning and approval of **all** offsite visits. Relevant risk assessments, participants names etc. will be attached electronically as required.

The member of staff planning the trip will submit all relevant paperwork and risk assessments relating to the trip to the school's Educational Visits Co-ordinator(s), the Headteacher, who will check the documentation and planning of the trip and if acceptable approve the visit.

APPENDIX 3

HEALTH AND SAFETY MONITORING AND INSPECTION

A general inspection of the site will be conducted on a 6 monthly basis and be undertaken / co-ordinated by the Headteacher, Caretaker and H&S Governor.

In both cases the persons undertaking inspection will complete a report in writing and submit this to the head teacher. Responsibility for following up items detailed in the safety inspection report will rest with the H&S Governor.

A named governor, David Logan, will be involved / undertake an audit of the school's health and safety management systems on an annual basis and report back to both the relevant sub-committee and full governing body meetings.

Advice and pro forma inspection checklists can be found in the [Education Health and Safety Manual](#).

Inspections will be conducted jointly with the establishment's health and safety representative(s) if possible.

FIRE EVACUATION AND OTHER EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring the school's fire risk assessment is undertaken and implemented following guidance contained in the [Education Health and Safety Manual](#). The fire risk assessment is located in the school's fire log book and will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Emergency Procedures

Fire and emergency evacuation procedures are detailed in the staff handbook and a summary posted in each classroom. These procedures will be reviewed at least annually and are made available to all staff as part of the school's induction process. This training is supported by regular drills.

Evacuation procedures are also made available to all contractors / visitors.

Emergency exits, fire alarm call points, assembly points etc are clearly identified by safety signs and notices.

Emergency contact and key holder details are maintained by the school Secretary and updated to the LA via Solero.

Fire Drills

- Fire drills will be undertaken termly and results recorded in the fire log book.

Fire Fighting

- Staff must ensure the alarm is raised BEFORE attempting to tackle a fire.
- The safe evacuation of persons is an absolute priority. Staff may only attempt to deal with small fires, **if it is safe to do so without putting themselves at risk**, using portable fire fighting equipment.

Staff are made aware of the type and location of portable fire fighting equipment and receive basic instruction in its correct use at induction.

Details of service isolation points:

No gas to premises

Water: On the premises boundary to the main road, in centre of hedge

Electricity: On post adjacent to oil tank (behind gate)

Oil: In green box on boundary to parking area

Details of chemicals and flammable substances on site.

An inventory of these will be kept by the Caretaker, as appropriate, for consultation.

INSPECTION /MAINTENANCE OF EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

The Secretary is responsible for ensuring that the school's fire log is kept up to date and that the following inspection / maintenance is undertaken and recorded in the fire log book located in the school office.

FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

Fire alarm call points will be tested weekly in rotation by the caretaker. This test will occur on Fridays.

Any defects on the system will be reported immediately to the alarm contractor / electrical engineer: Lexicon Fire Systems 01438 759255

A fire alarm maintenance contract is in place with Lexicon Fire Systems and the system tested 6 monthly by them.

FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT

Weekly in-house checks that all fire fighting equipment remains available for use and operational.

Lexicon Fire Systems undertakes an annual maintenance service of all fire fighting equipment.

Defective equipment or extinguishers that need recharging should be taken out of service and reported direct to Lexicon Fire Systems 01438 759255.

EMERGENCY LIGHTING SYSTEMS

These systems will be checked for operation monthly in house and annually a full discharge test and certification of the system will be undertaken by Lexicon Fire Systems 01438 759255.

MEANS OF ESCAPE

Daily checks for any obstructions on exit routes and ensures all final exit doors are operational and available for use.

APPENDIX 6

FIRST AID AND MEDICATION

The school has assessed the need for first aid provision and identified the following staff to provide first aid (both on site and where required for trips/visits and extra curricular activities).

TRAINED TO EYFS STANDARD (PAEDIATRIC FIRST AID, 2 days/ 12 hrs):

Sarah Haynes
Hannah Smith
Nina McCormick

TRAINED TO EMERGENCY FIRST AID AT WORK (1 day / 6 hrs):

David Merriman
Nina McCormick

First aid qualifications remain valid for 3 years. The Secretary will ensure that refresher training is organised to maintain competence and that new persons are trained should first aiders leave.

FIRST AID BOXES ARE LOCATED AT THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

School office signing in area
Classroom 2
Classroom 1

The school secretary is responsible for regularly checking (termly) that the contents of first aid are complete and replenished as necessary.

Transport to hospital: Where a first aider considers it necessary, the injured person will be sent directly to hospital (normally by ambulance). Parents / carers will be notified immediately of all major injuries to pupils.

No casualty will be allowed to travel to hospital unaccompanied and an accompanying adult will be designated in situations where the parents/carers cannot be contacted in time.

Where there is any doubt about the appropriate course of action, the first aider will consult with the Health Service helpline (NHS Direct 0845 4647) and, in the case of pupil with the parents/carers.

Hemel Hempstead General Hospital: 01442 213141

Watford General Hospital: 01923 244366

Luton and Dunstable Hospital: 01582 491166

Administration of medicines

All medication will be administered to pupils in accordance with the DfE document [Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions](#). Detailed arrangements are provided in a separate policy.

No member of staff will administer **any** medication (prescribed or non-prescribed) to children under 16 without a parent's written consent except in exceptional circumstances.

The school Secretary is responsible for accepting medication and checking all relevant information has been provided by parents / carers prior to administering. Records of administration will be kept by the school Secretary.

All non emergency medication kept in school are securely stored in the medical cabinet in the resources area with access strictly controlled. Inhalers are kept in individual classrooms. All pupils know how to access their medication.

Where children need to have immediate access to emergency medication i.e. asthma inhalers, epi-pen etc., it will be kept in the classroom, and clearly labelled.

Individual Health Care Plans (IHCP)

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

IHCPs are in place for those pupils with significant medical needs e.g. chronic or ongoing medical conditions such as diabetes, epilepsy, anaphylaxis etc.

The IHCP is developed with the pupil (where appropriate), parent/carer, designated named member of school staff, specialist nurse (where appropriate) and relevant healthcare services. 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 annually by Blanche Mortimer .

All staff are made aware of any relevant health care needs and copies of health care plans are available in individual pupil folders in the Head's office. Staff will receive appropriate training related to health conditions of pupils and the administration of medicines by a health professional as appropriate.

ACCIDENT REPORTING PROCEDURES

Accidents to employees

Where the LA is the employer then **all** employee accidents, no matter how minor, must be reported to them using the online accident reporting system hosted on Solero.

Accidents to pupils and other non-employees (members of public / visitors to site etc.)

A local accident book, kept in the school office, is used to record all minor incidents to non-employees, more significant incidents as detailed below must also reported to HCC using the online accident reporting system hosted on Solero.

- Major injuries.
- Accidents where significant first aid treatment has been provided.
- Accidents which result in the injured person being taken from the scene of the accident directly to hospital.
- Accidents arising from premises / equipment defects.

All major incidents will be reported to the Headteacher and the Health and Safety Governor. Parents / carers will be notified immediately of all major injuries. Accidents will be monitored for trends and a report made to the Governing Body as necessary.

The Headteacher, or their nominee, will investigate accidents and take remedial steps to avoid similar instances recurring. Faulty equipment, systems of work etc. must be reported and attended to as soon as possible.

Reporting to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE)

Incidents involving a fatality or major injury will be reported immediately to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) on 0345 300 9923 and the Education Health and Safety team on 01992 556478.

Incidents resulting in the following outcomes must be reported to the HSE via their online reporting system <http://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/> within 15 days of the incident occurring.

- A pupil or other non-employee being taken directly to hospital for treatment and the accident arising as the result of the condition of the premises / equipment, due to the way equipment or substances were used or due to a lack of supervision / organisation etc.
- Employee absence or inability to carry out their normal duties as the result of a work related accident, for periods of 7 days or more (including W/E's and holidays).

Any incident notified to the HSE must also be reported to the LA's Health and Safety Team.

HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION & TRAINING

Consultation

The Headteacher meets with the Secretary and Caretaker termly to review health and safety procedures.

The Resources committee meets termly to discuss health, safety and welfare issues affecting staff, pupils or visitors. Action points from meetings are brought forward for review by school management.

Communication of Information

Detailed information on how to comply with the LA's health and safety policy is given in the [Education Health and Safety Manual](#), which is available for reference via the Grid.

The Health and Safety Law poster is displayed in the staff room.

The Education Health and Safety Team, Tel: 01992 556478 provide competent health and safety advice for Community, Community Special and VC schools.

Health and Safety Training

All employees will be provided with:

- a copy of and induction training in the requirements of this policy;
- update training in response to any significant change;
- training in specific skills needed for certain activities, (e.g. use of hazardous substances, work at height etc.)
- refresher training where required.

Any new instructions or restrictions will be communicated to all staff in writing through the weekly staff memo and highlighted as part of the standard cycle of policy review.

Training records will be kept in the school office.

The Headteacher is responsible for co-ordinating health and safety training needs and for including details in the training and development plan. This includes a system for ensuring that refresher training is undertaken within the prescribed time limits.

The Headteacher will be responsible for assessing the effectiveness of training received.

Each member of staff is also responsible for drawing the Headteacher's / line managers attention to their own personal needs for training and for not undertaking duties unless they are confident that they have the necessary competence.

PERSONAL SAFETY / LONE WORKING

The school believes that staff should not be expected to put themselves in danger and will not tolerate violent / threatening behaviour to its staff.

Staff will report any such incidents to the headteacher. The school will work in partnership with the LA and police where inappropriate behaviour/ individual conduct compromises the school's aims in providing an environment in which the pupils and staff feel safe.

Lone working

Staff are encouraged not to work alone in school. Work carried out unaccompanied or without immediate access to assistance should be risk assessed to determine if the activity is necessary.

Work involving potentially significant risks (for example work at height) must not be undertaken whilst working alone.

Staff working outside of normal school hours must obtain permission of the Headteacher.

Where lone working cannot be avoided staff should ensure they have means to summon help in an emergency e.g. access to a telephone or mobile phone, bearing in mind the signal at Gaddesden Row is poor.

Staff should text the Headteacher when they have left the school site.

Staff attending home visits must leave details at school of their schedule, including names and addresses. Staff should call/text in/out after each individual home visit. Where there are known risks, which may affect staff safety, staff should not visit alone.

School staff responding to call outs

Nominated key holders attending empty premises where there has been an alarm activation should not need to attend the premises. This should be done by the keyholding service: Arena Security.

PREMISES AND WORK EQUIPMENT

All staff are required to report to the Headteacher any problems found with plant/equipment. Defective equipment will be clearly marked and taken out of service by storing in a secure location pending repair / disposal.

The Secretary is responsible for identifying all plant and equipment in an equipment register and ensuring that any specific training or instruction needs, personal protective equipment requirements are identified and relevant risk assessments conducted where required.

Equipment restricted to those users who are authorised / have received specific training is detailed in the register and labelled accordingly.

Planned maintenance / inspection

Regular inspection and testing of school plant and equipment is conducted to legislative requirements by competent contractors. Records of such monitoring will be kept in the Health & Safety file by the school Secretary. (Key areas for compliance are outlined on the [Grid](#))

Curriculum Areas

Subject leaders are responsible for ensuring maintenance requirements for equipment in their areas are identified and implemented.

Electrical Safety

All staff will conduct a visual inspection of plugs, cables and electrical equipment prior to use. Defective equipment will be reported to the Secretary.

All portable items of electrical equipment will be subject to formal inspection and testing (Portable Appliance Testing (PAT)) on an identified cycle (dependant upon the type of equipment and the environment it is used in). All earthed equipment (class 1) and cables attached to such equipment will be tested annually.

This inspection and testing will be conducted by Plowright Hinton Electrical Services Ltd. every March.

The school Secretary is responsible for keeping an up-to-date inventory of all relevant electrical appliances and for ensuring that all equipment is available for testing

Personal items of equipment (electrical or mechanical) should not be brought into the school without prior authorisation and must be subjected to the same tests as school equipment.

A fixed electrical installation test (fixed wire test) will be conducted by Plowright Hinton Electrical Services Ltd. on a 5 year cycle.

External play equipment

External play equipment will only be used when appropriately supervised.

This equipment will be checked daily before use for any apparent defects, and the Caretaker will conduct and record a formal termly inspection of the equipment. PE and Play equipment is subject to an annual inspection by the contractor: **John Harrison**.

APPENDIX 11

FLAMMABLE AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

Every attempt will be made to avoid, or choose the least harmful of, substances which fall under the **“Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002”** (COSHH Regulations).

Within curriculum areas (in particular science and DT) subject leaders are responsible for COSHH and ensuring that an up to date inventory and model risk assessments contained in the relevant national publications are in place. (CLEAPSS, Association for Science Education's "Topics in Safety" etc.)

In all other areas the establishments nominated person(s) responsible for substances hazardous to health is the school Secretary.

They shall ensure:

- an inventory of all hazardous substances used on site is compiled and regularly reviewed.
- material safety data sheets are obtained from the relevant supplier for all such materials.
- If required, full COSHH risk assessments are conducted and communicated to staff exposed to the product/substance.
- all chemicals are appropriately and securely stored out of the reach of children and .
- all chemicals are kept in their original packaging and labelled (no decanting into unmarked containers).
- suitable personal protective equipment (PPE) has been identified and available for use. PPE is to be provided free of charge where the need is identified as part of the risk assessment.

Where persons may be affected by their use on site, the school Secretary is responsible for ensuring that COSHH assessments are available from contractors (*this applies to both regular contracts such as cleaners and caterers and from builders, decorators, flooring specialists, etc*).

ASBESTOS

APPENDIX 12

An asbestos survey and management plan is in place for the school in accordance with [HCC's asbestos policy](#). The school's most recent asbestos management survey was conducted on 29/05/13.

The school's asbestos log (including school plans, asbestos survey data and site specific management plan) is held in a yellow folder by the signing in area in the school office.

The headteacher will ensure that all school staff (including those such as catering and cleaning staff who may be employed by others) are made aware of the location of asbestos containing materials (ACM) within their work areas.

Under no circumstances must staff undertake any work which could disturb the fabric of the building or fixed equipment, e.g. affixing anything to walls without first obtaining approval from an Asbestos Authorising Officer. (Even stapling / pushing a drawing pin into ACM may result in the release of fibres into the air.)

In the event of any damage occurring to materials known or suspected to contain asbestos this will be reported to one of the school's asbestos authorising officers and the area immediately evacuated and closed / locked off.

Professional advice will be sought and details of the incident reported to HCC's asbestos team asbestos@hertfordshire.gov.uk.

The school's asbestos authorising officers are and refresher training is required 3 yearly:

David Merriman

Nina McCormick

Prior to **any** work commencing on the fabric of the building or fixed equipment (e.g. boilers, kilns etc.), either by contractors or school staff, one of the asbestos authorising officers **must** check the asbestos log and establish whether permission to work can be given.

The headteacher / asbestos authorising officers shall ensure:

- That the asbestos log is consulted at the earliest possible opportunity and that **all** work affecting the fabric of the building or fixed equipment is entered in the permission to work log and signed by those undertaking the work.
- A visual inspection of asbestos containing materials remaining on site is conducted and recorded (legal requirement to do so annually as a minimum).
- The limitations of the management survey and areas of the building that have **not** been surveyed are understood and considered as part of the permission to work process e.g. areas above 3m in height, within ceiling voids (where panels / tiles are fixed), floor voids and ducts etc

- All records pertaining to asbestos are effectively maintained and retained (legal requirement to do so for a period of 40 years)
- The school's asbestos management plan is kept up to date and that any asbestos works (removal, new project specific surveys etc.) are notified to the LA via asbestos@hertfordshire.gov.uk

CONTRACTORS

All contractors used by the school shall ensure compliance with relevant health and safety legislation, guidance and good practice.

All contractors must report to the school office where they will be asked to sign the visitors book and wear an identification badge. Contractors will be issued with guidance on emergency procedures, relevant risks, and local management arrangements.

Clare Talbot is responsible for monitoring areas where the contractor's work may directly affect staff and pupils and checking whether expected controls are in place and working effectively.

School managed projects

The [Construction \(Design and Management\) Regulations 2015](#)⁴ applies to all building, demolition, repair and maintenance or refurbishment work.

Where the school undertakes projects direct the governing body are considered the 'client' and therefore have additional statutory obligations. These projects are managed by Clare Talbot (Head), a member of the governing body or Mouchel (property consultants) on the school's behalf who will ensure landlords consent has been obtained and, where applicable, all statutory approvals, such as planning permission and building regulations have been sought.

To ensure contractor competency the school uses a property framework contractor as a method of procuring works. These contractors have satisfied the County Council that they understand and abide by health and safety regulations. Details can be found at <http://www.thegrid.org.uk/info/premises/property.shtml>

Contractors will be required to provide a construction phase plan, risk assessments and method statements detailing the safe systems of work to be used prior to works commencing on site.

Risk assessments and method statements shall be specific to the site and all aspects of the works to be undertaken. The school, contractors and any subcontractors involved will exchange relevant information regarding the work activities and agree the risk assessments.

⁴ Such projects are notifiable to the HSE where the work exceeds 30 days or involves more than 500 person days of work. In such instances and/ or if there will be more than 1 contractor on site at the same time (in which case a principal designer and principal contractor must be appointed in writing by the client) it is recommended that an agent be used to work on the schools behalf.

WORK AT HEIGHT

Working at height can present a significant risk, where such activities cannot be avoided a risk assessment will be conducted to ensure such risks are adequately controlled. A copy of this assessment will be provided to employees authorised to work at height.

Storage above head height is minimised as far as possible, where this cannot be avoided only light-weight and rarely-used items are stored there.

When working at height (including accessing storage or putting up displays) appropriate stepladders or kick stools are to be used. Staff must not climb onto chairs etc.

Only those persons who have been trained to use ladders safely may use them. Basic instruction is provided to all staff who use ladders / stepladders

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg455.htm>

Formal training on work at height, use of ladders, mobile tower scaffolds etc. will be provided where a significant risk is identified as part of an individuals role.

The establishments nominated person(s) responsible for work at height is (are) the Headteacher.

The nominated person(s) shall ensure:

- all work at height is properly planned and organised;
- the use of access equipment is restricted to authorised users;
- all those involved in work at height are trained and competent to do so;
- the risks from working at height are assessed and appropriate equipment selected;
- a register of access equipment is maintained and all equipment is regularly inspected and maintained;
- any risks from fragile surfaces is properly controlled.

Pupils may not use ladders or kick stools or stand on chairs or tables. Contractors must supply their own equipment for working at height.

LIFTING AND HANDLING

Generic risk assessments for regular manual handling operations are undertaken and staff

provided with information on safe moving and handling techniques.

Staff should ensure they are not lifting heavy items and equipment unless they have received training and/or equipment in order to do so safely.

Those manual handling activities which present a significant risk to the health and safety of staff, will be reported to David Merriman and where such activities cannot be avoided a risk assessment will be conducted to ensure such risks are adequately controlled. A copy of this assessment will be provided to employees who must follow the instruction given when carrying out the task.

Paediatric Moving and Handling

All staff who move and handle pupils have received appropriate training (both in general moving and handling people techniques and specific training on any lifting equipment, hoists, slings etc. they are required to use).

All moving and handling of pupils has been risk assessed and recorded by a competent member of staff.

Equipment for moving and handling people (hoists, slings etc.) is subject to inspection on a 6 monthly basis by a competent contractor.

DISPLAY SCREEN EQUIPMENT (DSE)

All staff who use computers daily, as a significant part of their normal work (*significant is taken to be continuous / near continuous spells of an hour or more at a time*) e.g. admin / office staff shall have a DSE assessment carried out.

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

Advice on the use of DSE is available in the [Education Health and Safety Manual](#)

APPENDIX 17

VEHICLES ON SITE

Vehicular access to the school is restricted to school staff and visitors only and not for general use by parents / guardians when bringing children to school or collecting them.

Access to the school must be kept clear for emergency vehicles.

The vehicle access gate must not normally be used for pedestrian access. Vehicles may only drive onto the premises when there are no children present and must seek permission from the Headteacher.

APPENDIX 18

LETTINGS / SHARED USE OF PREMISES

Lettings are managed by the Secretary following HCC guidance.

The school will not take any lettings without consideration to arrangements for specific restrictions on use of equipment, staffing requirements, first aid provision, fire and emergency documents, emergency lighting, public entertainment licence etc.

APPENDIX 19

MINIBUSES

The Secretary maintains a list of nominated drivers who have received training in order to drive a minibus and conducts an annual check of their driving licence.⁵

All minibus drivers should hold a valid HCC minibus permit (valid for 5 years) Issued by the HCC Road Safety Unit.

The school does not own a minibus and, therefore, does not need to do vehicle checks.

APPENDIX 20

STRESS / WELLBEING

The school and governing body are committed to promoting high levels of health and well being and recognise the importance of identifying and reducing workplace stressors through risk assessment, in line with the HSE and HCC's management standards.

Systems in place within the school for responding to individual concerns and monitoring staff workloads: Performance Management, mentoring, personal development plans, wellbeing activities.

⁵ All drivers must be over 21 and hold a full Category B (car) licence, non-employees must have held this for at least two years. Employees must have category D1 entitlement, those who obtained their car licence after 1 January 1997 must additionally obtain Category D or D1 by passing a medical and the Passenger Carrying Vehicle (PCV) theory and practical driving tests. This also applies to all drivers with pre-1997 licences if they intend to drive a minibus abroad.

LEGIONELLA

The school complies with advice on the potential risks from legionella as identified in the Education Health and Safety Manual.

A water risk assessment of the school has been completed on 20/01/2017 by Nemco and the Caretaker is responsible for ensuring that the identified operational controls are being conducted and recorded in the school's water log book.

This risk assessment will be reviewed where significant changes have occurred to the water system and/ or building footprint.

The risks from legionella are mitigated by basic operational controls and thus the following checks are recorded.

- Water is heated and stored to 60 deg C at calorifiers (any vessel that generates heat within a mass of stored water)
- Weekly flushing of seldom used outlets and all showers (with all outlets flushed after school holiday periods)
- Monthly temperature checks on sentinel outlets (those nearest and furthest away from calorifier(s))
- Quarterly disinfection / descaling of showers
- Six monthly temperature checks of stored water;
- Stored cold water tanks are inspected for compliance and safety on an annual basis by Nemco and tank water temperature recorded.