

To: Schools for Action

MODEL HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY FOR SCHOOLS

THE LAW

Health and safety in schools is governed by legislation and associated regulations, which are enforced by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

In **community schools, community special schools and voluntary controlled schools** statutory health and safety responsibilities fall on the Local Authority (LA) (as the employer) and on the headteacher and other school staff (as employees).

As the management body, **the governing body** must ensure that school staff and premises comply with the LA's health and safety policy and practices (e.g., reporting accidents, first aid provision), and:

- Implement a health and safety policy and advise employees of it;
- Have a Critical Incident/Business Continuity plan that considers emergency scenarios;
- Ensure, **so far as is reasonably practicable**, the health, safety and welfare of teachers and other education staff; the health and safety of pupils in school and on off-site visits; and the health and safety of visitors to schools, and volunteers involved in any school activity;
- Assess the risk of all activities, both in school and off-site; introduce measures to manage those risks, and tell employees about those measures;
- Ensure that staff are competent and trained in their health and safety responsibilities; and are actively involved in health and safety;
- Take reasonable steps to make sure that the buildings, equipment and materials are safe and do not put the health of users and visitors at risk.

In practice, the governing body may delegate specific health and safety tasks to others at the school.

The governing body, and headteacher, must comply with any direction given to them by the LA concerning the health and safety of persons on the school's premises or taking part in any school activities elsewhere.

In **Academy schools, free schools, foundation schools and voluntary aided schools** statutory health and safety responsibilities fall on the governing body (as the employer) and on the headteacher and staff (as employees). Governing bodies may be constituted in one of the following formats:

- An Academy Trust
- The Governing body of a voluntary aided or a foundation school
- The owners or trustees of an Academy, foundation, VA or Free school

The governing body, as employer, has a duty (as required by The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations, 1999):

- Implement a health and safety policy and advise employees of it;
- Have a Critical Incident/Business Continuity plan;
- Ensure, **so far as is reasonably practicable**, the health, safety and welfare of teachers and other education staff; the health and safety of pupils in school and on off-site visits; and the health and safety of visitors to schools, and volunteers involved in any school activity;
- Assess the risk of all activities, both in school and off-site; introduce measures to manage those risks, and tell employees about the measures;
- Ensure that staff are trained in their health and safety responsibilities; and,
- Take reasonable steps to make sure that the buildings, equipment and materials are safe and do not put the health of users and visitors at risk.

In practice, the governing body may delegate specific health and safety tasks to others at the school. **However, the governing body retains the ultimate responsibility no matter who carries out the tasks.**

THE ROLE OF EMPLOYEES IN ANY SCHOOL

Employees must take reasonable care of their own health and safety, and that of anyone else who may be affected by what they do at work. They must also cooperate with others who have duties for health and safety by carrying out instructions and reporting unsafe practices. The headteacher, who has delegated responsibility for the day-to-day management of the school, has a particular role in seeing that the governing body's health and safety policies and procedures are carried out.

COVERAGE

A list of all the issues to be covered by a school's health and safety policy is given on pages 6 - 8 of this document with electronic links to the relevant County Council or other appropriate guidance.

MODEL HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

1. THE GOVERNORS OF: St. Paul's CofE (VC) Junior School SCHOOL will
 - 1.1 Provide as far as reasonably practicable a safe and healthy environment for all persons who work at, attend or visit the school.
 - 1.2 Ensure, as far as reasonably practicable, the health and safety of pupils, staff and volunteers on off-site visits and activities.
 - 1.3 Endorse and support the safety policy of Somerset County Council, and to assist the Council to discharge those responsibilities, which it holds as employer.
 - 1.4 Seek improvement to working conditions according to priorities within existing resources.
 - 1.5 Recognise their responsibilities when they make available premises or equipment for hire, and will ensure that risks to the safety or health of hirers and other persons are adequately controlled as far as possible.
 - 1.6 Ensure that Risk Assessments are carried out within the school using an identified method for recording (e.g., EEC Safety Suite) and to review as appropriate.
 - 1.7 Encourage informal meetings and ensure time is made available in staff meetings where health and safety issues can be raised.
 - 1.8 Ensure that staff can access training to ensure their competence for their tasks.
 - 1.9 Accept the duties that they may hold as a client where they arrange for work through contractors or volunteers. Follow the Council's guidance for the selection of competent contractors and **will** seek assistance from the Council's Property Services when necessary. Ensure that volunteers receive adequate instruction and supervision to work safely.
 - 1.10 Report all incidents/accidents, using the Accident Reporting Module in EEC Safety Suite and ensure appropriate follow up action has been carried out.
 - 1.11 Review on an annual basis, all accidents and incidents reported to identify trends.
 - 1.12 Consult with the school council and inform pupils of their responsibilities for Health and Safety.
 - 1.13 Recognise the role of safety representatives appointed by recognised trade unions and co-operate with them so that they may undertake their health and safety related functions, including reasonable paid time off for consultation inspection and investigations.

The following individuals are recognised as safety representatives at the school.

Name (1) Chris Partridge (2) Matt Amos

Trade Union

The Governors and Headteacher will draw this policy to the attention of all staff, and review annually.

Signed: Chair of Governors:

Dated:

Signed: Chris Partridge Headteacher: Chris Partridge

Dated: 18/10/2016

2. ORGANISATION IN SUPPORT OF HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 2.1 Schools can be organised in a variety of ways, i.e., on a Headteacher/ Governing Body/Senior Management Team/Departmental basis. The key members are responsible for seeing that their Area of responsibility/Department staff follow the school's policy, and in particular in respect of:
 - 2.1.1 Identification and control of risks associated with any hazardous or dangerous substances.
 - 2.1.2 Selection of equipment suitable for its purpose, and ensuring that it is properly used.
 - 2.1.3 Identifying and securing the training needs of members of their Area/Department
 - 2.1.4 Provision of suitable personal protective equipment when required and ensuring that it is properly used.
- 2.2 The Headteacher and Governors recognise the importance of all staff being competent and possessing the necessary current skills, knowledge and qualifications for the use of specialist equipment or facilities.
- 2.3 The Governors will monitor safety performance within the school against the standards of Somerset County Council and provide an annual summary of their findings.
- 2.4 With regard to premises issues this will include a check of the school buildings, in conjunction with their property surveyor and prioritisation of needs on the school's Asset Management Plan (AMP). Also ensuring that appropriate training needs of person responsible for premises is delivered.
- 2.5 Governors to agree delegation for approval of off-site visits and activities and review on an annual basis. [Model policy](#) included in Burgundy Pack.
- 2.6 The Governors have appointed the following Governor to have a watching brief for health and safety issues, and bring to their notice such issues that require their attention

Assistance on health and safety issues is provided by
The Corporate Health and Safety Unit, Somerset County Council

3. Appointment of Appropriate Persons

Schools should appoint appropriate persons for their delegated areas of responsibility within the school (see Table A for areas which need including in your policy). They should ensure that new staff have the necessary skills and qualifications on appointment, or are able to receive the necessary training and certification, after appointment or on change of responsibilities or work methods.

4. Guidance for Schools

The following guidance, produced by the Local Authority, is available for schools to use for their own standards:

- [Guidance for Schools Volume 4](#)
- [Outdoor Education and External Visits Website](#)

4.1 The Governors adopt the standards of the following publications, which are endorsed by Somerset County Councils Learning and Achievement service as standards for its schools:

- Association for Physical Education - afPE, published 2012 (reprinted 2014)
- Health and Safety: advice on legal duties and powers - February 2014:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/335111/DfE_Health_and_Safety_Advice_06_02_14.pdf
- Building Bulletin 100: Design for Fire Safety in Schools (March 2014) - Gov.UK link:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/building-bulletin-100-design-for-fire-safety-in-schools>
- Learning Outside of the Classroom: <http://www.lotc.org.uk/>
- Guidance on First Aid for Schools: first published August 2000, latest update - 12 February 2014, link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/first-aid-in-schools>
- Statutory Guidance on Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions: published by Department for Education, 2014; link:
[https://slp.somerset.org.uk/ipost/iPost%20Documents/Statutory_guidance_on_supporting_pupils_at_school_with_medical_conditions\[1\].pdf](https://slp.somerset.org.uk/ipost/iPost%20Documents/Statutory_guidance_on_supporting_pupils_at_school_with_medical_conditions[1].pdf)
The School has established its own policies on *[complete as relevant]*

DELEGATED AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE SCHOOL

Name of School: St. Paul's CofE (VC) Junior School

Headteacher

Christopher Partridge

Delegated Senior Manager:

Christopher Partridge

Premises Manager:

Matthew Amos

Area	Location of Policy/Guidance	Name of person responsible
ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS (NEAR MISSES):		
Incidents/Injuries	Accident Reporting (EEC Safety Suite)	Matt Amos
EMERGENCY PROCEDURES:		
Emergency Procedures	School Closures	Chris Partridge Matt Amos Tracey Roberts
Critical/Major Incidents and updating your Contingency Plan	Updating your Contingency Plan Critical Incidents in Schools	
EXTERNAL VISITS:		
External Visit Co-ordinator	Outdoor Education and External Visits Website EEC Safety Suite>External Visits Management Policy for Offsite Visits and Activities - in school	Matt Amos Laura Parfitt
MEDICAL:		
Hygiene Control	Guidance for Schools: Volume 4	Matt Amos
Infection Control	Public Health England Guidance	Matt Amos
Medicines in school	Guidance for Schools: Volume 4	Myra Helps
Needlestick Injuries	H & S Policy Manual - HS007	Myra Helps
New and Expectant Mothers	H & S Policy Manual - HS017	Tracey Roberts

Area	Location of Policy/Guidance	Name of person responsible
Pupils with medical needs	Statutory guidance on supporting pupils with medical needs Supporting pupils with medical conditions - templates	Laura Parfitt Myra Helps
RISK MANAGEMENT:		
Computer Use	DSE Assessment Form - HS030 Managers Guide, User Guide and also training course and descriptions	Matt Amos
COSHH	H & S Policy Manual - HS008 Hazardous substances COSHH Assessment Form (F08)	Matt Amos
Employee or Volunteer Driver	Driver Risk Assessment HS014	Matt Amos
First Aid	H & S Policy Manual HS012	Matt Amos / Tracey Roberts
SITES AND BUILDINGS:		
SCC Overarching Guidance document	Corporate Property Standards and Guidance including construction work/contractors on school site	Matt Amos
Asbestos	Asbestos Register - in School	Matt Amos
Electrical Safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portable Appliance Testing 	Guidance for Schools: Volume 4	Matt Amos
Equipment Maintenance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lifting Equipment PE Equipment CDT Equipment LEV 	Contact Property Services - Contracts available for purchase by schools.	Matt Amos
Fire Safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arson Prevention 	Fire H&S010 Contact insurance for more advice https://slp.somerset.org.uk/sites/insurance/	Matt Amos
Gas Appliances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boilers Kitchen 	Contact Property Services: Contracts available for purchase. School responsibility unless Special.	Matt Amos
Minibus Safety	Outdoor Education Advisors Panel - National Guidance	Matt Amos
Pressure systems - eg, steam ovens/stills	School responsibility - contact Insurance https://slp.somerset.org.uk/sites/insurance/	Matt Amos

Area	Location of Policy/Guidance	Name of person responsible
Safety Glazing	http://www.six.somerset.gov.uk/sixv3/content_view.asp?did=13346	Matt Amos

ESTABLISHMENT St. Paul's CofE (VC) Junior School

Documents relating to this Policy are listed below along with the locations in which they can be found:

Document	Location (Eg, office, web address)
Accidents / Injuries	School Office / Computer : public:staff:H&S Policies 2016
Emergency Procedures	School Office / Computer : public:staff:H&S Policies 2016
External Visits	School Office / Computer : public:staff:H&S Policies 2016
Medical	School Office / Computer : public:staff:H&S Policies 2016
Risk Management	School Office / Computer : public:staff:H&S Policies 2016
Sites and Buildings	School Office / Computer : public:staff:H&S Policies 2016
Asbestos	School Office / Computer : public:staff:H&S Policies 2016
Property Services / Skanska	School Office / Computer : public:staff:H&S Policies 2016

Document Prepared by Matt Amos (Signature)(Print Name) Matt AmosTitle: Premises Manager
(eg, Headteacher/Governor)Date: 18/10/2016

The monitoring/review arrangements in place are summarised below:

External Monitoring

Safety Audit
Inspection Report (CHSU)
Accident/Incident Report
Safety Representation Reports (Recognised Trade Union/Professional Association)
Property Services Report - Capital Support
Fire Risk Assessment
Legionella Risk Assessment

Internal Monitoring

Governors Annual Report
H & S Committee Inspection
Annual Safety Self review
Self-Audits