



# MOORLANDS SCHOOL

## HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

for  
Moorlands School  
Moorlands School Enterprises Limited

Version control	
24 November 2023	Format changes Index updated Names, roles updated Removal of some duplicate information, also in related policies

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# HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY STATEMENT

The Board of Governors and the Senior Management Team of Moorlands School are committed to conducting their activities in such a manner as to ensure the Health, Safety and Welfare of Staff, Pupils and others so far as reasonably practicable. In particular, this commitment extends to:

1. Maintaining the school in a condition that is safe and without risk to health, with safe means of access and egress.
2. Providing and maintaining a safe working environment for staff and pupils without risk to Health, with adequate facilities and arrangements for their welfare at school.
3. Providing plant and equipment that are safe, without risk and are adequately maintained.
4. Providing staff and pupils with the information, instruction, training and supervision as are necessary to ensure their health and safety.
5. Ensuring the use, handling, storage and transportation of articles and substances are safe and without risk.
6. Carrying out risk assessments and continuous monitoring to ascertain potential risk to the environment, health and safety.

The School’s organisation and the specific arrangements for implementing this policy are outlined in the subsequent sections of this policy document.

All members of staff in the School are made aware of their individual responsibilities under Section 7 of the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974, to take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and for those other persons who may be affected by their acts or omissions, and to co-operate with the Governors in meeting their responsibilities. Failure to comply with any aspect of the Health & Safety Policy will be deemed to be a serious reportable matter.

This policy will be reviewed as and when required.

Signed 

Date...November 24<sup>th</sup> 2023

Chair of Governors

## **ORGANISATION**

### **THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

The School's Board of Governors is accountable and responsible for ensuring:

- That arrangements exist for the school to comply with its Health & Safety responsibilities.
- That the School Health & Safety Policy is adopted and reviewed annually by the School Management Team and is amended by the Health & Safety Committee, as appropriate.
- That adequate funds and materials required to meet all statutory Health and Safety requirements are budgeted for.
- That periodic monitoring inspections are carried out to maintain and enhance the school safety programme, for example by means of a regular external Safe School Audit Inspection.
- That the effectiveness of the Policy is periodically appraised and any necessary changes made.
- That they take a direct interest in the policy and publicly support all those carrying it out.
- That they receive minutes of termly Health & Safety Committee Meetings.

### **HEADTEACHER**

The Headteacher, currently Jacqueline Atkinson, is responsible for:

- Co-ordination of the day-to-day activities of the academic and support functions of the school in accordance with the Health & Safety Policy.
- Liaison with Governors, Advisers and Enforcement Agencies on Policy issues and any problems implementing the Health & Safety Policy.
- Ensuring regular inspections are carried out and suitable action is taken.
- Passing on information received on Health & Safety matters to appropriate people.
- Ensuring that accidents are appropriately investigated and recorded.
- Co-operation with and providing necessary facilities for Trade Union Safety Representative, if applicable.
- Communicating the school's rules and guidelines on Health & Safety to all staff, contractors and their employees, hirers and visitors regarding the facilities, equipment and evacuation procedures provided for their safety whilst on the premises.
- Ensuring that all staff are trained to the appropriate level of competence, having regard to the general risk assessments carried out, and that all equipment used is safe and, where necessary, certified as such.
- Monitoring the implementation of the Health & Safety Policy, reviewing its contents on an annual basis and making recommendations to the Board of Governors.
- The Headteacher will appoint a Health & Safety Co-ordinator to assist her in discharging these duties and in ensuring the Health & Safety of the School, its staff, pupils and visitors.

### **BURSAR**

The Bursar, currently Nick Higgins, will have day-to-day management responsibility, delegated by the Headteacher, for ensuring that, as far as is reasonably practicable, arrangements are in place for:

- Safety and security
- Fire, Electrical and gas safety
- Water quality
- Asbestos and radon gas
- Emergencies
- Staff training in relation to health and safety matters
- The appointment of competent contractors

The Bursar will also act as the School Safety Coordinator, whose duties will include:

- Advising the Headteacher on maintenance requirements
- Co-ordinating advice from specialist safety advisors
- Monitoring health and safety and raising concerns with the Headteacher

- Compliance with the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations
- Chairing the School Health and Safety Committee
- Investigating and recording accidents and incidents
- Ensuring that appropriate safety audits are undertaken in a timely manner
- Advising on health and safety policy revisions, in consultation with the Health and Safety Committee
- Keeping abreast of and giving advice on changes in legislation

### **SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM**

The Senior Management Team will be responsible for ensuring, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health and safety of those affected by activities under their control including:

- Day to day management of Health & Safety activities in their areas, in accordance with the Health & Safety Policy
- Maintaining up to date risk assessments for areas under their control, including analysis of hazards (including harmful substances and flammable materials)
- Carrying out regular annual inspections of their areas and reporting any concerns to the Headteacher and Bursar
- Arranging for staff training and information relevant to their area of control.
- Maintenance of Health & Safety standards
- Ensuring that any Health & Safety information received is circulated to the appropriate people
- Acting on reports from senior management team or from members of their own departments

### **CARETAKER**

The Caretaker, currently Andrew Lund, will assist the Bursar with the implementation of:

- Building security
- Prevention of unsupervised access by pupils to potentially dangerous areas
- Management of contractors whilst on site
- Maintenance of school vehicles
- Arrangements for testing, maintenance and recording relating to fire, electrics, gas, equipment, water quality, asbestos, trees, playground equipment and swimming pool
- Good standards of housekeeping including drains, guttering, windows/glazing, pathways and roads, roof coverings and fences/boundary walls.
- Control of hazardous substances for premises activities.
- Advising on inspection and monitoring procedures and the practical implementation of the Health and Safety Policy.

### **HEALTH & SAFETY ADVISERS**

The Headteacher will ensure that suitable arrangements are made for the School to receive competent Health & Safety advice from external sources when required. The School retains the services of Assurity Consulting to provide advice and assistance with all Health & Safety matters. Contact details are:

Alex Wild  
alex.wild@assurityconsulting.co.uk  
07979 745567

The School's insurance advisors, Hettle Andrews, employ a number of Health & Safety consultants who are able to assist with any queries by email or telephone. The first point of contact is:

Amy Moran  
amy.moran@hettleandrews.co.uk  
0121 423 6216

Amy will assess the nature of the query and suggest the most appropriate individual to contact.

Support & Advice is also available through “Hettle Andrews One”. The Headteacher, Bursar & Caretaker have Onehub log in details.

In addition, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) now has a dedicated website offering help, guidance and resources for schools and colleges: [www.rospace.com/schoolandcollegesafety/](http://www.rospace.com/schoolandcollegesafety/). For initial free help and advice on any aspect of safety in the school, RoSPA can be contacted on 0121 248 2235 or by e mail at [educationhelp@rospace.com](mailto:educationhelp@rospace.com).

Advisors and/or appropriately qualified contractors are also retained to advise on:

- The servicing of the school’s plant and equipment, including boilers.
- The school’s Fire Risk Assessment, which is undertaken every three years, or when significant changes are made to the school site.
- The servicing of the fire alarm system, smoke and heat detectors, emergency lighting and fire-fighting equipment.
- Legionella risk assessment (every two years), alongside a water sampling and testing regime.
- Fixed electrical wiring testing.
- Servicing and review of all lightning protection.

### **SCHOOL SAFETY AUDIT**

A School Safety Audit was carried out by Assurity Consulting in September 2022. Several recommendations were made which were discussed by the Health and Safety Committee and shared with the Board of Governors. Actions taken to address recommendations were logged and updated on the Assurity A+ system. School Safety audit takes place every 3 years as a minimum.

### **HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE**

The Health & Safety Committee is a non-executive Committee for the purposes of providing a regular forum for the discussion of Health & Safety issues. Where appropriate, the Committee will make recommendations to the Headteacher and/or Governors. The Committee shall comprise management and employee representatives, and has been established to facilitate consultation between management and employees in respect of:

- Any changes which may substantially affect the Health & Safety of staff or pupils, for example in procedures, equipment and ways of working.
- The information staff and pupils need on the likely risks and dangers arising from their activities, the measures to reduce or eliminate these risks and action required if they have to deal with a risk or danger.
- The planning of Health & Safety training.
- The Health & Safety consequences of introducing new technology.

The Health & Safety Committee shall meet on a termly basis. An agenda for each meeting will be set and circulated in advance. The Committee will be chaired by the Bursar who shall ensure that minutes are taken and that these are made available to all staff and a copy also given to Governors.

### **TEACHERS, TEACHING ASSISTANTS AND SUPPORT STAFF**

Teachers, teaching assistants and support staff are responsible for:

- Day-to-day management of Health & Safety within their areas and the carrying out of active safety in the school.
- Checking that classrooms/work areas are safe.
- Checking the safety of equipment before and during use.
- Ensuring safety procedures are used and maintained.
- Assisting in hazard analysis and risk assessment.
- Assessing the need for personal protective equipment, and ensuring that it is used.

- Defect and hazard reporting.
- Specialist tasks, eg first aid, swimming pool safety etc.
- Participating in inspections and the Health & Safety Committee, if appropriate.
- Bringing problems to the attention of the relevant manager, the Caretaker or the Bursar, as appropriate.

### **TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

Neither the Trade Unions nor the staff at Moorlands School have elected to appoint a Trade Union Representative.

### **PUPIL RESPONSIBILITIES**

Pupils have a duty to take reasonable care of themselves and others and to co-operate in the implementation of the School Health & Safety Policy by:

- Complying with the school's safety rules and requirements at all times.
- Complying with safety instructions given by members of staff.
- Wearing the protective equipment provided and making proper use of safety devices at all times.
- Reporting all safety hazards to members of staff.
- Reporting all accidents, incidents and near misses to members of staff.

### **FIRST AID**

The school recognises its responsibility to provide effective first-aid and will ensure that staff and pupils have access to adequate facilities and materials at all times during the working day. This section should be read in conjunction with the School's First Aid Policy.

It is the responsibility of the school to make an assessment of all the school's activities to determine the first aid requirements that are appropriate in each circumstance. The agreed levels of first aid cover will be included in the School's First Aid Policy.

Where the risk assessment identifies the need for trained First Aiders, they will be provided in sufficient numbers and at suitable locations to enable first aid to be administered without delay. First Aid qualified staff at Moorlands School have completed First Aid at Work, Emergency First Aid at Work, Paediatric First Aid or First Aid for Teachers. Certificates are on display within the school.

The school has a lead First Aider, who oversees the provision of First Aid. The current lead First Aider is Wendy Cooper, Head of Early Years, who is supported by Amelia Seaton, School Receptionist, who have completed the three-day First Aid at Work course. Their qualification will last for a period of three years.

Any individuals who sustain an injury should be seen by a qualified First Aider as soon as possible. Specialist first aid techniques may be required for locations or activities giving rise to specific hazards and risks, eg swimming pool use where an individual with a National Rescue Award for Swimming Teachers and Coaches (NRASTC) or National Pool Lifeguard (NPLQ) Qualification should be in attendance at all times.

Fully stocked First Aid boxes are provided at key locations throughout the school, along with 'grab bags', first aid bags for trips away from school and a First Aid kit in the school minibus. A defibrillator is located in the ground floor Finance Office.

### **ACCIDENT REPORTING, RECORDING AND INVESTIGATION**

The School recognises the duty to comply with its legal requirements for reporting accidents and incidents, and is also committed to learning from events in order to prevent recurrences.

It is the responsibility of all staff to report accidents and dangerous occurrences immediately. An Accident Report should be forwarded to Amelia Seaton as soon as possible afterwards, including for any accidents which occur out of normal school hours and during any offsite sports matches or trips. The number and type of entries in the Accident Book will be reported to the Health & Safety Committee on a termly basis.

The Reporting of Injuries Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR) set out the circumstances under which the school must inform the relevant authority (normally by phone) and complete a report within 15 days of the event. These are:

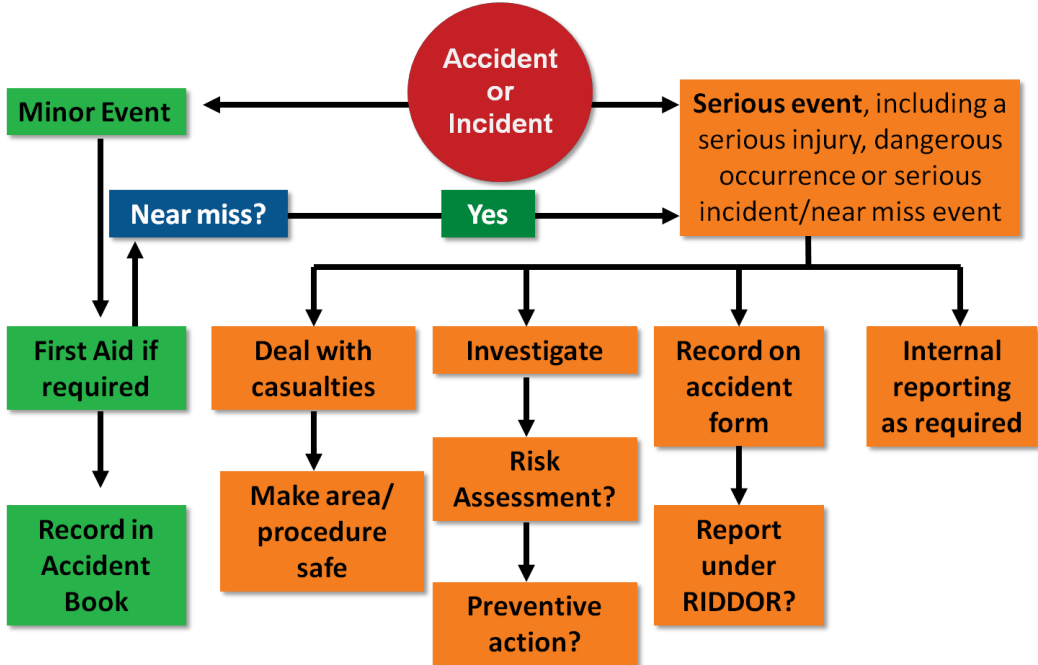
- Death in school
- Specified injury in school
- A person who was injured at school but at the time of their death they were either at home or in hospital.
- A dangerous event
- Specified diseases in school

Definitions of specified injuries, dangerous events and diseases that can be reported are available on the HSE website.

An investigation must be carried out as soon as possible after any accident occurs, so that problem areas or procedures are identified and remedial action can be taken if necessary.

Figure 1 summarises the action to be taken following an accident or incident, depending on the severity of the event.

**Figure 1- Accident/Incident Action Summary**



The procedures set out below must be followed if the following occurs at School:

- Injury that causes death.
- Specified injury (including fractures, amputations, loss of eyesight, hospitalisation for 24 hours or more and so on).



- An injury resulting in the employee being absent for seven days (including weekends) or more.
- Occupational illness or disease (including dermatitis, permanent cramp due to repetitive movements and carpal tunnel syndrome).
- Any other accident resulting in damage to property or injury to staff, pupils or members of the public.

Employees must report the accident/incident to their line manager as soon as possible. It must be recorded in the accident book. Serious accidents / near misses will be subject to additional reporting, as set out in the First Aid Policy. The details that must be recorded in the accident book are:

- The name of the person suffering the injury.
- The date and time of the injury.
- The name of the person reporting the injury.
- The cause of the injury.
- Any action taken as a result of the injury.
- The nature of the injury (for example, which part of the body is affected).

Accidents and incidents must be reported to the Bursar, who will decide if the accident or near miss needs to be reported to the enforcing authority. The Bursar will take the appropriate steps to make sure that:

- The accident or incident is investigated as soon as possible, and the Serious Accident / Near Miss form set out in the First Aid Policy will be used as appropriate.
- The results of that investigation are recorded on the internal accident investigation form.
- Measures are put into place to prevent the accident or near miss happening again.

If a pupil or other person who is not an employee is injured as a result of school activities and that person is taken to hospital for treatment, the accident or near miss must be reported to the Bursar without delay.

Further guidance can be obtained from the Health & Safety Consultants employed by the School, the contact details for which can be found on page 6.

## **FIRE SAFETY & EMERGENCY EVACUATION**

The school recognises the need to have detailed Fire Safety Procedures in place as a means of preventing any potential fire or explosion. It also recognises the need to plan for emergency measures to deal with any unforeseen fire/explosion related incidents. These plans include staff and pupil training in fire safety and prevention and emergency evacuation drills.

### **FIRE SAFETY AND EVACUATION ARRANGEMENTS**

The Bursar is responsible for ensuring that a Fire Risk Assessment has been conducted and any additional control measures required have been implemented. Where additional control measures may require capital investment, the Bursar and the Headteacher should liaise with the Board of Governors to ensure that adequate funding is available.

Fire evacuation procedures are published separately in the staff handbook and will be reviewed regularly by the Headteacher.

### **MAINTENANCE OF FIRE EQUIPMENT**

The Caretaker (Andrew Lund) will ensure that all fire equipment, including extinguishers, emergency lighting and alarm systems are maintained in an efficient condition. Where appropriate, contracts with

competent service providers will be established. Fire Alarm systems will be tested weekly and a record of the test maintained in the Fire Log Book.

### **FIRE EVACUATION TRAINING**

The Headteacher/Bursar will ensure that all members of staff are aware of the relevant policy and procedures for fire safety and for emergency evacuation. Every new member of staff must be given training on fire safety and refresher training is to be carried out at least every 12 months for all staff. It is recommended that this training should be conducted in the first week of term. Fire evacuation drills take place every term.

### **VISITORS/CONTRACTORS**

All visitors to the site should, before being allowed access, be given information outlining the procedures to follow in the event of the alarm being raised and the location of the assembly points (see also Control of Contractors). All visitors/contractors arriving at the school should sign-in at the Main School Reception. The visitors/contractors record is both a safety and security document and, therefore, it is necessary for all non-employees having access to the school to register both their arrival and departure times. All visitors/contractors must also wear and have clearly visible a visitor's badge. Members of staff, at whatever level, will be responsible for the safety of their visitors at all times.

### **BOMB THREATS**

Any bomb threats received by staff must be carefully evaluated and all details of the call logged. Any suspect packages found should not be touched or moved and staff should be fully aware of the communication system to call for emergency assistance. Any advice or directions given by the police, fire brigade or bomb disposal officers must be followed. Further guidance can be obtained from the Health & Safety Consultants employed by the school's insurers, Hettle Andrews, the contact details for which can be found on page 5.

### **RISK ASSESSMENT**

The school recognises that procedures are necessary in order to comply with the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (as amended in 2003 and 2006) and in particular the requirement to assess all risks to staff, pupils and others on school premises and elsewhere, including for fire safety, young persons and pregnancy. This section should be read in conjunction with the School's Risk Assessment policy.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

It is the responsibility of Senior Management Team and responsible teaching staff to ensure that risk assessments are carried out and that any necessary control measures, or safe systems of work, are implemented in the area under their control.

Where an area is used by pupils and staff generally, it is the responsibility of the Bursar to ensure that risk assessments are carried out. Examples of such areas include (but are not limited to):

1. Playground
2. School grounds
3. Entrances and exits
4. Footpaths/drives

### **SCHOOL TRIPS**

The member of staff organising the trip is responsible for ensuring that a suitable and sufficient risk assessment is conducted and the appropriate control measures are implemented. Reference should be made to the Educational Visits Policy.

## RISK ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE

Training will be provided for all staff who are required to conduct risk assessments. Where necessary, to enable Risk Assessments to be completed, further advice, support and assistance are provided by the Bursar and the School's retained Advisers.

The purpose of the assessments is to identify the significant risks arising from the School's activities. There are two kinds of assessment carried out:

- General
- Specific

The General Risk Assessments are conducted and recorded using the checklist on the General Risk Assessment proforma. Examples of the hazards to be considered are shown in the left-hand column of the table below. Specific Risk Assessments are conducted using the individual proforma for each hazard listed in the right hand column below.

GENERAL RISK ASSESSMENT	SPECIFIC RISK ASSESSMENT
Biological Agents (eg Legionella)	Display Screen Equipment
Cleaning Operations	Manual Handling
Confined Spaces	Use/exposure to Chemical Substances
Contact with Hot/Cold Surfaces	Fire
Electricity	Exposure to Asbestos
Fall of Object/Material from height	Noise
Fall of Person from Height	
Fall of Person on Same Level	
Fire	
Flammable Substances	
Hand Tools	
Handling Unstable Substances	
Housekeeping	
Lighting	
Maintenance and Repair	
Operation of Vehicles	
Stored Energy/Pressure vessels	
Use of Machines	
Vibration	
Violence towards staff/pupils	
Work related stress	

This list is not exhaustive and other hazards may need to be considered. The Bursar will maintain a register of all risk assessments carried out and will regularly check to see that the requirements of the assessments are being met. Using this register, the Bursar will notify each Manager of the assessments that require review. Reference should be made to the risk assessment policy. Assessments must be reviewed by the relevant Manager whenever significant changes are made which may affect the assessment and, in any event, at least every two years. Further guidance can be obtained from the Health & Safety Consultants employed by the school's insurance advisors, Hettle Andrews, the contact details for which can be found on page 5.

## MANUAL HANDLING OPERATIONS

The school recognises that manual handling of loads is one of the most common causes of injury at work and every effort must be made to prevent this. Over a third of all accidents reported each year to enforcement authorities arise from manual handling.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

Manual Handling will be considered as a hazard when conducting risk assessments. The Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 (as amended in 2002) requires the School to identify the Manual Handling tasks that can be eliminated and to assess the risk from the remaining tasks and to implement additional control measures where appropriate.

A large number of manual handling operations go on each day at school and in the offices. The intention is to target operations which cannot be eliminated and which are liable to present a risk of injury and it is this category which will be given further specific assessment.

Specific assessments will consider the factors below. An assessment is simply a way of analysing the risks and pointing the way to practical solutions.

The task	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• how will the load be manipulated?</li> <li>• what posture will be adopted?</li> <li>• is stooping or stretching involved?</li> <li>• what distance is the load to be handled?</li> <li>• how many similar tasks are to be carried out?</li> <li>• how many people are involved?</li> </ul>
The load	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• weight</li> <li>• bulk or size</li> <li>• stability, centre of gravity</li> <li>• is it sharp or difficult to grasp?</li> </ul>
The environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• amount of space around the operation</li> <li>• type of floor or work surface</li> <li>• lighting etc.</li> </ul>
Individual capability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• adequacy of training</li> <li>• strength of person</li> <li>• male or female and age</li> <li>• existing health problems of the employee</li> <li>• if female, whether 'new' or expectant mother (see section on risk assessment).</li> </ul>

The assessment will indicate the best way to reduce the risk of injury. A typical list of measures to be considered is:

- eliminate
- automate
- mechanise with handling aids
- share the load
- reduce the weight of individual items
- train the employees concerned

### TRAINING

The School recognises that the majority of staff will be involved in some Manual Handling during their normal duties. Consequently, it is the policy of the School to ensure that those members of staff who

regularly carry out manual handling as part of their normal duties receive general Manual Handling training. The need for additional training will be determined by risk assessments.

Further guidance can be obtained from the Health & Safety Consultants employed by the school's insurance advisors, Hettle Andrews or Assurity, the contact details for which can be found on page 5.

The school subscribes to an online training tool "Every e-Learning", from where training can be allocated to individuals; the system automatically prompts refresher training every two years. Certificates of completed training are held within the training system, accessed by the Bursar.

## **CONTROL OF SUBSTANCES HAZARDOUS TO HEALTH**

The school recognises its responsibilities regarding hazardous substances and the need to ensure that all chemicals used on the site have been registered and assessed to ensure they are appropriate to the tasks for which they are required and the safest available product. Further, to ensure that, where an element of risk is present, measures have been taken to control that risk. This section should be read in conjunction with the School's COSHH policy.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The hazards of the substances in use will be considered when conducting risk assessments. The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1992 (COSHH) requires the School to identify the substances that can be eliminated or substituted and to assess the risk from the remaining risks and to implement additional control measures where appropriate. Further guidance can be obtained from the Health & Safety Consultants employed by the school's insurance advisors, Hettle Andrew or by the school consultants, Assurity, the contact details for which can be found on page 5.

## **DISPLAY SCREEN EQUIPMENT**

The school recognises that visual display screen equipment may affect users and, therefore, must

- identify how many genuine DSE "Users" there are
- assess the risks to the health and safety of those "Users" from the use of visual display screen equipment
- assess the workstations
- identify all necessary ergonomic preventive and protective measures needed.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Headteacher and Bursar will identify the "Users" of Display Screen Equipment within school. All identified individuals will undertake 'Display Screen Equipment' training through the Every eLearning system and will undertake a Display Screen Equipment self-assessment, which will be shared with the Bursar who is responsible for ensuring that appropriate control measures are implemented. These assessments will be reviewed when significant changes have occurred, or at intervals not exceeding two years.

## **EYE TESTS/CORRECTIVE APPLIANCES**

Arrangements will be made for designated users of Display Screen Equipment (who request them) to undergo eye tests and for the provision of corrective appliances where necessary. Further guidance can be obtained from the Health & Safety Consultants employed by the school's insurance advisors, Hettle Andrew or Assurity, the contact details for which can be found on page 5.

## **WORK EQUIPMENT**

The School recognises the need to control the exposure to risk of staff, pupils and others arising from the provision and use of work equipment.

All dangerous parts of machinery will be adequately safeguarded. A machinery inventory is to be drawn up to identify machines/equipment with dangerous parts together with associated safeguards. Regular inspections and tests of safeguards and emergency stop devices and regular maintenance are to be carried out and recorded.

### **Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER)**

'Work equipment' includes items such as woodworking machinery, lawn mowers, projectors, ladders, laboratory apparatus, portable drills, soldering irons, catering equipment. Work equipment also covers any equipment provided by employees themselves for use at work. The main general requirements are to:

- ensure that equipment is suitable for the job it has to do
- take into account the working conditions and hazards in the workplace when assessing the suitability of and selecting the equipment
- ensure equipment is used only for operations for which, and under conditions for which, it is suitable
- ensure that equipment is inspected regularly and maintained in an efficient state, in efficient working order and in good repair
- give adequate information, instruction and training to users
- ensure that new equipment in the workplace conforms with the relevant product safety directives.

The Regulations also contain specific requirements for equipment. There must be:

- protection against dangerous parts of the machinery
- protection against specified hazards, e.g. falling and ejected articles and substances, ruptures or disintegration of work equipment parts, equipment catching fire or overheating, unintentional or premature discharge of articles and substances, explosions
- protection on parts and substances at high or very low temperatures
- control systems and control devices
- a means of isolation on equipment
- good lighting, maintenance operations and warning markings.

Those in control of work equipment are required to assess the risks posed by the use of their present work equipment. New equipment must comply with an appropriate standard and safe operating procedures must be provided to ensure that the equipment can be used safely.

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

Managers and the Caretaker will conduct assessments of all work equipment to ensure that they comply with the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998. Further guidance can be obtained from the Health & Safety Consultants employed by the school's insurance advisors, Hettle Andrews, or Assurity, the contact details for which can be found on page 5.

## **STATUTORY INSPECTIONS AND MAINTENANCE**

Unless stated otherwise, the Caretaker (Andrew Lund) will ensure that all items requiring statutory inspection are listed and that appropriate arrangements are made for the inspections to be conducted at the correct intervals. Examples of items requiring statutory inspections are:-

- Lifting equipment

- Lifting gear (slings, chains etc)
- Pressure vessels and systems
- Extraction equipment (dust extraction, fume cupboards etc)

The Caretaker will maintain a written scheme of examination for all pressure vessels/systems and, where appropriate, for lifting equipment.

All plant and equipment maintenance will be arranged by the Caretaker who will also keep a record of the maintenance carried out.

### **ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS**

The School recognises the potentially fatal hazards associated with electrical supply. The Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 require employers to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that all electrical equipment and installations are safe and without risk to health. Staff also have a responsibility to co-operate with the School procedures and to comply with those regulations that are within their control. The School ensures that all electrical systems are designed, installed and maintained by competent persons in accordance with the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989.

The procedures below will be followed:

- All staff ensure that electrical faults and hazards are reported immediately to the Bursar who ensures that the relevant corrective action is taken immediately.
- Once a faulty piece of equipment is identified it is not used and if possible (without risk to personal safety) it is isolated from the mains supply. If there is any likelihood of the equipment being reconnected by mistake then the plug is removed by a member of the Caretaking Team.
- All portable electrical equipment receives regular appliance tests and any defects are rectified before being issued or re-issued to staff.
- Routine visual inspections are made.
- All staff are made aware that no person is to attempt to repair any faulty electrical appliances or carry out any electrical work without being 'competent' and without having management authority, suitable training and correct equipment. Where necessary a permit to work may be required before certain high-risk work can begin.
- The School will keep a record of all formal inspections and repairs carried out to equipment or installations.

Technical details on the practical application of the Regulations are found in the supporting Memorandum of Guidance issued by the Health and Safety Executive and British Standard 7671: 2001 "Requirements for Electrical Installations" (The IEE Wiring Regulations revised 17<sup>th</sup> Edition).

### **SPECIFIC SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS**

- As-installed drawings of the fixed installation and appropriate labelling will be provided and will be modified and updated when necessary.
- Routine inspections and tests of all wiring and fixed electrical installations are carried out and records of the test results obtained and kept for future reference.
- Temporary systems, for example the stage lighting and its control gear, are inspected and tested after initial set up and regularly thereafter.
- In addition to normal employee vigilance, there is an adequate maintenance scheme for all School owned and used (eg employee owned) portable electrical items, to ensure that they are safe and suitable for use. The inspection and, where appropriate, test is carried out by trained persons. Inspection includes a visual examination for defects and a check on the suitability of any fuse fitted.

- All fixed electrical installations will be tested by a competent person at intervals not exceeding five years. This will be arranged by the Caretaker.

### **PORTABLE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES**

It is the policy of the School that all electrical equipment will be tested for electrical safety by a qualified individual at appropriate intervals. The interval for each item may vary depending on the hazard. Qualified staff are to be found within the Caretaking team.

- Portable electrical items are uniquely identified and records are kept of inspection/test.
- Employees have been instructed not to use defective equipment which will be removed from general circulation for repair.
- All portable electric tools used (generally excluding those used in the teaching process but including those belonging to and used by contractors) will, wherever practicable, be operated at 110 volts or will be battery powered.

### **CONTROL OF CONTRACTORS**

The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 places duties on the School and its contractor to protect the health and safety of their own employees and other people who may be affected by work. These legal duties cannot be evaluated by contract. However, when a formal contract is used it can play a useful role in defining the rights and responsibilities of each party and when agreeing contracts adequate time and money must be allowed for properly addressing health and safety issues.

The School recognises its legal responsibility, as an occupier of premises, to all who have recourse to those premises, including contractors undertaking any work and visitors. However, this section relates principally to building and maintenance contractors. Contractors are defined as any person or organisation who enters into contract (written or orally) with the school to carry out services. Examples of Contractors are window cleaners, builders, electricians, plumbers, painters, fire alarm and fire extinguisher engineers etc.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The School will appoint a member of staff (Appointed Person) to act as the Contractors' main point of contact for the duration of the work. This will generally be the Caretaker, Andrew Lund. The Appointed Person is responsible for ensuring that the requirements of the Contractors' Code of Practice are met.

### **CONSTRUCTION DESIGN & MANAGEMENT (CDM) REGULATIONS**

The CDM regulations apply when **any** of the following are applicable to construction work being carried out at the School:

- The construction work will take more than 30 days
- The construction work will involve more than 500 person-days of work
- Five or more people will be employed on site
- The work will involve demolition

Some minor works within schools will be excluded, eg building a partition. Further guidance can be obtained from the Health & Safety Consultants employed by the school's insurance advisors, Hettle Andrews or Assurity, the contact details for which can be found on page 5.

The School has specific legal duties under these regulations:

- To appoint competent "Planning Supervisors" who have sufficient resources to perform their duties



- To provide the Planning Supervisors with relevant health and safety information, eg drawings of existing structures/services or details of known areas of contaminated land affected by the proposed construction work.
- To appoint competent “Designers” with sufficient resources to perform their duties.
- To appoint a competent “Principal Contractor” with sufficient resources.
- To ensure that a “Health & Safety Plan” is prepared before construction commences.
- To ensure that the “Health & Safety File” is kept available after construction is completed.

The Headteacher and the Bursar are jointly responsible for ensuring that these legal duties are discharged.

### **SELECTING A CONTRACTOR**

- A potential contractor must supply a copy of their Health and Safety Policy and any relevant risk assessments, which need to be evaluated to ensure that they are compatible with this policy and appropriate for the particular work to be undertaken and its location. The documents should adequately cover the risks in the work to be carried out and detail the precautions necessary to eliminate or satisfactorily control the risks.
- To select a ‘competent’ contractor, other indicators should be evaluated, such as inclusion in ‘approved lists’, past performance, work undertaken elsewhere, membership of trade bodies, accreditation by trade bodies, general health and safety awareness, and commitment to recognised codes of practice.
- Contractors must be able to demonstrate that their employees are competent in health and safety matters. This applies to senior managers as well as those who will supervise on site.
- Contractors invited to submit tenders are to be made fully aware of the standards of health and safety management expected of them; the following are examples of items regarded as important:
  - Clearly established parameters for everyone involved, including sub-contractors where appropriate; employees and pupils’ requirements in terms of access and egress and playground facilities etc; the need for ongoing exchange of knowledge concerning risks (written method statements and risk assessments); when contractors are to use School equipment the equipment must be safe and properly maintained at hand-over, thereafter the contractor will be given responsibility for the equipment and its safe use; evacuation and emergency procedures will be discussed and posted and employees and sub-contractors etc made fully aware of these.
  - During the work, the person responsible for Health and Safety must be clearly identified. A senior manager will be nominated to liaise with the contractor or his nominee on a day-to-day basis and to monitor performance.
  - On contract completion, matters relevant to ongoing health and safety must be properly verified and any relevant documentation passed over including test certification, safe operating procedures, maintenance routines etc.

### **CODE OF PRACTICE FOR CONTRACTORS WORKING ON SCHOOL PREMISES**

Moorlands School demands a high standard of safe working of its employees and of other persons who are employed to carry out work on School premises and requires Contractors to ensure their employees and any Sub-Contractors (where allowed):

- Have been adequately trained and have sufficient experience in the tasks that they will be required to perform.
- Are properly informed as to the safe working systems and procedures for the contract.
- Are properly supervised.
- Are aware of the statutory obligations placed on them.
- Are aware of the operational requirements of the client.

## **KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE**

Statutory Guidance in 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (DfE) puts additional burdens on the school and contractors:

- Schools and colleges should ensure that any contractor, or any employee of the contractor, who is to work at the school or college has been subject to the appropriate level of DBS check. Contractors engaging in regulated activity will require an enhanced DBS certificate (including barred list information). For all other contractors who are not engaging in regulated activity, but whose work provides them with an opportunity for regular contact with children, an enhanced DBS check (not including barred list information) will be required. In considering whether the contact is regular, it is irrelevant whether the contractor works on a single site or across a number of sites.
- Under no circumstances should a contractor in respect of whom no checks have been obtained be allowed to work unsupervised, or engage in regulated activity. Schools and colleges are responsible for determining the appropriate level of supervision depending on the circumstances.
- If a contractor working at a school or college is self-employed, the school or college should consider obtaining the DBS check, as self-employed people are not able to make an application directly to the DBS on their own account.
- Schools and colleges should always check the identity of contractors and their staff on arrival at the school or college.
- To this end, the contractor shall submit a list of names of all employees expected on site during the duration of the contract. This may be amended from time to time.
- Any individual included on the contractor's list who has been subject to a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check shall have his/her DBS number and date of check included on the list.
- All employees and sub-contractors will have photo-identity in the form of a photocard driving licence, company certified photo-identity or other suitable photo-identity so that they may be confirmed as the person named on the list.
- There is a strict 'no fraternisation' rule between contractor's staff or sub-contractors and pupils. Any transgression of this rule will be taken very seriously and the contractor will be asked to remove the individual from site for the remainder of the contract.

## **GENERAL**

The Contractor may not sub-contract any part of the work without informing the School of his actions.

The Contractor must ensure that his employees, his Sub-Contractors (and their employees) and any agent of the Contractor understand and comply with this Code of Practice.

The Contractor shall nominate one employee who shall be responsible for his site activities, with respect to this Code of Practice. Likewise, Moorlands School shall nominate one employee who shall act as the Contractor's primary contact and who shall co-ordinate site activity with respect to this Code of Practice. Both shall sign acceptance of this code.

Contractors must ensure that work is carried out in accordance with:

- The Health & Safety at Work etc Act 1974
- The Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations
- The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations
- The Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations
- The Office Shops and Railway Premises Act
- The Construction (Design & Management) Regulations
- The Construction (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations
- The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations

- The Electricity at Work Regulations
- Control of Noise at Work Regulations
- Control of Vibration at Work Regulations
- Working at Height Regulations
- Confined Spaces Regulations
- Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations
- Manual Handling Operations Regulations
- Health & Safety (First Aid) Regulations
- Regulatory Reform Fire Safety Order (RRFSO)
- Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR)
- Hazardous Waste Regulations
- Controlled Waste Regulations
- Control of Asbestos Regulations
- Pressure Equipment Regulations
- Pressure Systems Safety Regulations
- Personal Protective Equipment Regulations
- And any other relevant statutory requirements for the time being in force, including the keeping of proper records, registers, test certificates and the appointment of competent persons, where necessary.

Contractors must provide and maintain the plant, equipment, tools and materials necessary for the work in hand to be carried out safely. They must conduct their activities in such a way as to ensure that the health & safety of their employees, and any other person who may be affected by their acts or omissions, is not put at risk.

#### **COMMENCEMENT OF THE CONTRACT**

Before work can commence, the Contractor must supply the Moorlands School Appointed Person with:

- Evidence of their public indemnity cover
- A Risk Assessment and method statement for the work in question.
- Details of the processes and procedures for safety that may affect or be affected by the contract work.

The Contractor and the Moorlands School Appointed Person shall agree:

- The safe conduct of the work to be undertaken
- The defined site of operations
- The facilities available to the Contractor's employees

Particular attention should be paid by the Contractor to prevent disruption to any School activities.

#### **SECURITY**

All Contractors must remain in their designated work area and not access any educational or classroom areas where pupils may congregate without permission and supervision. This is for the protection of the Contractor as well as adhering to the School's Safeguarding procedures.

#### **ACCIDENTS AND DANGEROUS OCCURRENCES**

All accidents and dangerous occurrences must be reported as soon as possible to the Moorlands School Appointed Person, and confirmed in writing within 24 hours thereafter. Accidents resulting in the Contractor's employees being unable to carry out their normal duties for more than 7 days (including weekends) must also be reported to the enforcing authority (RIDDOR).

## **FIRE SAFETY**

Contractors must familiarise themselves and their employees with the School's fire safety arrangements, and in particular take note of the fire alarm signal, location of fire extinguishers, and fire alarm call points.

Smoking is not permitted anywhere on the school site.

Before any hot work is carried out, the School Appointed Person must be notified and a Hot Work Permit issued. This must be renewed daily. If appropriate, other Permits must also be completed such as those related to Electrical, Gas and Excavation Work together with Working at Heights and Working within Confined Spaces.

Highly flammable liquids and liquefied petroleum gases must be used and stored in accordance with statutory requirements.

## **LOCKDOWN**

The agreed signal for any 'Stay Safe and Hide' response to an internal or external threat is repeated, long blasts on an air horn. Instructions for how to behave in a lockdown, and how a lockdown is released, are in the Lockdown Policy and Procedures.

## **TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT**

The Contractor is required to provide all their own tools, plant and equipment necessary for the work in hand. Use of School equipment is not permissible. The requirements of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 must be complied with.

## **PROTECTIVE CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT**

Contractors are responsible for providing their own protective clothing and equipment appropriate to the work in hand taking into account the fact that they will be working in a school environment.

## **EXCAVATIONS**

Before any excavation work is commenced, the location of any buried services must be ascertained. During excavation work, the surrounding area must be maintained in a safe condition. Excavations must be securely fenced or covered and suitable warning notices displayed. During hours of darkness, excavations must be marked by a sufficient number of warning lights, suitably positioned. Precautions must be taken to avoid the collapse of the trench walls or other excavations. All excavations will be inspected on a daily and ongoing basis.

## **SCAFFOLDS AND LADDERS**

Scaffolds, ladders and other access equipment must be sound, of good construction, adequate for the purpose for which they are being used and properly maintained. Appropriate statutory conditions should be complied with. Crawling Boards or ladders must be used for work on sloping or fragile surfaces.

## **LIFTING OPERATIONS**

Where they form a necessary part of the work, lifting appliances, lifting gear, mobile cranes, hoists, chains and ropes etc will be provided by the Contractor in accordance with statutory requirements. The Contractor must comply with the requirements of the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998.

## **CONFINED SPACES**

Contractors must not enter any confined space without first notifying the School Appointed Person and a Permit to Work having been issued. Where a Permit to Work requires testing for fumes, vapours, gas or lack of oxygen, appropriate arrangements should be made by the Contractor.

## **HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES**

Prior notification of the proposed use of hazardous substances must be given to the School Appointed Person, who will satisfy themselves that suitable and sufficient risk assessments, as required by the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations have been carried out by the Contractor. Containers must be suitably labelled with the name and hazard classification of the contents. When dust, fumes, vapours and other contaminants of a type or quantity likely to be a risk to the health of any person are produced as a result of the Contractor's activities, the Contractor must take all necessary steps to ensure that the exposure of all persons to those substances is as low as is reasonably practicable.

## **ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT**

No live electrical system, equipment, conductor or terminal shall be left exposed. Electrically powered tools and equipment must be properly used and maintained in accordance with the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989. Trailing leads and other temporary connections must be properly protected, insulated, terminated and positioned so as to prevent danger. Wherever possible, electrically powered hand tools should be of the 110V centre tapped earth type and connected to an earth leakage circuit breaker or RCCB.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

Contractors are responsible for the regular removal of all waste materials, spoil, rubble etc arising from their work activities, including all waste produced by their own chemicals or chemically based materials (irrespective of quantity). Toxic, harmful and highly flammable wastes must be disposed of in accordance with the Special Waste Regulations. Asbestos waste must be dealt with in accordance with appropriate statutory requirements. Oils, solvents and chemicals must be stored in leak proof containers, and must not be disposed of down drains.

## **HOURS OF WORK**

Hours of work are normally from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. Work outside normal hours may only be performed with the prior agreement of the School Appointed Person. A list of all personnel working out of hours must be submitted to the Appointed Person. Security Badges are to be worn by all Contractor's employees whilst on School premises. All Contractors should wear high visibility vests and/or branded workwear to identify them as Contractors.

## **ALCOHOL AND DRUGS POLICY**

Any Contractor under the influence of alcohol or drugs or in possession of prohibited substances will be removed from the premises and the Police informed.

## **DRIVING ON SITE**

Contractors must drive at walking pace on the school site, take extra care when reversing – including the use of a banksman when appropriate - and park vehicles in designated areas.

## **WELFARE ARRANGEMENTS**

Moorlands School will provide designated toilet facilities and any other prior agreed provisions to Contractors. Contractors are expected to provide their own First Aid provisions as required by regulation.

## **MONITORING AND CONTROL**

Contractors shall re-connect and test all utilities such as water, gas and electric supplies to ensure that these facilities are in a safe working condition. The School Appointed Person will inspect and monitor any work carried out at regular intervals to maintain control and monitoring of this Code of Conduct.

## **ENFORCEMENT OF THE CODE OF PRACTICE**

The attention of Contractors is specifically drawn to the fact that failure to follow the provisions of the Contractors' Code of Practice, or a pre-agreed alternative, may result in the Contractor or individual employees of the Contractor being required to leave the site permanently.

## **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS**

While on site, no offensive, inappropriate, foul or abusive language is to be used. While on site, appropriate dress standards are to be maintained. There is to be no smoking or vaping on site.

## **THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT AND RELATED HOUSEKEEPING**

The School recognises that it is under a duty to meet the health, safety and welfare needs of each member of the workforce and the pupils in its care. This duty extends to those with disabilities. The school also recognises that providing a healthy working environment can help to reduce time loss, accidents and workplace stress.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

Managers are responsible for ensuring that the working environment (ventilation, lighting etc) are satisfactory. Further guidance can be obtained from the Health & Safety Consultants employed by the school's insurance advisors, Hettle Andrews and Assurity, the contact details for which can be found on page 5.

## **VIOLENCE AND STRESS**

The School recognises that work-related stress and/or incidents of violence can impair the safe performance of individuals whilst at work. It can also affect sickness absence and lead to high staff turnover. To combat work-related stress and possible violence towards staff, the school has produced a written statement to outline its commitment to the identification and control of stress and violence towards its employees.

Dealing with violence and stress at work is a continuing process to which the Senior Management Team is fully committed. The school accepts that the written policy statement alone cannot ensure that problems of stress and violence will be alleviated. It will, however, be an important step towards legitimising debate on the subject and encouraging support by staff at all levels for the victims of these problems.

A separate policy is in place for Stress Management.

## **DEFINITIONS**

The Health and Safety Executive's working definition of violence is:

*"Any incident in which an employee is abused, threatened or assaulted by a student, pupil or member of the public in circumstances arising out of the course of his or her employment."*

The Health & Safety Executive's definition of stress is:

*"A process that can occur when there is an unresolved mismatch between the perceived pressures of the work situation and an individual's ability to cope."*

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

Managers will consider both stress and violence as potential hazards when conducting risk assessments. Where individuals are found to be exposed to the risk of stress or violence, this will be raised immediately with the Headteacher and the appropriate course of action determined.

Further guidance can be obtained from the Health & Safety Consultants employed by the school's insurance advisors, Hettle Andrews, or Assurity, the contact details for which can be found on page 5.

## **PREMISES**

The School recognises the need to eliminate or control the risk to staff, pupils and others arising from the buildings and facilities provided.

## **ASBESTOS**

The Bursar is responsible for identifying the presence of asbestos and determining whether it should be removed, encapsulated or left in its current condition and managed. An Asbestos Register will be maintained for the School. No work should take place in any building without first determining whether asbestos is present and taking the appropriate precautions. If asbestos is to be removed, specialist licensed contractors should be engaged. Further guidance can be obtained from the Health & Safety Consultants employed by the school's insurance advisors, Hettle Andrews and Assurity, the contact details for which can be found on page 5. A separate policy is in place for asbestos management.

## **LEGIONELLA BACTERIA**

The Bursar will ensure that a suitable and sufficient risk assessment is conducted in order to identify potential for exposure to Legionella bacteria, and for appropriate control measures to be implemented. A Legionella Management and Control Policy is available to all staff in the Health & Safety Folder on the Moorlands Shared SharePoint site.

Further guidance can be obtained from the Health & Safety Consultants employed by the school's insurance advisors, Hettle Andrews and Assurity, the contact details for which can be found on page 5. A separate policy is in place for Legionella monitoring.

## **BUILDINGS MAINTENANCE**

The Bursar is responsible for ensuring that appropriate arrangements are in place for ensuring that all buildings and facilities are maintained in a condition that is safe and without risk to health. Where necessary, structural surveys of buildings will be commissioned.

Workplace Health, Safety and Welfare Regulations concern basic workplace conditions and include the following requirements:

- Ventilation - workplaces need to be ventilated with air which is, as far as possible, free of impurity.
- Temperature - normally this will be at least 16 degrees Celsius. One or two thermometers should be available to enable the temperature to be taken by any employees who wish to do so.
- Lighting - this will be sufficient to enable people to work without risks to health and safety. Outdoor routes used by pedestrians are to be lit after dark.
- Cleanliness - floors and indoor traffic routes are cleaned at least once per week.
- Window cleaning - competent window cleaners have been appointed. The employer recognises that it has duties to ensure safe access to the windows, to ensure that any contractors' employees are not affected by the environment they are working in (such as adjacent chemicals or machines) and to ensure that, if anchorage points, access devices and similar are provided, that these are tested at regular intervals and are properly maintained. Before contract work begins the contractor and the contract initiator together will discuss the working methods to be used and the contractor must provide written safe working method statements.
- Room dimensions and space - a minimum space of 11 cubic metres per person is normally required but this does not apply to rooms used for classes and meetings.
- Workstations and seating will be safe and comfortable (requirements for users of display screens are covered separately).
- Conditions of floors and traffic routes will be kept in a safe condition and have anti-slip qualities in high-risk areas. There is a requirement to keep floors and traffic routes free of obstructions which may present a hazard or impede access.

- Low level glazing - all areas in which there is low level glazing (including Georgian wired) have been inspected; risk assessments have been carried out to identify all non-safety glass which by its location creates risk to employees, pupils or others; and a programme of protection/upgrading has been introduced for all non-safety low level glazing located in areas where there is a significant risk of injury occurring. All new buildings, extensions and repairs to existing buildings involving low level glazing are to use glazing to standards recommended in the current edition of the Building Regulations and British Standard BS 6206. Guarding or other protection is required at any place where anyone might fall two metres or more eg from a window.
- Signed gas shut-off valves and electric isolation switches are provided in the high-risk areas and departments.
- A high standard of tidiness must be maintained.
- Sanitary provisions - the legislation lays down the minimum numbers of sanitary conveniences to be provided for people at work, eg from 6 -25 employees: two water closets and two handwash basins; for 26 - 50 employees: three water closets and two handwash basins. This regulation does not apply to the pupils as they are not covered by the legislation. Separate toilet facilities are also provided for pupils. There are washrooms on each floor of the school.
- Facilities - accommodation for employees' clothing is provided and facilities for rest and eating meals are provided. The School operates a "no smoking" policy throughout the school site.

## **SCHOOL VEHICLES AND MINIBUSES**

The school recognises that there is a need for control of school vehicles in order to ensure the safety of pupils and staff, reduction of damage to property and reduction of damage to vehicles and equipment

### **DRIVERS' QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING**

If individuals have an entitlement to drive cars prior to 1<sup>st</sup> January 1997 (shown as category B and D1 **not for hire or reward** on their driving licence), then they can drive a minibus provided that they are over 21 years of age, the minibus has a maximum of 17 seats including the driver's seat, and is not being used for hire or reward. Any individual who wishes to drive a minibus which has 9 or more passenger seats **for hire or reward** will normally require passenger carrying vehicle entitlement (PCV) (Category D1 or D). To obtain this, higher medical standards must be met and a further driving test will need to be taken.

The Driving Licences of those individuals who passed their Driving Test after 1<sup>st</sup> January 1997 will not contain a category D1 entitlement. In such circumstances, individuals must undertake a qualifying course which will allow them to gain the D1 Category on their Driving Licences.

Prior to driving a school minibus, all staff will undertake a MiDAS Training Assessment which will be reassessed every 4 years. To take minibuses abroad, all EU countries will require a PCV Licence even though this is not required, in general, in the UK. An annual check of driving licences is to be conducted at the start of the Autumn term to confirm eligibility to drive, endorsements etc.

### **HEALTH APPRAISAL OF DRIVERS**

A register of all qualified minibus drivers is held by the School. Standards of health applied to drivers of school vehicles will follow the recommendations of the Employment Medical Advisory Service Notes of Guidance.

### **ACCIDENTS**

All accidents involving school minibuses should be reported to the Bursar as soon as possible thereafter. All accidents involving the use of **all** school vehicles should be thoroughly investigated as an accident at work and the resulting recommendations implemented to prevent a recurrence.



### **PRE-JOURNEY CHECKS**

It is the driver's responsibility to check brakes, tyres, horn and all controls at the beginning of a journey. For long trips, the oil and water levels should also be checked.

### **DRIVING TIME**

The following recommended times should be adhered to:

- In a 10 hour day no driving above 4 hours
- A maximum period of 2 hours continuous driving
- Minimum break period of 15 minutes

### **SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN**

A second adult should be present when special needs children (ie those with an EHCP) are being transported.

### **REVERSING**

Nearly a quarter of all deaths involving vehicles at work occur while vehicles are reversing. Reversing should not take place until the driver is satisfied that all is clear (unless he is being guided by a competent signaller which includes a trusted student). Vehicles that are used regularly for the delivery of goods should be fitted with reversing alarms.

### **MAINTENANCE OF VEHICLES**

Maintenance of school vehicles should be carried out in accordance with a service schedule recommended by the vehicle manufacturer. Maintenance for school minibuses will be arranged by the Deputy Bursar. Maintenance records should be kept for every vehicle.

### **OCCASIONAL BUSINESS USE POLICY**

For those members of staff who normally use their own private cars for business use, or for transporting pupils, and are only insured for "social domestic and pleasure", the school has an Occasional Business Use insurance policy. However, in order to be insured under this policy, our insurance company requires an individual to complete a declaration form which is available from the HR Manager (Saima Hussein). All information will be stored securely and treated in the strictest confidence.

### **NEW AND EXPECTANT MOTHERS AT WORK**

The school recognises its responsibility to protect employees during the various stages of pregnancy and will ensure that procedures are in place to identify hazards, assess risks and control those risks adequately so that there is no damage to health.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The School requests that any new or expectant mother, in order that her own safety or health, or that of her child, may be protected, should inform the Headteacher / Bursar if or when she becomes a new or expectant mother.

On receiving notification that an employee is pregnant, their Manager must carry out a risk assessment for that employee and take action to ensure that they are not exposed to anything that will damage either the employee's health or that of the developing child. They should also notify the Bursar.

A "new or expectant mother" is an employee who is pregnant, who has given birth within the previous six months, or who is breast feeding. The employee must have notified management in writing that they are pregnant (but there is no statutory obligation to do so). 'Risks' include those to the unborn child or child of a woman who is still breast feeding, not just risks to the mother herself.

If there is significant risk to the health and safety of an identified new or expectant mother the following actions will be considered in this sequence: removal of the problem; prevention of exposure; control of exposure. In the unlikely event of a significant risk still remaining, then the School will take the following steps to remove the employee from the risk:

- temporary adjustment of the working conditions and/or hours of work or if it is not reasonable to do this, or if this would not avoid the risk then
- suitable alternative work if any is available will be offered, or if that is not feasible then
- the employee will be suspended from work (with paid leave) for as long as necessary to protect her safety or health or that of her child.

These actions will only be necessary where as the result of a risk assessment there is genuine concern. Before offering alternative employment, paid leave, or if there is any doubt, professional advice will be sought. The risks will be kept under review as they may change, for example, as pregnancy progresses.

#### **EXAMPLES OF RISKS AND WAYS TO AVOID THEM**

**Risk** - Tiredness from standing for long periods or carrying out heavy physical work; stress caused by work or conditions at work or fears (eg ill-founded fears associated with display screen equipment); work at heights, up ladders or steps.

**Mitigation** - Volume and pacing of work must not be excessive. If possible, employees will be given some control over how work is to be organised. Seating is made available. Rest breaks may need adjustment. Employees are allowed to gain access to help from other employees. Proper information and training will be provided.

**Risk** - Chemicals which may be absorbed through the skin, some pesticides are included.

**Mitigation** - Assessments required under the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations will identify these chemicals and the remedial measures to be taken. It is best to substitute less hazardous substances but if this is not possible proper precautions to prevent skin contact should be taken. The risk of contamination will be reduced and personal protective equipment such as overalls, gloves and face shields should be provided. Strict compliance with the requirements of the Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 is necessary.

**Risk** - Manual handling of loads where there is risk of injury. The risk can continue even after birth e.g. if birth has been by caesarean section.

**Mitigation** - An assessment under the Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 will identify the steps to reduce the risks to the lowest reasonably practicable level.

Further guidance can be obtained from the Health & Safety Consultants employed by the school's insurance advisors, Hettle Andrews, the contact details for which can be found on page 5.

#### **LETTING OF SCHOOL PROPERTY**

The School recognises the duty to ensure so far as is reasonable practicable the safety of all third parties using the School premises.

#### **CLIENT'S RESPONSIBILITY**

When organising an event on the School premises, the Client is responsible for, and must ensure, full compliance with the School's Health & Safety Rules and Policy. The client must ensure that their staff and guests are familiar with the arrangements for evacuation in the event of an emergency. Each client is sent a copy of the school's Risk Assessment for the specific area of the school they will be using by the Deputy Bursar.

## **SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Deputy Bursar is responsible for ensuring that the client is informed of their responsibilities. The Deputy Bursar or Caretaker is responsible for ensuring that the premises and facilities to be used by the client are in a safe condition before the client takes possession. The Deputy Bursar or Site Manager shall conduct regular inspections of the event to ensure that the client's risk assessments are being observed.

## **CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE AS EMPLOYEES**

We do not employ persons under the age of 18. Neither do we allow work experience placements or allow children to come into the workplace with their parents.

## **CONSULTATION REGARDING H&S MATTERS**

The School is committed to a partnership approach to risk management involving all managers and employees. In particular, the school will consult with staff on:

- any changes at the workplace that may substantially affect their health and safety, for example, changes in systems of work
- the arrangements for competent advice on health and safety matters
- the information to be given to employees about risks to health and safety and preventative measures
- the planning and organising of health and safety training
- the health and safety consequences of introducing new technology.

## **ELECTRICITY SAFETY**

All work on electrical equipment and installations is carried out by contracted qualified electricians. The electrical contractor has undertaken risk assessments of their work activities and adopted safe systems of work based on best practice. The electricians are updated and provided with further information when there are changes to electrical installation standards. Other staff are clearly instructed that they are not permitted to undertake any electrical repairs.

Electrical standards are applied as set out within the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 and for new works, the standards applied follow current requirements of BS7671 (the IEE Regulations for Electrical Installations) and the current Building Regulations.

It is the school's policy that live working is prohibited although voltage detection testing is permitted where essential by qualified and experienced staff with appropriate controls and suitable equipment. Our own installation will be tested and inspected at least every five years by a competent electrician and improvements implemented as necessary for safety.

Our arrangements for the electrical safety of portable electrical equipment are covered in the section of this policy on Work Equipment.

## **PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING (PPE)**

We recognise that the use of PPE as a risk control measure is a last resort as it protects only the user and is at risk of not being worn correctly. Our employees are supplied, free of charge, with any PPE identified as a required risk control measure within risk assessments. We ensure that it is suitable, i.e. it reduces the identified risk as intended, it is CE marked, is a good fit, is suitable for the individual using it, is compatible with other PPE, that suitable storage is provided to prevent damage and that instructions are provided in its correct inspection, use, cleaning, storage and maintenance. Employees who are required to use or wear PPE are provided with training on the circumstances in which it is used, the hazards against it will give protection, the importance of correct use, how to wear it to obtain the right protection and any limitations of the equipment. The training also includes how to inspect, clean,

maintain and store the equipment and how to report defects and obtain replacements. PPE is checked and replacements are available on request.

## **SAFE HOT WATER AND HOT SURFACE TEMPERATURES**

We ensure that temperatures at hot water outlets accessed by more vulnerable persons eg young pupils, are thermostatically controlled to prevent scalding. We also ensure that taps delivering water at unregulated temperatures are clearly marked, 'warning, very hot water' and are not located in areas accessible to vulnerable persons.

Heating appliances within the areas accessed by more vulnerable persons, are designed in such a way as to prevent accidental burns, by the use of eg low surface temperature radiators, insulation, enclosure of pipes and radiators, thus ensuring that surfaces do not exceed 43°C.

A testing regime is undertaken by caretakers, to check that the temperatures are within the safe range. All staff are aware that any temperature they observe which appears to be outside of the expected range must be reported for appropriate remedial action. Sufficient numbers of staff are also trained in emergency first aid for burns and scalds.

## **FOOD SAFETY**

The School's catering services are out-sourced to Wilson Vale Ltd, who are responsible for all aspects of food safety policy and hazard analysis to ensure that they comply with the Food Hygiene (England) Regulations 2006 and other relevant statutory requirements.

Any school staff preparing food for pupils will have completed food hygiene and safety training. The food prepared will not require cooking and will be for immediate consumption.

## **SMOKING AND VAPING**

Smoking and vaping are not permitted within the School's buildings, grounds or vehicles. Signs are displayed at entrances and in vehicles in accordance with statutory requirements. Smoking is also not permitted in any private vehicle when used on School business if it is being used to carry passengers.

## **LOCKDOWN PROCEDURES**

The School recognises the need to have detailed Lockdown Procedures in place as a means of securing the school buildings for the safety of pupils and staff. It also recognises the need to plan for emergency measures that require evacuation of pupils and staff. These plans include staff and pupils training on how to act in a lockdown situation and include emergency evacuation drills. Full details are available in the Lockdown Policy and Procedures.

## **RELATED POLICES AND/OR PROCEDURES**

Separate policies and/or procedures are in place for a number of health and safety related matters, such as:

- Asbestos Management
- Building Maintenance
- Infection control
- Legionella control
- Lone working
- Medication control
- Play or sports equipment
- Visitors
- Slips, Trips and Falls,
- Travel, trips and excursions
- Working at heights