



# Health and Safety Policy for Academies

Committee/Person(s) Responsibility: **Principal Finance Officer**

Distribution: **Visible Learning Website**

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Policy written by Sue Robinson and approved at the Trustees Board meeting August 2014. This policy will be reviewed every year.

## Document Reviews

Version	Committee	Approved/ Reviewed	Comments	Initial
1.0	July 2014	August 2014		SR
2.0	September 2016	September 2016	Approved by TEFT Board	RM

# Health & Safety Policy for Academy's

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## Statement of Intent

The Academy and the Principal of Risdene Academy believe that ensuring the health and safety of staff, students and visitors is essential to the success of the Academy academies.

We attach the utmost importance to the health, safety and welfare of our own employees, students and the public, whilst carrying out activities.

In recognition of its statutory duties in accordance with the provisions of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 the Academy and Risdene Academy will take all reasonably practicable steps to ensure the health, safety and welfare of staff and students whilst engaged in Academy activities.

The Academy and the academy recognise the importance of safety and security relating to property and equipment. The Academy and the academy believe that the issues of Health, Safety and Welfare rank higher than all other functions, and will therefore take precedence over expediency in every instance and in every aspect of its work.

The promotion of good and sensible Health and Safety measures and practices are regarded as mutual objectives for the Education Fellowship, Risdene Academy, AAB, Staff and Students. It is the duty of everyone to do everything that is reasonably possible to reduce the risk of accidents and to maintain the highest possible standards of safe working at all times. It must be understood that safety may be compromised if pupils or adults are subjected to bullying, teasing, challenging etc. The academy's Anti Bullying Policy is regarded as being incorporated into this Health and Safety Policy.

We are committed to:

-  Providing a safe and healthy learning and working environment
-  Preventing accidents and work related ill health
-  Compliance with statutory requirements as a minimum
-  Assessing and controlling risks from curriculum and non-curriculum work activities
-  Establishing and maintaining safe working methods and providing safe working equipment
-  Providing effective information, instruction and training

- ♥ Consulting with employees and their representatives on health and safety matters
- ♥ Monitoring and reviewing our systems and prevention measures annually to ensure they are effective
- ♥ Setting targets and objectives to develop a culture of continuous improvement
- ♥ Ensuring adequate welfare facilities exist throughout the organisation.
- ♥ Ensuring adequate resources are made available for health and safety issues, so far as is reasonably practicable

A Health and Safety Management System ensures the above commitments can be met. All staff will play their part in its implementation.

## Organisation

### Introduction

In order to achieve compliance with the Statement of Intent the Academy and the Academy management team will have additional responsibilities assigned to them as detailed in this part of the policy.

### The Academy

The Academy has the responsibility to ensure that:

- ♥ Clear written policy statement is created which promotes the correct attitude towards safety in staff, visitors and students
- ♥ Responsibilities for health, safety and welfare are allocated to specific people and that these persons are informed of these responsibilities
- ♥ Persons have sufficient experience, knowledge and training to perform the tasks required of them
- ♥ Clear procedures are created which assess the risk from hazards and produce safe systems of work
- ♥ Sufficient funds are set aside with which to operate safe systems of work
- ♥ Health and safety performance is measured both actively and reactively
- ♥ The health and safety policy and performance is reviewed annually

### The Principal

In his/her capacity as the key person responsible for the effective management of health & safety and for developing a safety culture throughout the academy, the Principal will have the authority to stop any activity if it is considered that there is a risk of injury, or if it infringes safety

legislation/specific Academy/College regulations. The Principal ensure the effective implementation of this policy by ensuring:

-  This Policy is communicated to all relevant persons.
-  Appropriate information on significant risks is given to visitors and contractors
-  Appropriate consultation arrangements are in place for staff and their representatives.
-  All staff are provided with information, instruction and training on health and safety issues
-  Risk assessments of the premises and working practices are undertaken.
-  Safe systems of work are in place as identified from risk assessments.
-  Emergency procedures are in place
-  Machinery and equipment is inspected and tested to ensure it remains in a safe condition
-  Records are kept of all relevant health and safety activities e.g. assessments, inspections, accidents, near misses, training etc.
-  Arrangements are in place to inspect the premises and monitor performance
-  Accidents are investigated and any remedial actions required are taken or requested
-  The activities of contractors are adequately monitored and controlled
-  Regular reports are made to the Academy Executive Board on health and safety performance

## **Teaching/Non-Teaching Staff Holding Posts/Positions of Special Responsibility**

This includes the Assistant Principals, Academy Business Managers, Senior Premises Officer, Site Manager, Catering Manager and Clerical Managers/Supervisors. They must:

-  Apply the Health and Safety Policies to their own department or area of work and be directly responsible to the Principal for the application of the health and safety procedures and arrangements
-  Develop health and safety policies/procedures in accordance with the Academy's policies which identify the key risks in their areas of responsibility and the organisation and arrangements for managing those risks
-  Carry out regular health and safety risk assessments of the activities for which they are responsible

- 🤝 Ensure that all staff under their management are familiar with the health and safety procedures for their area of work
- 🤝 Resolve health, safety and welfare problems that members of staff refer to them, or refer to the Principal any problems to which they cannot achieve a satisfactory solution within the resources available to them.
- 🤝 Carry out regular checks of their areas of responsibility to ensure that equipment, furniture and activities are safe and record these checks where required
- 🤝 Ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, the provision of sufficient information, instruction, training and supervision to enable other employees and students to avoid hazards and contribute positively to their own health and safety
- 🤝 Ensure all accidents are investigated appropriately
- 🤝 Include health and safety in the annual report for the Principal

### **Obligations of Heads of Departments**

- 🤝 Carry out Departmental Risk Assessments and review annually, with particular emphasis on any changes that may occur within their department. Ensure that document is shared with all members of their department, particularly new members of the department
- 🤝 Ensure that all relevant COSHH, CLEAPS regulations relating to equipment and substances used within their department, are maintained and are readily available
- 🤝 Ensure that all relevant health and safety data sheets are made readily available to all staff and students within their department

### **Special Obligations of Class Teachers**

#### **Class teachers are expected to:**

- 🤝 Exercise effective supervision of their students and to know the procedures in respect of fire, first aid and other emergencies, and to carry them out
- 🤝 Teachers must ensure that students are not left unattended and that their actions do not lead to an insufficient child to adult ratio occurring in classrooms or other supervised areas at any time
- 🤝 Give clear oral and written health and safety instructions and warnings to students as often as necessary
- 🤝 Ensure the use of personal protective equipment and guards where necessary

- 🤝 Make recommendations to their Principal on health and safety equipment and on additions or necessary improvements to plant, tools, equipment or machinery
- 🤝 Integrate all relevant aspects of safety into the teaching process and, where necessary, give special lessons on health and safety in line with National Curriculum requirements for safety education
- 🤝 Ensure that no personal items of equipment (electrical or mechanical) or proprietary substances are brought into the Academy without authorisation
- 🤝 Regularly check their classrooms for potential hazards and report any observed to the Senior Premises Officer/Site Manager
- 🤝 Report all accidents, defects and dangerous occurrences (including near misses) to their Assistant Principal or the Senior Premises Officer/Site Manager

## **Obligations of All Employees**

Apart from any specific responsibilities which may have been delegated to them, all employees must:

- 🤝 Act in the course of their employment with due care for the health, safety and wellbeing of themselves, other employees and other persons
- 🤝 Observe all instructions on health and safety issued by the Principal or any other person delegated to be responsible for a relevant aspect of health and safety
- 🤝 Act in accordance with any specific H&S training received
- 🤝 Report all accidents and near misses in accordance with procedures appended to this Policy
- 🤝 Co-operate with other persons to enable them to carry out their health and safety responsibilities
- 🤝 Inform their Line Manager of all potential hazards to health and safety, in particular those which are of a serious or imminent danger
- 🤝 Inform their Line Manager of any shortcomings they identify in the local health and safety arrangements
- 🤝 Exercise good standards of housekeeping and cleanliness.
- 🤝 Know and apply the procedures in respect of fire, first aid and other emergencies
- 🤝 Ensure that their work area is safe
- 🤝 Be alert to, and inform the AAB and SLT of any serious risks including inadequacies in this policy
- 🤝 Use safety all equipment provided

All employees who authorise work to be undertaken or authorise the purchase of equipment will ensure that the health and safety implications of such work or purchases are considered.

## **Obligations of Contractors**

When the premises are used for purposes not under the direction of the Principal e.g. outside catering company, then, the principal person in charge of the activities will have responsibility for safe practices in the areas under their control.

All contractors who work on Academy premises are required to identify and control any risk arising from their activities and inform the Principal of any risks that may affect the staff, students and visitors.

All contractors must be aware of the Academy health and safety policy and emergency procedures and comply with these at all times, by signing to agree with the procedures.

In instances where the contractor creates hazardous conditions and refuses to eliminate them or to take action to make them safe, the Principal or their representative will take such actions as are necessary to protect the safety of staff, students and visitors.

## **Students**

Students, in accordance with their age and aptitude, are expected to:

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

## **Procedures and Arrangements**

### **Introduction**

The following procedures and arrangements have been established at The Academy to eliminate or reduce health and safety risks to an acceptable level and to comply with minimum legal requirements:

The list provides a brief, alphabetical summary of all the key health and safety arrangements applicable to the Academy. More detailed policies and written procedures for a number of these areas are also available and these will be provided as applicable to staff and visitors

## Accident and incident reporting

All accidents, incidents and near misses/dangerous occurrences must be reported as promptly as possible on the **Accident Report Form** and handed to **the Administration Office who will be responsible for informing the Incident Control Centre (ICC) if the accident is a fatal or major injury as listed by the Health and Safety Executive. See below for contact details of the ICC.**

Significant accidents as defined in RIDDOR must also be reported to the HSE using Form F2508 which can be found online at

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/forms/incident/>

Such accidents are:

-  Student/visitor is sent to hospital due to an accident
-  Employee is off work for more than three days due to an accident
-  Fatal accident or major injuries (as listed in the RIDDOR regulations)

### Action to be taken by the Administration Office

-  Inform Incident Control Centre (ICC) as soon as possible by quickest means (telephone) if the accident is a fatal or major injury as listed by the Health and Safety Executive
-  Complete RIDDOR form 2508 on line at [www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk)
-  Complete RIDDOR form 2508 and send off to ICC within 10 days by post, fax or by telephone

Contact address/telephone number:

ICC

Caerphilly Business Park

Caerphilly

CF83 3GG

Telephone 0845 300 9923

## Accident Investigation

All accidents, however small, should be investigated and the findings recorded.

Time allocated to each investigation will depend on the seriousness of the accident. A guide to the time required to investigate is as follows;

-  simple investigation (minor accident) 1 hour
-  standard investigation (reportable accident) 6 hours

During or on completion of the investigations, a risk assessment should be carried out or existing risk assessment amended to avoid reoccurrence of the accident.

## **Accident/Ill Health Evaluation**

Kerry Mills, Principal, will undertake periodic evaluations of all reported incidents, near misses and incidents of ill health. This will allow the identification of patterns and trends and enable corrective action to be taken.

## **Active Monitoring Systems**

Active monitoring provides essential feedback on performance before an accident, ill health, or an incident. It involves checking compliance with performance standards and the achievement of specific objectives. Its primary purpose is to measure success and reinforce positive achievement by recognising good work.

The forms that these systems take at the Academy are:

-  The periodic examination of documents to check standards are complied with, i.e. reviewing risk assessments, training records, induction records
-  The systematic inspection of premises, plant and equipment, to ensure the continued effective operation of hardware controls – carried out termly by the Principal, Chair of Governors and a Health and Safety representative
-  Environmental monitoring and health surveillance to check the effectiveness of health control measures annually as above.
-  Safety tours, as above
-  Audits (Health and Safety audits, HR audits, Fire Risk Assessment etc.), annually as above
-  Regular reports to management meetings (SLT, AAB & The Academy)
-  Other measures (accident monitoring, Environmental Health visits, Investors in People, OFSTED)

## Behaviour Management

All staff must be familiar with the Academy policies for behaviour management and bullying. Any incidents of unacceptable behaviour or bullying must be reported and dealt with in accordance with these policies.

## Bomb Threat Procedure

*Action to be taken on receipt of a bomb threat or suspicious package(s)*

The caller should be asked the following questions, whether it is the police or direct:

- Where is it?
  - In which building?
  - On which floor?
- What time will it go off?
- What does it look like?
  - Size?
  - Colour of package?
- What kind of bomb is it (type of explosive)?
- Why are you doing this and do you have a code word?
- Who are you?
  - Name .....
  - Address .....
- Time of call

Try to write down exactly what the person said immediately as this might include a code word and is very important to the Police. The person receiving the call should immediately contact the Principal or in his/her absence the Duty Principal. The Principal/Duty Principal should be informed of the answer to the questions and should alert the Police/Local Authority and the Academy.

The Principal will decide whether to evacuate the building.

## Evacuation

Inform all Senior Leadership Team and Safeguarding Team of the situation and tell them to evacuate the Academy as per fire drill, except to instruct them to:

-  Leave doors and windows open (the area that contains the bomb or suspicious package should be sealed with windows and doors closed)

- 🤝 Ask staff and students to take all personal items with them (if left, these items would need to be searched thus wasting valuable time and effort)
- 🤝 Ask staff and students to make their way to assembly areas (avoiding the area of the bomb/suspicious package) as directed by the Principal

Stage 1 – Assembly at the normal fire drill areas

Stage 2 – Move to safe area, once the evacuation of the building is complete, on instruction from the Principal or their deputy.

## Security during an evacuation

The security of the building during an incident is the responsibility of the Maintenance Staff and should be carried out from a safe distance, out of the line of sight of any bomb/suspicious package(s). The Maintenance Staff are to be positioned at all gates leading into the Academy (which are to be locked once the premises have been evacuated) and will remain there until advised by Incident Control.

## Crisis Policy

Please refer to the Critical Incident policy which covers:

- 🤝 People related issues – Major accidents, epidemics, abductions or acts of extreme violence in which there is clearly a risk of serious injury
- 🤝 Premises issues – Fire, explosions, floods, subsidence

## Catering

The Catering Manager/company providing catering facilities is responsible for the safe operation of the catering facilities.

He/she must:

- 🤝 Be familiar with the Academy Health and Safety Policy
- 🤝 Prepare risk assessments for all catering activities
- 🤝 Ensure that all kitchen staff are instructed and informed to work in accordance with these documents
- 🤝 Inform the Senior Premises Officer or Principal of any potential hazards or defects
- 🤝 Be familiar with the current Food Safety legislation and the implications so far as the Academy is concerned

Academy staff must not use the catering facilities and equipment without the prior agreement of the Principal and Catering Manager.

## **Cleaning & Maintenance**

The Site Supervisor is responsible for ensuring the safe, routine maintenance and cleaning of the Academy premises and grounds in accordance with the Academy policies and procedures for maintenance.

## **Committee Meetings**

Arrangements for joint employer/employee discussions of Health and Safety matters have been set up for all staff through staff meetings or briefings.

Health and Safety is a standing item on the agenda of all meetings, (AAB, SLT and the Academics three monthly reviews).

## **Contractors**

The Academy is responsible for the selection and management of contractors in accordance with the Academy's policy for the Management of Contractors (in development).

Contractors should be made aware of the Academy Health and Safety Policy and their obligations under it before commencing any work on site.

Academy staff must be aware of this policy and report any concerns regarding contractors' activities to the Principal immediately.

## **Display Screen Equipment**

The School Business Manager is responsible for ensuring that DSE assessments are completed for administrative staff and teaching staff who regularly use laptops or desktop PCs. Regular laptop users will be provided with docking stations. Staff are reminded that laptops should not be used on laps, chair arms and other unsuitable surfaces.

## **Electrical Equipment**

The Site Supervisor will ensure that testing, inspection and maintenance of equipment is undertaken as required.

Day to day inspection of all equipment to detect visible signs of damage, obvious faults or deterioration rests with the user, or in the case of equipment used by students, with the class teacher.

Equipment found to be unserviceable, or of doubtful serviceability, must be taken out of service, labelled correctly, locked away and the defect reported to the Senior Premises Officer who will arrange repair or replacement.

The Principal must ensure that all electrical equipment brought onto Trust premises from other sources e.g. on loan, or during a letting, has the appropriate test certificate and is formally visually inspected in accordance with the electrical safety management guidelines.

Staff are reminded that they must not bring electrical equipment into the Academy without the permission of the Principal.

### **Educational Visits and Journeys**

The Principal is responsible for ensuring that all Academy trips are managed in accordance with the Academy policy for Educational Visits and Journeys.

All teachers must be familiar with this policy.

### **Fire Evacuation Procedure**

Fire Drills are held every half term in accordance with the procedure below. All staff, students and visitors must participate in the fire drill and follow the correct procedures. A log of every fire drill and evacuation should be kept and maintained by the Site Supervisor.

In the event of an evacuation no member of staff, student or visitor should re-enter the building without the permission of the senior member of staff on duty. All staff, on entering any area of the Academy, should check that everything is in order. If it is not, the Principal and Site Supervisor should be informed immediately. If there is a potential hazard, the room should be vacated and the Principal and the Premises Officer informed immediately.

## On the Alarm Sounding

The Site Supervisor on duty should check the alarm status at the alarm panel. They should then investigate the reason for the alarm, at the alarm point identified. **The alarm should not be silenced at this point.**

The Academy is to evacuate on the alarm sounding. The priority is to evacuate the Academy to ensure the safety of students, staff and visitors.

The Site Supervisor will decide whether to call the Fire Brigade or not based on the investigation of the alarm point. Alternatively, they will pass on the all clear to the Senior Manager on duty (the alarm will be silenced at this point). Students are to line up by registration groups at their assembly point. This will be in the area designated for the school (see attached plan). Staff should vacate the building with their class and supervise students at all times, ensuring they progress speedily to the appropriate assembly point.

Once at the assembly point, they should register their tutor group, using their fire register. Once all children are accounted for the fire register is to be raised above the head. All staff should assist as required (see Appendix for roles and responsibilities). Cover staff should note that they should have checked attendance at the start of their lesson.

Responsibility for individual visitors and their evacuation falls to the member of staff being visited.

The School Office should bring out the support, teaching staff registers and the cover list, to allow attendance to be checked. Support staff should report to the Business Manager.

Office staff should evacuate any visitors from the Reception area, Conference Room and Officers and bring visitors signing in/out book to assembly point for checking evacuation of visitors.

Learning Support staff should remain with the class they are working or associated with and assist with the evacuation.

**Everyone is to remain at the assembly point, until the 'all clear' instruction is given.**

The Principal will decide when classes can return to the Academy buildings. In the event of a fire, the Fire Brigade will take overall responsibility. If the alarm sounds during break or lunch, the same principles apply.

## **Back Up Alarm**

In the event of a power cut, or an alarm failure, fire air horns should be used. These are positioned in the following areas:

- **School Office**
- **Wet Area, Hayden Building on top of First Aid Box**

In the event of a fire, the person finding the fire should sound the alarm, using the nearest air horn, and also contact the Main Office. The Main Office will alert the Fire Brigade and the most senior member of management on the premises.

## **Fire Precautions**

The Site Supervisor is responsible for:

-  The formal maintenance and regular testing of the fire alarm and emergency lighting
-  The maintenance and inspection of the firefighting equipment
-  The maintenance of exit/escape routes and signage
-  Supervision of contractors undertaking hot work
-  All staff must be familiar with the Academy Fire safety risk assessment, the Academy emergency plan and evacuation procedures

## **First-Aid and Supporting Students' Medical Needs**

The Academy has completed a First Aid Risk assessment to ensure ample provision of trained personnel and First Aid supplies. There is a separate policy for students' medical needs.

A list of staff trained in First Aid, and the location of First Aid boxes, is available from the school office.

## Glazing Safety

The design of the Academies means that there is a lot of glazing inside the building, many classrooms have glazed walls onto the corridors, and these must remain clear at all times and must not have anything affixed to them.

All glazing is strengthened safety glass and will provide protection on fire routes.

## Hazardous Substances

The Senior Premises officer is responsible for ensuring that all cleaning and maintenance products that may be hazardous to health are assessed before being used.

The substances must be stored securely in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and only used by authorised persons trained in the safe use of the product.

All staff are reminded that no hazardous substances should be used without the permission of the Principal. The Senior Premises Officer will complete an assessment for any authorised products.

Substances used in the practical curriculum will normally be stored and used in accordance with CLEAPSS Hazcards.

Where an appropriate Hazcard is not available the appropriate Assistant Principal is responsible for ensuring that the substance is assessed.

Products with low toxicity routinely used in the classrooms must be stored securely and only used by staff or students under supervision. These will include such items as:

-  Spirit based marker pens
-  Corrective fluid
-  Aerosol paints

All the above should be used in a well-ventilated area.

Dust and fumes in the practical curriculum are controlled by LEV. No member of staff or student should be at risk through exposure to hazardous substances used or created in the practical curriculum.

## **Hazard Reporting**

An important feature of this policy is the operation of an effective hazard reporting system. Any employee, student, contractor or visitor is encouraged to report any sub-standard condition or practice.

The reporting of hazards, in the main, should be done verbally to the Premises Officer on duty and line manager as soon as possible, but where the situation warrants, a more formal response may be required. Appropriate forms are available in the academy office to report any problem.

In addition to this procedure, reports of hazards may be received via the AAB, SLT, Departmental meetings and three monthly review/minutes or via risk assessment procedures. A hazards log should also be kept.

## **Inclusion**

The Principal is responsible for ensuring that there are adequate facilities and support staff to ensure the health, safety and welfare of any student with physical disabilities.

All teaching and support staff must be given any information about a student's needs and receive such training as is necessary for them to be able to support the student's learning, social and personal needs.

The SENCO and Assistant Principals must ensure that all risk assessments for curriculum activities are adapted as necessary to ensure the safety of any student with physical disabilities. No student should be excluded from an activity on the grounds of health and safety unless this is absolutely unavoidable.

Where it is considered essential to exclude a student from all or part of an activity this exclusion must be authorised by the Principal.

## **Lone Working**

Lone workers can be defined as anyone who works by themselves without close or direct supervision.

Premises staff may be regular lone workers but teachers and other staff may also work in isolated classrooms/offices after normal Academy hours or during holiday times.

Lone workers should not undertake any activities which present a significant risk of injury.

If you can, avoid working alone in isolated parts of the building especially outside normal working hours or during holidays.

If it is necessary and you are required to work early in the morning or after normal working hours at night:

-  give prior notice to Senior Premises Officer if you intend working late and indicate you will be in the building;
-  make sure your colleagues know;
-  check where they are likely to be in the building;
-  make sure suitable precautions have been taken to prevent intruders entering the area where you are working;
-  if possible, take a telephone into the room in which you are working;
-  if you are alone, consider locking yourself in;
-  report your departure when you leave the premises

## **Managing Medicines and Drugs**

No student is allowed to take medication on the Academy site without a letter of consent from his/her parent/carer. Please also refer to the Administration of Medicines policy for further guidance.

Staff must notify the Principal if they believe a student to be carrying any unauthorized medicines/drugs.

The Academy policy for the Administration of Medication provides detailed guidance and all staff should be familiar with this policy.

## **Maintenance and Repair of Equipment**

The detailed arrangements for the maintenance and inspection of equipment are described in the site maintenance procedures under the control of the Senior Premises Manager

All faulty equipment must be taken out of use and reported to the Senior Premises Manager. Staff must not attempt to repair equipment themselves.

## **Manual Handling**

The Academy will ensure that any significant manual handling tasks are risk assessed and these tasks eliminated where possible.

No member of staff should attempt to lift or move any heavy furniture or equipment themselves but must ask the Senior Premises Manager for assistance.

Students are not allowed to move or lift any heavy or unwieldy furniture or equipment.

Support staff who assist students with physical disabilities must be trained in the safe use of lifting equipment and handling techniques.

## **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

The need for PPE has been identified in Risk Assessments. It is the Principal's responsibility to ensure adequate supplies of PPE.

Where the need for PPE has been identified it must be worn by any staff member or student who might be at risk of injury or harm to health.

Any staff member or student who refuses to use the PPE will be subject to disciplinary action.

PPE must be kept clean and stored in designated areas. Staff must report any lost or damaged PPE to their line manager

## **Risk Assessment**

It is the Principal's responsibility to ensure that potential hazards are identified and that risk assessments are completed for all significant risks in the Academy.

Risk assessments for offsite Academy trips, both residential and day trips are in a separate policy (Academy trips and visits policy)

There will be a regular programme of planned assessments to be completed in high risk areas such as Science, DT workshops etc. In other activity areas there will be annual risk assessments.

Risk assessments will identify all defects and deficiencies, together with the necessary remedial action or risk control measures. The results of all such

surveys will be reported to the Board who will prioritise issues and assign resources to undertake remedial control measures where required.

The Principal will ensure that risk assessments are completed by all staff who organise and lead Academy visits.

## **Security**

Cash is kept in a safe and monies are banked regularly. Counting of accumulated cash must occur at an appropriate location on Academy premises. Site staff are responsible for carrying monies to and from the bank. Staff should not put themselves at risk in the event of an attempted robbery and should hand over the money to any would be assailant.

All staff are responsible for their own personal belongings and should not leave valuables unattended at any time. The Academy accepts no responsibility for items left unattended. In the event of a theft in the Academy, staff will be advised to report the incident to the police and will assist them in their investigations.

It is the responsibility of the staff to take appropriate measures to maintain the security of any Trust equipment being used. If equipment is found to be missing or believed stolen it is important that this is reported immediately to the Duty Principal. When using portable and desirable equipment such as lap-top computers staff will be required to follow careful procedures to ensure their security.

## **Severe Weather Conditions**

In the event of severe weather conditions, it is the responsibility of the Principal in liaison with the CEO to make a decision on closure on grounds of health and safety.

## **Smoking**

The Board and Principal have adopted a no smoking policy throughout Trust premises.

All Trust staff, parents and visitors will be informed and signs will be on display at main entrances to Trust buildings.

## **Staff Training and Development**

The Principal is responsible for annually assessing the health and safety training needs of all staff and for arranging any identified training.

Safety induction must be given to all new employees on the first day of employment. This induction should take the form of a checklist and new staff should be clearly informed of the Academy's Health and Safety provisions e.g. Action to be taken in the event of a fire, Fire exits and knowledge of first aid arrangements.

Training must also be given to all key staff and staff with special responsibilities, such as the Premises Officer, First Aid staff and Staff taking students on trips.

The Academy and/or academy will keep a record of all staff who have been trained and the expiry dates of any certificates.

## **Stress Management**

Where appropriate a risk assessment of stress in the workplace will be carried out under the management of Health and Safety at Work regulations 1992.

Symptoms of stress include problems sleeping; dietary problem; mood swings; lethargy; inability to concentrate; fatigue; emotionalism; chest pains; palpitations; sweating and racing heart, if you suffer from these symptoms, you are advised to consult your GP without delay.

If you consider you may be suffering from stress for reasons connected with your workload, you should approach the Principal who will deal with the issue promptly and in the strictest confidence and make all reasonable efforts to reduce work related stress.

No disciplinary action will be taken against an individual who, in medical opinion, is suffering from stress, unless the action is unrelated to the medical condition. Formal stress counselling may be arranged by the Academy.

On return to work for any period of stress-related illness, the Academy will take account of medical advice and the needs of the Academy when determining which duties are most appropriate.

## Visitors - Health & Safety

Under the provisions of the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974, The Academy has a duty of care to all its visitors. Visitors are to be made aware, by the member of staff that they have come to see, of any potential hazards to their health and safety within the area of the Academy they intend to visit. They are to obey all displayed warning notices and verbal instructions.

Contractors who arrive to carry out work must inform the department/s of any potential hazard that may arise due to their work. (See Guide to Contractors available on request from the Site Supervisor.

All visitors are to be made aware of the emergency procedures. Action to be taken during an emergency is printed on the back of the visitor's badge.

By implementing a Visitors' Policy which is monitored and kept continually under review, it is intended that entertaining visitors should not become a chore, but should be seen by everyone in the Academy as a continuing and valuable opportunity to illuminate our guests with our "beacon of excellence". Academy Principals continue to report how confident, trustworthy and self-assured Academy students have become in their interaction with visitors.

### **There are six categories of visitors to the Academy**

-  VIPs/Educational Visitors
-  Casual Visitors
-  Ex-students
-  Intruders
-  Troublemakers
-  Volunteers

### **VIPs/Educational Visitors**

There is every reason to suppose that the Academy will experience high levels of VIPs and Educational Visitors.

Such visits need careful managing, if the benefits of showing our work to visitors are not to be overshadowed by negative feelings of disruption, distraction and dislocation to our central aim of delivering a high-quality curriculum to our students.

All incoming requests for visits to the Academy should be cleared by individual members of the support and teaching staff who are approached through Principal.

When the Principal has authorised a visit to an Academy, the initial welcome will be made on the day of arrival by the Duty Principal, who should be briefed in advance by the individual member of the support or teaching staff who has been the initial point of contact. The individual member of staff should also publish the approved visit in the appropriate weekly Staff Bulletin.

The volume of visitors will be continually monitored. It may become necessary to sort requests for visits to the Academies into various categories and accord them varying levels of priority. Requests by colleagues from other Academies and the Academy Trust would normally be given high priority, as would visits by members of the Board.

### **Casual Visitors**

As with all busy work places, there is a high level of casual visitors to the Academies during the course of a normal working day. These could be parents or engineers or commercial representatives going to particular areas within the Academy. Sometimes they are expected, more often than not, their visit is unplanned.

***If the visit is expected by a member of staff, their name should be entered into the Reception Diary (located behind the Reception Counter), so that the Receptionist is aware of the visit and will be able to greet the person accordingly on arrival. The visitor will then be asked to wait in the Reception Area, while the person expecting the visitor can be located. At this point, the member of staff will come to Reception to collect their visitor or a Student Receptionist will be asked to take the visitor to the particular area or member of staff.***

For reasons of safety for staff and students, unknown visitors should on no account be allowed to wander through the academy premises. Notices are displayed at all entrances requesting all visitors to report to the front Reception to obtain a Visitor's Badge and sign the Visitor's Book.

### **Ex-students**

Often ex-students make social calls to the Academy. The Principal should be contacted and permission granted for the visitor to come onto the premises. Once permission is given and they have signed the Visitor's Book, a Visitor's Badge is issued and the visitor can proceed.

In all three cases, it is imperative that the visitor completes the Visitor's Book and is issued with a Visitor's Badge (details of any vehicles should also be entered into the Visitor's Book). All visitors must sign out and hand in their visitor's badge when they leave the premises.

## **Intruders**

All staff are asked to take careful note of the following advice, which may help you to handle any difficult situations if you are confronted by an intruder or intruders on our premises.

Always aim to be welcoming and polite to all our visitors. If you see anyone who you think should not be on the Academy premises, do not approach them directly on your own but inform the Front Reception Desk immediately and ask the Duty Principal to be called. It may be possible to keep them on site by telephoning the Front Reception Desk or by sending a note with a student, rather than by reporting in person. When you have identified the intruders to the Duty Principal, please remain present whilst the Duty Principal asks them in a friendly way their reasons for being on site. The Duty Principal should guard against questioning someone on the basis of stereotyped assumptions about people based on their appearance. If satisfied that they are on legitimate business, please accompany them to Reception to collect a Visitor's Pass and sign the Visitor's Book.

To distinguish between intruders and authorised visitors, notices informing "visitors" of the need to report to the main reception desk in the front foyer and obtain a visitor's identity tag should be displayed at all Academy entrances. If the person is unable to offer an acceptable reason for remaining, the Duty Principal should politely ask them to leave in a clear and firm way.

NEVER touch the intruder, even lightly, as this can be misinterpreted and provoke hostile reactions. If they refuse to leave, the Duty Principal should not attempt to force them to leave but dial 999 to call the police. Note that the Duty Principal can be called by radio from the Front Reception Desk. In this situation, try to remain calm and avoid raising your voice or being drawn into an argument.

If the police are called as a result of a physical assault, in serious cases they have the power to arrest the assailant and take legal proceedings directly.

***Take a note of the description of any intruders and any conversation which you might have had with them, even when they leave the premises on your request or where they might have refused to leave initially but then leave before the police arrive. In the unfortunate event of any injuries being sustained, a separate report should be made on the Standard Accident/Injury Form and returned to the school office, which will be given to the Principal.***

Some "Intruders" are ex-students, merely making a social call. Help them to obtain an official Visitor's Pass, available from Reception.

**REMEMBER**, the Trustees of The Academy will provide the fullest support legally possible to staff in connection with alleged assaults, threats or criminal damage arising in the course of or out of the performance of their duties.

### **Troublemakers**

"Academy Security: Dealing with Troublemakers", was issued by the DCSF on 16 December 1997 to all Academies in England. The guidance spells out the powers of the police and the criminal justice system to deal with troublemakers in and around Academies.

The guidance also covers section 4 of the Offensive Weapons Act 1996. It is an offence under the Offensive Weapons Act 1996 to carry, without reason or authority, a knife or offensive weapon in or around Academies. This applies to all knives, other than folding pen knives, with a three inch or smaller blade. However, The Academy has banned all knives, regardless of the length of the blade.

The Academy has authorised the Principal (or nominee), in exercising day to day management of the Academies, to determine who should have access to the premises. The Board have determined that nobody (including governors, staff, students or parents) has an unrestricted right of access to the Academy premises except those with a statutory right to do so. During the day parents and carers should act as visitors, complying with appropriate arrangements; they should present themselves to the main reception desk and sign in before following a route to other defined parts of the Academy as determined by the Principal (or nominee).

Suppliers, contractors and commercial deliveries must follow separate arrangements as determined by the Senior Premises Officer (or his representative).

The Academy buildings and their grounds are private places and anyone entering without authority (including students, ex-students and parents) is trespassing and may be asked to leave by the Principal (or nominee). Causing harassment, alarm or distress to staff or students, threatening, abusing or insulting staff, on or off Trust premises, could be an offence. The Principal (or nominee) will exercise professional judgement in deciding whether to involve police in incidents of this nature.

Where the Principal (or nominee) has determined that an individual is trespassing, the Board have authorised a letter to be sent out on their behalf warning trespassers of the possibility of proceedings being brought against them. The maximum penalty for this offence is a fine of £500. When deemed necessary, a “troublemaker” will be informed in writing by a standard form letter, of the limitations both in terms of time and place as to their permission to enter the premises (See attached sample warning letter in Appendices).

### **General precautions**

Any members of staff going off site must ensure that they sign out at the main office. On their return they must be sure to sign back in again.

All visitors to the Academy must sign in and sign out in the Visitors book, so that a list of visitors in the building is available at any time.

Any events, which use the premises out of working hours, especially where visitors to the Academy are involved, will be subject to particular procedures for the specific event. The key individual organising the event, will check procedures with the Premises Manager.

### **Working at Height**

The Senior Premises Manager is responsible for the purchase and maintenance of all ladders in the Academy.

All ladders conform to BS/EN standards as appropriate.

The Senior Premises Manager is also responsible for completing risk assessments for all working at height tasks in the Academy.

Staff are reminded that ‘working at height’ applies to all activities which cannot be undertaken whilst standing on the floor.

If you need to hang decorations or displays then a step stool or small step ladder must be used. Standing on desks, chairs or other furniture is not permitted.

Do not work at height when you are alone. If you are planning to use a step ladder ask the Senior Premises Manager to help you erect it properly and have an assistant to hold the ladder steady and pass you the materials you need.

Your knees should be no higher than the top platform of the ladder. Never overreach. Try always to keep one hand free on the ladder to steady yourself.

### **Work Experience Placements – students**

In the event of an incident, accident or situation that puts students at risk whilst on Work Experience, the Work Experience Co-ordinator will contact the work placements. The purpose of the call is to ensure that the employer makes arrangements for the students' safety and their safe return home.

In the absence of the Work Experience Co-ordinator, the Head of Faculty will ensure contact is made with Work Experience Students and/or providers, to ensure their safety.

For safety reasons, students must contact the Academy if they do not attend a placement.

If a student cannot be contacted, the Academy/Work Experience Co-ordinator will make initial contact with the parents. In the absence of the Work Experience Co-ordinator, contact will be made by Head of Faculty.

The Academy will maintain student mobile phone numbers, where possible, on the database for Work Experience.

In the absence of both HOF Post 16 and Work Experience Co-ordinator, all addresses and contacts are on the Work Experience boards in the Staff Work Room. The Vice Principal of the Academy will initiate in this event, failing this, in the last resort the Principal.

Related Policies and documents:

Fire safety manual and record book  
Lone Working leaflets  
Working at height leaflets  
PAT Testing records  
Fire alarms and emergency lighting documents  
Fume cupboard test records  
Electrical wire test records  
Legionella water hygiene monitoring  
Kiln test records  
Asbestos register