



HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY


signed Governor

D Laverick-brown
Print Name

Review date: March 2024

Next review due: March 2025

BATCHWOOD SCHOOL HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

PART 1. STATEMENT OF INTENT

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

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

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

This policy statement and the accompanying organisation and arrangements will be reviewed on an annual basis.

This policy statement supplements:

Hertfordshire County Council's (HCC) Health and Safety Policy
Off-site educational visits Policy
Supporting pupils with medical needs Policy
Behaviour Policy
Physical intervention policy
Safeguarding Policy



Signed – Governor
Print Name: **D Laverick-Brown**



Signed - Headteacher
Print Name: **Ross Whitaker**

PART 2. ORGANISATION

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

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

Responsibilities of the Governing Body

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

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

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

The Governing body will receive regular reports from the Headteacher and Health & Safety Manager in order to enable them to provide and prioritise resources for health and safety issues.

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

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

Responsibilities of the Headteacher

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

The Headteacher has responsibility for:

- Co-operating with the LA and Governing Body to enable health and safety policy and procedures to be implemented and complied with.
- Communicating the policy and other appropriate health and safety information to all relevant people including contractors.
- Ensuring effective arrangements are in place to pro-actively manage health and safety by conducting and reviewing inspections and risk assessments and implementing required actions.

- Reporting to the Governing body on health and safety performance and any safety concerns/ issues which may need to be addressed by the allocation of funds.
- Ensuring that the premises, plant and equipment are maintained in a safe and serviceable condition.
- Reporting to the LA any significant risks which cannot be rectified within the establishment's budget.
- Ensuring all staff are competent to carry out their roles and are provided with adequate information, instruction and training.
- Ensuring consultation arrangements are in place for staff and their trade union representatives (where appointed) and recognising the right of trade unions in the workplace to require a health and safety committee to be set up.
- Monitoring purchasing and contracting procedures to ensure health and safety is included in specifications & contract conditions.

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

The task of overseeing health and safety on the site has been delegated by the head to Health & Safety Manager. Within departments this task is further delegated to the Relevant Head of Faculty/subject leader.

Responsibilities of other staff holding posts of special responsibility

The Deputy Head / Health and Safety Manager / Site Manager/Caretaker/ HR manager/ Heads of Department will:

- Apply the school's health and safety policy to their own department or area of work.
- Ensure staff under their control are aware of and follow relevant published health and safety guidance (from sources such as CLEAPSS, AfPE etc.)
- Ensure health and safety risk assessments are undertaken for the activities for which they are responsible and that identified control measures are implemented.
- Ensure that appropriate safe working procedures are brought to the attention of all staff under their control.
- Take appropriate action on health, safety and welfare issues referred to them, informing the head and health & safety manager of any problems they are unable to resolve within the resources available to them.
- Carry out regular inspections of their areas of responsibility and report / record these inspections.
- Ensure the provision of sufficient information, instruction, training and supervision to enable staff and pupils to avoid hazards and contribute positively to their own health and safety.

- Ensure that all accidents (including near misses) occurring within their area of responsibility are promptly reported and investigated.

Responsibilities of employees

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

All employees have responsibility to:

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

PART 3. LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

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

- Appendix 1 - Risk Assessments
- Appendix 2 - Offsite visits
- Appendix 3 - Health and Safety Monitoring and Inspections
- Appendix 4 - Fire Evacuation and other Emergency Arrangements
- Appendix 5 - Fire Prevention, Testing of Equipment
- Appendix 6 - First Aid and Medication
- Appendix 7 - Accident Reporting Procedures
- Appendix 8 - Health and Safety Information and Training
- Appendix 9 - Personal safety / lone Working
- Appendix 10 - Premises Work Equipment
- Appendix 11 - Flammable and Hazardous Substances
- Appendix 12 - Asbestos
- Appendix 13 - Contractors
- Appendix 14 - Work at Height
- Appendix 15 - Moving and Handling
- Appendix 16 - Display Screen Equipment
- Appendix 17 - Vehicles
- Appendix 18 - Lettings
- Appendix 19 - Minibuses
- Appendix 20 - Stress
- Appendix 21 - Legionella
- Appendix 22 - School Swimming and pools
- Appendix 23 - Work Experience
- Appendix 24 - Infection Control
- Appendix 25 - Dogs on School Grounds Policy

Addendum - COVID-19 risks

RISK ASSESSMENTS

General Risk Assessments

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

<http://www.thegrid.org.uk/info/healthandsafety/manual.shtml>

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

Individual Risk Assessments

Specific assessments relating to staff member(s) or pupil(s) are held on that individual's file and will be undertaken by relevant line manager with support from Health & Safety Manager. Such risk assessments will be reviewed on a regular basis.

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

Curriculum Activities

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

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

All LA schools have a subscription to [CLEAPSS](#) and their publications are used as sources of model risk assessment within Science, Art and DT.

See

- CLEAPSS technology site <http://dt.cleapss.org.uk/>;
- CLEAPSS science site <http://science.cleapss.org.uk/>
- CLEAPSS primary school's site <http://primary.cleapss.org.uk/>

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

- [BS 4163:2021+A1:2002 Health and Safety for Design and Technology in Schools and Similar Establishments- Code of Practice]
- [ASE, Safeguards in the school laboratory, 2006 (11th Edition), <http://www.ase.org.uk/>] ISBN 978-0-86357-408-5]
- [Safe Practice in Physical Education, School Sport and Physical Activity 2016' Association of PE 'AfPE' <http://www.afpe.org.uk/>]

OFFSITE VISITS

HCC has adopted the Outdoor Education Advisory Panel's (OEAP) [national guidance](#) for learning outside the classroom and offsite visits and all offsite visits will be planned following this guidance available via <https://oeapng.info/>

Responsibilities of key roles are outlined by the OEAP here:

[Visit leader](#)

[EVC](#)

[Headteacher](#)

HCC's policy for the management of Learning outside the classroom and offsite visits is available here <https://www.thegrid.org.uk/info/healthandsafety/visits/manual.shtml>

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

Evolve is used for the planning and approval of all offsite visits. Relevant risk assessments, participant's names etc. will be attached electronically as required. The school also have their own set of standard operating procedures and risk assessments for local learning areas routine / low risk activities taking place near the school and utilise the annual OV4 form signed by parents/carers.

The member of staff planning the trip (visit leader) will submit all relevant paperwork and risk assessments relating to the trip to the school's Educational Visits Co-ordinator(s) Mark Hurley/Debbie Hawkes who will check the documentation and planning of the trip and if acceptable refer the visit for approval to the Headteacher for approval.

HCC recommends that the EVC should attend training and refresher training every 3 -5 years.

HEALTH AND SAFETY MONITORING AND INSPECTION
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A formal inspection of the site will be conducted on a termly basis and be undertaken / co-ordinated by Health & Safety Manager/Site Manager.

Inspections of individual departments will be carried out by Heads of Department or nominated staff.

In both cases the person(s) undertaking inspection will complete a report in writing and submit this to the Health & safety Manager/Headteacher. Responsibility for following up items detailed in the safety inspection report will rest with Health & Safety Manager.

A named governor Dougal Hutchison will be involved in monitoring the school's health and safety management systems on at least an annual basis and report back to both the relevant sub-committee and full governing body meetings.

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

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

See Appendix 10 for details of monitoring premises compliance issues.

FIRE EVACUATION AND OTHER EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring the school's fire risk assessment is undertaken and implemented following guidance contained in ['Fire safety risk assessment; Educational premises'](#) and the [Education Health and Safety Manual](#).

The fire risk assessment is in the Health and Safety Manager's office and on shared drive, Health & safety, Risk Assessments, Fire Risk Assessment. It will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Emergency Procedures

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

Evacuation procedures are also made available to all other users of the building (contractors / visitors/ hirers etc.).

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

Emergency contact and key holder details are maintained as part of the school's emergency response plan by School Business Manager and updated to the Local Authority via Solero.

Fire Drills

- Fire drills will be undertaken termly and results recorded in the fire risk assessment.

Fire Fighting

- Staff must ensure the alarm is raised BEFORE attempting to tackle a fire.
- The safe evacuation of persons is an absolute priority. Staff may only attempt to deal with small fires, **if it is safe to do so without putting themselves at risk**, using portable firefighting equipment.
- Staff are made aware of the type and location of portable fire fighting equipment and receive basic instruction in its correct use at induction.

Details of service isolation points

Gas: Double white doors in outside kitchen quadrant. Shut gas point in science 1, 2 & school kitchen

Electricity: Cupboard under stairs OPPOSITE room 4

Water: Room 5 (English 1) wall facing fire exit

Details of chemicals and flammable substances on site.

An inventory of these will be kept by Health and Safety Manager/ Science TA and Heads of Department as appropriate, for consultation.

INSPECTION /MAINTENANCE OF EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

Site Manager is responsible for ensuring that the school's fire log is kept up to date and that the following inspection / maintenance is undertaken and recorded in the fire log book located in Health & Safety Office.

FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

Fire alarm call points will be tested weekly in rotation. This test will occur on Tuesdays weekly. Any defects on the system will be reported immediately to the alarm contractor / electrical engineer Red and White Fire Protection 0800 0588946
A fire alarm maintenance contract is in place with Red and White Fire Protection and the system tested 6 monthly by them.

FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT

Weekly in-house checks are undertaken to ensure that all firefighting equipment remains available for use and operational.
Hazelmere fire services undertakes an annual maintenance service of all firefighting equipment. Defective equipment or extinguishers that need recharging should be taken out of service and reported direct to Hazelmere fire services.

EMERGENCY LIGHTING SYSTEMS

Emergency lighting will be checked for operation monthly in house and these tests recorded. Annually a full discharge test for the duration of the batteries and certification of the system will be undertaken by Point Electrical 01727 757259

MEANS OF ESCAPE

Daily checks are undertaken for any obstructions on exit routes and ensures all final exit doors are operational and available for use. These are undertaken by Site Manager/caretaker.

FIRST AID AND MEDICATION

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

TRAINED TO FIRST AID AT WORK LEVEL (3 days /18 hrs):

James Bell	due for renewal 30/03/26
Nina Waters	due for renewal 13/12/25

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

Alison Hakim	due for renewal 4/05/25
Clair Wilson	due for renewal 4/05/25
Debbie Hawkes	due for renewal 4/05/25
Deborah Parsonage	due for renewal 4/05/25
Graham Couling	due for renewal 4/05/25
James Bell	due for renewal 4/05/25
Kim Morgan	due for renewal 4/05/25
Madula Spokes	due for renewal 4/05/25
Nina Waters	due for renewal 4/05/25
Lorraine Ambler	due for renewal 4/05/25

OTHER TRAINING IN EMERGENCY FIRST AID ¹ (6 hr):

Nina Water	First Aid (including epi-pen administration)	due for renewal 14/06/25
Lorraine Ambler	First Aid Course - Save a Life	due for renewal 17/08/24

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

FIRST AID BOXES ARE LOCATED AT THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

- First Aid Room
- School kitchen
- Art Room
- Forest Schools
- Food tech
- Science
- D&T

The Health and Safety Manager is responsible for regularly checking (termly) that the contents of first aid boxes, (including travel kits/ those in vehicles) are complete and replenished as necessary.

¹ Supplementary first aid training focussed on pupil needs and could include other specific risks e.g. sports first aid for PE staff etc.

AEDs (automated external defibrillators) **ARE LOCATED AT THE FOLLOWING POINTS²**: Finance Managers Office.

Site Manager checks the AED on a weekly basis (modern AEDs self-test and will indicate a problem via a warning light / audible alarm)

Defibrillator is registered on [The Circuit](#) to ensure they are visible to local ambulance services.

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

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

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

School Nurse: 01727 891301

Minor Injuries Unit (St Albans City Hospital) 01727 866122

Watford General Hospital (A&E) 01923 244366

Administration of medicines

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

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

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

All non-emergency medication kept in school is securely stored in First Aid room in lockable meds cupboard. Refrigerated meds are kept in clearly labelled container within fridge in First Aid Room, with access strictly controlled. All pupils know how to access their medication. Under no circumstances will medication be stored in first aid boxes.

Emergency medication and devices such as asthma inhalers, blood glucose testing meters and adrenaline pens are always readily available to children and not locked away. These are kept in Admin office and clearly labelled with photographs.

The school have chosen to hold an emergency Salamol inhaler for use by pupils who have been prescribed an inhaler and for whom parental consent for its use has been obtained. This emergency inhaler would be used if the prescribed inhaler is not available e.g. broken / empty. In the event of a possible severe allergic reaction in a pupil without a prescribed device / parental consent emergency services (999) would be contacted.

² See [DfE guidance on AEDs](#) defibrillator provided to all schools without one by end of 22/23 academic year.

Individual Health Care Plans (IHCP)

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

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

The IHCP is developed with the pupil (where appropriate), parent/carer, designated named member of school staff, specialist nurse (where appropriate) and relevant healthcare services. These plans will be completed at the beginning of the school year / when child enrolls / on diagnosis being communicated to the school and will be reviewed annually by Head of Pastoral Care.

All staff are made aware of any relevant health care needs and copies of health care plans are available in pastoral hub.

Staff will receive appropriate training related to health conditions of pupils and the administration of medicines by a health professional as appropriate.

ACCIDENT REPORTING PROCEDURES

Accidents to employees

Employees must report all accidents, violent incidents and near misses.

Where HCC is the employer then **all** employee incidents must be reported to HCC using the online accident/incident reporting system hosted on Solero.

Employee accident / incident forms are to be retained for a minimum of 3 years.

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

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

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

Parents / carers will be notified immediately of all major injuries.

Student accident forms are to be retained for a minimum of 3 years after their 18th Birthday.

All Accidents

All major incidents will be reported to the Headteacher and the Governing Body and Health and Safety Governor.

Accidents will be monitored for trends and a report made to the Governing Body as necessary.

The Headteacher, or their nominee, will investigate accidents and take remedial steps to avoid similar instances recurring. Faulty equipment, systems of work etc. must be reported and attended to as soon as possible. Any relevant learning points will be communicated to relevant staff and pupils / students.

Reporting to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE)

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring all RIDDOR reportable incidents are reported.

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

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

- A pupil or other non-employee being taken directly to hospital for treatment and the accident arising as the result of the condition of the premises / equipment, due to the way equipment

or substances were used or due to a lack of supervision / organisation etc.

- Employee absence or inability to carry out their normal duties as the result of a work related accident, for periods of 7 days or more (including W/E's and holidays).

See the HSE information sheet ['Incident reporting in schools'](#) EDIS1 REV 3

For VC and Community schools any incident notified to the HSE must also be reported to the LA's Health and Safety Team.

HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION & TRAINING

Consultation

The Resources & Planning committee and the full governing body meet termly to discuss health, safety and welfare issues affecting staff, pupils or visitors. Action points from meetings are brought forward for review by school management.

The teaching Trade Unions appointed Safety Representative for the staff is Charlotte Maxen.

Staff meetings are held termly. Health and Safety is a standing agenda item.

Communication of Information

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

The Health and Safety Law poster is displayed in staff room and H&S office.

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

Health and Safety Training

All employees will be provided with:

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

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

Training records will be kept on SIMS and shared drive.

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

The Headteacher will be responsible for assessing the effectiveness of training received and ensuring staff are competent to undertake their duties.

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

PERSONAL SAFETY / LONE WORKING

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

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

Lone working

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

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

Staff working outside of normal school hours must obtain permission of the Headteacher and sign in and out of the school premises.

Where lone working cannot be avoided staff should ensure they have means to summon help in an emergency e.g. access to a telephone or mobile phone etc.

Staff conducting a home visit should sign out of school and advise when they are at the home. They should then call to advise they are returning to school and sign back in.

Where there are known risks, staff must not visit alone.

School staff responding to call outs

Nominated key holders attending empty premises where there has been an alarm activation should do so with a colleague if possible. They should not enter the premises unless they are sure it is safe to do so. Arena security will advise staff if the alarm is ringing and will meet staff at premises.

PREMISES AND WORK EQUIPMENT

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

Where premises defects are identified a dynamic assessment is conducted to determine if the area should be isolated / cordoned off whilst awaiting repair.

Health and Safety Manager is responsible for identifying all plant and equipment in an equipment register and ensuring that any specific training or instruction needs, personal protective equipment requirements are identified and relevant risk assessments conducted where required. Equipment restricted to those users who are authorised / have received specific training is O&M manual. We would contact GD Higgins for any service/fault issues for the plant room.

Planned maintenance / inspection

Regular inspection and testing of school plant and equipment is conducted to legislative requirements by competent contractors. Records of such monitoring will be kept in / by the school's shared drive, Health and safety and hard copies in the Health and Safety inspections folder. (Key areas for compliance are outlined in 'Maintenance and inspection requirements on the [Grid](#) and the DfE's [Good Estate Management for schools](#)) Oversight of premises compliance issues is the responsibility of the Health and safety Manager / Site Manager this is achieved by the use of detail the specific system used e.g. This document is to be found on the Premises shared drive.

Curriculum Areas

Heads of Department are responsible for ensuring maintenance requirements for equipment in their areas are identified and implemented.

Electrical Safety

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

All portable items of electrical equipment will be subject to formal inspection and testing (Portable Appliance Testing (PAT)) on an identified cycle (dependent upon the type of equipment and the environment it is used in).

All earthed equipment (class 1) and cables attached to such equipment will be tested annually. This inspection and testing will be conducted by TECC PAT in July annually and Site Manager will undertake any adhoc PAT requirements.

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

Personal items of equipment (electrical or mechanical) should not be brought into the school without prior authorisation and must be subjected to the same tests as school equipment. The caretaker is responsible for adhoc PAT testing on site.

A fixed electrical installation test (fixed wire test) will be conducted by Point Electrical on a maximum of a 5-year cycle. Last fixed wire test: July 2019. All remedial actions completed

February 2020. Next test booked July 2024.

Records of these inspections and certification will be maintained and remedial works arising acted upon in a timely manner.

External play equipment

External play equipment will only be used when appropriately supervised.

The external play equipment on site is:

Football posts

Basketball posts

This equipment will be checked daily before use for any apparent defects, and the Health and Safety Manager will conduct and record a formal [termly inspection](#) of the equipment.

Internal play equipment and gym

All equipment will be subject to an annual Safety test by Olympic Gymnasium and Design and Technology Services.

COSHH (FLAMMABLE AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES)

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

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

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

They shall ensure:

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

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

Secondary level only

RADIOACTIVE SOURCES: N/A to Batchwood School. None on site.

An asbestos survey and management plan is in place for the school in accordance with [HCC's asbestos policy](#). The school's most recent asbestos management survey was conducted on July 2019 by Enviortec. In-house visual inspection conducted December 2019.

The school's asbestos log (including school plans, asbestos survey data and site specific management plan) is held in the Health and Safety Office.

The Headteacher will ensure that **all** school staff (and others such as catering and cleaning staff who may not be employed directly by the school) are made aware of the location of asbestos containing materials (ACM) within their work areas.

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

In the event of any damage occurring to materials known or suspected to contain asbestos this will be reported to one of the school's asbestos authorising officers and the area immediately evacuated and closed / locked off. (The school has a incident procedure for dealing with an unplanned disturbance of asbestos-containing materials see <https://thegrid.org.uk/Restricted-assets/asbestos-incident-management-july-2023.pdf>)

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

The school's asbestos authorising officers are Charl de Bruin and Gavin Marchant and refresher training is required 3 yearly.

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

The Headteacher / asbestos authorising officers shall ensure:

- That the asbestos log is consulted at the earliest possible opportunity and that **all** work affecting the fabric of the building or fixed equipment is entered in the permission to work log and signed by those undertaking the work.
- A visual inspection of asbestos containing materials remaining on site is conducted and recorded (legal requirement to do so annually as a minimum) as part of the school's asbestos management plan.
- The limitations of the management survey and areas of the building that have **not** been surveyed are understood and considered as part of the permission to work process e.g. areas above 3m in height, within ceiling voids (where panels / tiles are fixed), floor voids and ducts etc.
- All records pertaining to asbestos are effectively maintained and retained (legal requirement to do so for a period of 40 years).

- The school's asbestos management plan is kept up to date, reviewed at least annually and that any asbestos works (removal, new project specific surveys etc.) are notified to the LA via asbestos@hertfordshire.gov.uk.
- Where more invasive works and / or works which go beyond the limitations of the management survey are planned, a refurbishment / demolition survey will be commissioned to obtain a comprehensive assessment of all ACMs that could be affected prior to the works commencing.

CONTRACTORS

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

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

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

School managed projects

The [Construction \(Design and Management\) Regulations 2015](#)³ applies to all building, demolition, repair and maintenance or refurbishment work.

Where the school undertakes projects direct, the governing body are considered the 'client' and therefore have additional statutory obligations. These projects are managed by School Business Manager/Health and Safety Manager on the school's behalf who will ensure landlords consent has been obtained and, where applicable, all statutory approvals, such as planning permission and building regulations have been sought.

To ensure contractor competency the school uses a property framework contractor as a method of procuring works. These contractors have satisfied the County Council that they understand and abide by health and safety regulations. Details can be found at <http://www.thegrid.org.uk/info/premises/property.shtml> when considering the appointment of contractors outside of Hertfordshire frameworks the Site Manager will undertake appropriate competency checks prior to engaging a contractor i.e. they have sufficient skills, knowledge and experience to do the job safely, the degree of competence required will depend on the work to be done.

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

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

³ Such projects are notifiable to the HSE where the work exceeds 30 days or involves more than 500 person days of work. In such instances and/ or if there will be more than 1 contractor on site at the same time (in which case a principal designer and principal contractor must be appointed in writing by the client) it is recommended that an agent be used to work on the schools behalf.

WORK AT HEIGHT

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

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

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

Only those persons who have been trained to use ladders safely may use them.

Basic instruction is provided to all staff who use ladders / stepladders, see <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg455.htm>.

Formal training on work at height, use of ladders, mobile tower scaffolds etc. will be provided where a significant risk is identified as part of an individual's role e.g. Site Manager/caretaker

The establishments nominated person(s) responsible for work at height is Charl de Bruin, Site Manager.

The nominated person(s) shall ensure:

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

LIFTING AND HANDLING

Generic risk assessments for regular manual handling operations are undertaken and staff provided with information on safe moving and handling techniques.

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

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

Paediatric Moving and Handling – N/A to Batchwood School

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

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

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

DISPLAY SCREEN EQUIPMENT (DSE)

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

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

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

VEHICLES ON SITE

Vehicular access to the school is restricted to school staff and visitors only and not for general use by parents / guardians when bringing children to school or collecting them. Access to the school must be kept clear for emergency vehicles.

Separate pedestrian and vehicle gates are provided.

A risk assessment is in place for pedestrian / vehicle segregation and the start and end of day procedures and vehicle management is managed by senior leadership team.

LETTINGS / SHARED USE OF PREMISES

Batchwood School currently does not accept any Lettings, except for Polling Days.

See Hiring and Lettings Policy, first aid provision, fire and emergency arrangements, emergency lighting, public entertainment license etc.

MINIBUSES

Debbie Hawkes maintains a list of nominated drivers who have received training in order to drive a minibus and conducts an annual check of their driving licence via the [DVLA](#).⁴

On an annual basis individual staff will be required obtain a check code from the [DVLA](#) and provide this to Finance Assistant in order the school can see what vehicles they can drive and any penalty points or disqualifications on their licence]

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

Site Manager is responsible for the undertaking regular checks on the vehicles and the schools operation of minibuses follows [County Guidance](#).

STRESS / WELLBEING

The school and governing body are committed to promoting high levels of health and wellbeing and recognise the importance of identifying and reducing workplace stressors through risk assessment, in line with the HSE's management standards. Charlotte Maxen leads on the staff wellbeing and provides in house training sessions.

Batchwood School has a staff well-being committee which meets termly and consults with staff and senior leadership team. In addition, we subscribe to the Employee Assistance Programme. Staff have personal development plans and access to line managers to discuss workloads.

⁴ All drivers must be over 21 and hold a full Category B (car) licence, non-employees must have held this for at least two years. Employees must have category D1 entitlement, those who obtained their car licence after 1 January 1997 must additionally obtain Category D or D1 by passing a medical and the Passenger Carrying Vehicle (PCV) theory and practical driving tests. This also applies to all drivers with pre-1997 licences if they intend to drive a minibus abroad.

LEGIONELLA

A water risk assessment of the school has been completed on June 2022 by GES Water. Health and Safety Manager is responsible for ensuring that the identified operational controls are being conducted and recorded in the school's water log book.

This risk assessment will be reviewed on the advisory review date June 2024.

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

- Water is heated and stored to 60 degrees C at calorifiers (any vessel that generates heat within a mass of stored water);
- Weekly flushing of seldom used outlets and all showers (with all outlets flushed after school holiday periods);
- Monthly temperature checks on sentinel outlets (those nearest and furthest away from calorifiers);
- Quarterly disinfection / descaling of showers;
- No stored cold-water tanks on site, all water is main fed.

All records relating to the management of Legionella must be kept for 5 years.

SCHOOL SWIMMING N/A to Batchwood school

WORK RELATED LEARNING

Secondary level only

Where students are involved in 'non-qualification' activities as part of their study programme e.g. work shadowing, work experience or other work related learning, enterprise activities, study visits etc. then the school retains a duty of care for all students undertaking such activities.

Sarah Slater is responsible for managing and co-ordinating such activities.

Work shadowing and work experience placements should be suitable and thus proportionate checks on health and safety and suitable insurance cover will be conducted.

Work experience

- All students are briefed before taking part in work experience on supervision arrangements and health and safety responsibilities.
- The school utilise YC Hertfordshire to assess the suitability of the placement and relevant supporting documentation. No work experience placement will go ahead if deemed unsuitable. Depending on the nature of the placement and risk this may necessitate a pre-placement visit undertaken by a competent person(s)⁵
- Where work placements form part of the vocational qualification offered by a FE college then the college is responsible for ensuring equivalent placement checks are conducted.
- Every student will receive a placement job description highlighting tasks to be undertaken and any necessary health and safety information which is passed onto the parent / carer.
- Arrangements will be in place to visit/monitor students during the placement.
- Emergency contact arrangements are in place (including out of school hours provision) in order that a member of school staff can be contacted should an incident occur.

Any incidents involving students on work placement activities will be reported to the placement organiser / school employer at the earliest possible opportunity.

⁵ In order to be deemed competent an individual should hold a suitable nationally accredited/recognised qualification(s). E.g. IOSH (The Institute of Occupational Safety and Health) Managing Safely qualification. In addition to having occupational competence, knowledge and understanding in relation to sector specific placements. Particularly in high risk placements such as construction, agriculture, equestrian etc.

INFECTION CONTROL

The school follows UKHSA guidance '[Health protection in education and childcare settings](#)' and the recommended [exclusion periods](#) for specific infectious diseases detailed in this guidance.

In the event of an outbreak the school will review and reinforce existing baseline infection prevention and control measures.

This will include:

- encouraging all staff and students who are unwell not to attend the setting.
- ensuring all eligible groups are enabled and supported to take up the offer of [national immunisation](#) programmes including coronavirus (COVID-19) and flu
- ensuring occupied spaces are well ventilated and let fresh air in
- reinforcing good hygiene practices such as frequent cleaning
- considering communications to raise awareness among parents and carers of the outbreak or incident and to reinforce key messages, including the use of clear hand and respiratory hygiene measures within the setting such as [E-Bug](#)

Specialist advice from UKHSA East of England Health Protection Team will be sought in the event of any outbreak or serious or unusual illness as listed in Chapter 4 of '[Health protection in education and childcare settings](#)' for example

- a higher than previously experienced and/or rapidly increasing number of staff or student absences due to acute respiratory infection or diarrhoea and vomiting.
- evidence of severe disease due to an infection, for example if a pupil, student, child, or staff member is admitted to hospital.
- more than one infection circulating in the same group of students and staff for example chicken pox and scarlet fever.

Dogs on School Grounds

This policy aims to ensure the safety and well-being dog all members of the Batchwood School community.

Batchwood School recognises that dogs are an important part of life for some of our families and as such are often included in day-to-day activities. In teaching we promote the relationship between people and their pets and accept and encourage the idea of pets being 'family members'. The school appreciates this inclusion and values pet ownership as an educational experience: it also acknowledges other families and individuals can find contact with dogs stressful and even frightening.

This policy takes into consideration the needs and expectations of all members of Batchwood School community and aims to minimise the risk of accident or injury to people or animals within the school grounds.

To this end, the policy sets out a 'Code of Conduct' for all staff members or community members who bring dogs onto the school grounds. Failure to comply with the Code of Conduct in respect of a dog will result in the dog not being allowed on school premises in future. Existing Government laws and local council policy cover issues such as dog fouling and restraint and these operate within our dogs on school premises policy. For further information, visit: www.gov.uk/conyrol-dog-public

Regulations concerning dogs on school grounds are as follows:

All staff members and members of the Batchwood School community must adhere to this Code of Conduct which states:

- Every dog on school grounds must have an agreed risk assessment.
- All dogs to be kept on a lead or contained when on school grounds
- Students may only handle a dog with the permission and supervision of the owner
- No dogs are allowed into the playground area
- Dog owners are responsible for clearing and disposing of any dog soiling
- Dogs must be regularly wormed
- When bringing a dog on site, the owner does so with an absolute understanding that their dog has no issues around children and has never displayed any aggressions towards children
- The owner believes that dog is fully trustworthy in a school environment
- The policy makes it explicit that dogs will not be allowed into a classroom unless with their owner
- If a child is nervous around a dog, the dog will be removed from the classroom environment
- Dogs can be walked on school grounds with their owner and students as part of enrichment activities

For the avoidance of doubt, the school retains the right to direct that a dog is not to be brought into the school grounds between 9am-3pm during the school week, at the Headteacher's discretion.

I agree to follow the Code of Conduct for Dogs on School Premises.

I accept full responsibility for my dog whilst on School Premises:

Signed:.....

Print Name:.....

Date:.....

Addendum to Health and Safety policy – COVID 19 Risks

In recognition of the current circumstances due to COVID-19, this addendum to the school's Health and Safety Policy sets out the arrangements in relation to the return to full-time school from September 2020.

In line with the school's wider responsibilities under Health and safety legislation detailed in the main Health and Safety policy, the school has produced a COVID-19 risk assessment detailing the control measures in place to mitigate risks of transmission, this is based on the national guidance for schools produced by the DfE.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

Our risk assessment has been consulted on with all staff and will be regularly reviewed to any reflect changes in national guidance as well as local operational issues.

The Headteacher will:

Have overall responsibility for the development and implementation of the wider H&S policy, COVID-19 risk assessment and action plan.

Consult with all staff as part of the planning and risk assessment process.

Ensure all documentation is regularly reviewed to meet current need and any updated guidance from the Government or Local Authority.

Ensure that all staff, including temporary staff, peripatetic and supply teachers, visiting coaches etc. are briefed on the required controls for managing risk.

Put in place a monitoring process to review how staff and students adapt and adopt to the controls put in place, reviewing the risk assessment to reflect any additional controls or risks which become apparent as operational activities and curriculum are delivered.

Ensure that individual risk assessments (for both staff and pupils) are conducted where required.

All staff will:

Carry out all work in accordance with the policy, risk assessment and action plan, including additional tasks as part of the response to COVID-19.

Take the opportunity to contribute to the risk assessment and action planning process.

Ensure appropriate controls and procedures are brought to the attention of all staff under their control.

Be responsible for reporting any Health and Safety risks related to COVID-19 to the Headteacher.

The COVID-19 risk assessment ensures compliance with the Governments guidance on managing the risk of COVID-19 namely to:

- minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school;
- ensure enhanced cleaning, handwashing and hygiene procedures are in place and in line with national guidance;
- wear face coverings where recommended, in communal areas of the school where social distancing is hard to maintain;⁶
- minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible;
- ensure staff wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) in circumstances where this is required.

In the event of any infection the school will:

- engage with the NHS Test and Trace process;
- manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community;
- contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice.
- Report confirmed cases

Relevant Health and Safety information and the school plans for management of COVID-19 risks has been communicated to all staff and the wider school community.

⁶ Schools that teach years 7 and upward Heads have discretion to require face coverings to be worn by pupils, staff and visitors in communal areas outside the classroom where maintaining social distancing is difficult.

In primary schools headteachers have the discretion to decide whether to ask staff or visitors to wear face coverings in these circumstances. Primary school children will not need to wear a face covering.

Based on current evidence the DfE guidance is that face coverings will not be necessary in the classroom even where social distancing is not possible. Face coverings would have a negative impact on teaching and their use in the classroom should be avoided