

Leicestershire County Council

# OHSMS Section 1.0

## Health and Safety Policy

### Thorpe Acre Infant School

Policy

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HS&WP/JW/29.5.2013  
Issue 2

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Amendments made by:	FGB, Thorpe Acre Infant School 25/ 09/14

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## Forward

The Governing Body recognises that making appropriate provisions for the health and safety of all persons using the school facilities and those participating in off-site educational activities is fundamental to the well-being of the school.

This Health and Safety Policy, its supporting documentation and arrangements for implementation will meet our legal obligations and contribute to our objectives relating to continuous improvement on health and safety performance.

We are committed to high standards of health and safety and expect all staff to be familiar with the contents of this policy.

Signed

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Chair of the Governing Body

Date:

Signed

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**Principal/HT (delete as necessary)**

Date:

## 1.0 Part One – Statement of Policy

### 1.1 Scope

- 1.1.1 This policy is specific to **Thorpe Acre Infant School** and off-site educational visits. It is supported by policies of other relevant organisations such as Leicestershire County Council, Health, Safety and Wellbeing Service.
- 1.1.2 The Health and Safety system will be integrated with the daily management of the school and will be continuously developed, maintained and implemented via a comprehensive series of documents which will include:-
- i. The Statement of Policy
  - ii. Organisation
  - iii. Arrangements for Implementation
  - iv. Working Policy Documents
  - v. Subject specific Guidance periodically issued by the LA, Health, Safety and Wellbeing Service and HSE.
- 1.1.3 The policy recognises the legal duties and responsibilities owed to all users of the site and seek to develop standards, which are significantly higher than those required by law as a means of contributing to the overall performance of the school by reducing accidents, injuries and ill health This Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy as well as outlining Leicestershire County Council's commitment to comply with legislation and prevent accidents, incidents and cases of work related ill health, sets a framework for which continual improvement objectives can be established. These will be documented in the corporate Health, Safety and Wellbeing Strategy, Departmental action plans and Service Level action plans located on EIS.
- 1.1.4 Schools within Leicestershire County Council manage health and safety in a manner which is compliant with the internationally recognised standard OHSAS 18001. Guidance documents to assist compliance to the standard can be found on the EIS website.

### 1.2 Aim

- 1.2.1 To provide the highest possible standard of Health and Safety, commensurate with the operation of a learning environment.

### 1.2.2 Objectives

- 1.2.3 It is the responsibility of the Governing Body via the Head Teacher and Senior Management Team (SMT) to ensure that systems are in place which will deliver a safe place of work for employees, pupils and visitors. Equally it is the duty of all

employees to co-operate with management on health and safety matters. The Governing Body expects each employee to take reasonable care of their own safety and that of others either under their supervision or who may be affected by their actions. The main objectives of this policy will apply as far as reasonably practicable and are as follows:-

- i. To establish and maintain a safe and healthy environment throughout the school.
- ii. To establish and maintain safe working procedures among staff and pupils.
- iii. To make arrangements for ensuring safety and avoiding risks to health in connection with the use, handling, storage and transporting of equipment, articles and substances.
- iv. To ensure the provision of sufficient information, instruction and supervision to enable everyone to avoid hazards and contribute positively to their own health and safety at work.
- v. To maintain safe access and egress and separate movement of vehicles and people on site as far as is practicable.
- vi. To ensure, as far as reasonably practicable, that educational visits are undertaken as safely as possible.
- vii. To formulate procedures for use in case of fire and other emergencies including plans for the safe and effective evacuation of the school premises;
- viii. To lay down procedures to be followed in case of accident;
- ix. To provide and maintain suitable and sufficient welfare facilities.
- x. To develop a training plan (recorded on a matrix) to ensure that employees and governors are trained to the appropriate level to fulfil their health and safety responsibilities.
- xi. To monitor and review the effectiveness of health and safety systems with a view to continuous improvement.
- xii. To ensure that staff are aware of the importance attached to Health and Safety and that management may invoke the School Disciplinary Policy in the event of non-compliance with the requirements of this Policy.
- xiii. To ensure the commitment to the prevention of injury and ill health is fulfilled
- xiv. To ensure compliance to legal, and other requirements to which the school subscribes
- xv. To ensure commitment to continual improvement.

## 2 Part Two Organisation

Local Management of Schools (LMS) requires the school staff, Governing Body and the Local Authority (LA) Health, Safety and Wellbeing Service, to work together to ensure health, safety and welfare objectives are achieved.

### 2.1 The Governing Body

2.1.1 The Education and Inspection Act 2006 gives governing bodies important powers and duties in controlling school premises and managing schools including health, safety and welfare responsibilities towards employees, pupils and visitors.

2.1.2 In particular the Governing Body is responsible for -

- i) ensuring that the Health and Safety Policy is implemented and monitored within the school;
- ii) ensuring that the school has considered its health and safety obligations and has made provision for meeting these obligations, the LA recommend that this is best achieved by making health and safety an integral part of the schools development plan;
- iii) ensuring that the school has a clear written policy statement. The policy will ensure that the school's staffing structure appropriately reflects the responsibilities for carrying out the arrangements of Health and Safety from time to time. Governors will satisfy themselves that the policy is appropriate and being implemented as agreed;
- iv) receiving health and safety guidance and information distributed by the Children and Young People's Service and ensuring that proper arrangements are made within the school for complying with the guidance;
- v) ensuring that regular reports of accidents and dangerous occurrences are provided by the Head Teacher and that any necessary alterations to working practices and procedures decided upon are implemented;
- vi) ensuring that appropriate facilities and opportunities are provided for accredited safety representatives to perform their duties;
- vii) ensuring that health and safety issues concerning the school are identified, decisions are taken and that effective action is carried through.
- viii) ensuring that all reasonable inspection facilities and information are provided on request to officers of the Children and Young People's Service, Safety Officers of the Education Authority's Health, Safety and Training Service, Inspectors of the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and any other bona fide Health and Safety Officials;

- ix) ensuring that conformity to safety standards for goods purchased and equipment installed form part of the school's purchasing policy;
- x) ensuring that procedures exist for checking that any items offered for use by the school are safe;
- xi) ensuring that school journeys are arranged and properly supervised in accordance with LA and DFE Guidance;
- xii) ensuring that suitable health and safety provision is made for pupils with special needs and the staff involved;

2.1.3 The Governing Body is also responsible for planning and setting standards which include:

- i) Ensuring hazards are identified, risk assessments are undertaken and standards are set to achieve health and safety objectives.
- ii) Ensure clear plans for coping with sudden emergencies are developed and maintained.
- iii) Developing a positive health and safety culture.
- iv) Ensuring that a training plan is developed which :-
  - a) enables appropriate training to be provided to employees so that they can fulfil their health and safety responsibilities;
  - b) provides induction training for new employees, including temporary, part time and supply staff.

## 2.2 Head Teacher's Responsibilities

2.2.1 The overall responsibility for all school health, safety and welfare organisation and activity rests with the Head Teacher, who will:

- i) Work in conjunction with the governing body to revise and update on a continuing basis the Health and Safety Policy.
- ii) Co-ordinate the implementation of the LA and governors' health and safety and welfare procedures in the school.
- ii) Make clear any duties in respect of health and safety, which are delegated, to members of staff (this should be in writing).
- iii) Ensure that problems in implementing health and safety policy are reported to the LA Health, Safety and Wellbeing Service.

- iv) Ensure arrangements are in place for risk assessments of the premises and working practices to be undertaken, recorded and reviewed on a regular basis, and ensure that he/she is kept informed of accidents and hazardous situations.
- vi) Arrange annual review of the working documents and systems, which support the policy, such as:-
  - a) Emergency procedures
  - b) Provision of first-aid in the school
  - c) The risk assessments
  - d) Off-site visits

...and make appropriate recommendations to the Governing Body.

- v) Put in place procedures to monitor the health and safety performance of the school.
- vi) Ensure that all known hazards are reported immediately to the LA and stop any practices or the use of any plant, tools, equipment etc. considered to be unsafe, until satisfied as to their safety.
- vii) Make recommendations to the Governing Body for additions or improvements to plant, tools, equipment, machinery, etc. which presents hazards.
- viii) Review regularly the dissemination of health and safety information in the school paying particular attention to newly appointed and temporary staff, volunteer helpers and other users of the premises.
- ix) Develop a health and safety training plan for all employees
- x) Maintain and keep up to date the master copy of the health and safety policy together with all accompanying documentation.
- xi) report to the Governing Body:
  - 1) annually on the Health and Safety performance of the school;
  - 2) to secure funding for any identified Health & Safety costs;
  - 3) on any Health & safety issues of concern.

### 2.3 Responsibilities of the Deputy Head Teacher/Business Manager

- i) Be responsible for ensuring the day to day operational requirements of the health and safety policy are implemented;
- ii) Will maintain an up to date copy of the health and safety policy together with all associated documentation relevant to the faculty involved.
- iii) Notify the Site Manager and/or Head Teacher of any health and safety concerns and any financial implications identified by the Risk Assessment process.



- iv) Be the focal point for reference on health safety and welfare matters and to give advice or indicate source of advice.
- v) Liaise with and report directly to the Governors on all matters of Health and Safety
- vi) Ensure the day to day implementation of this policy including the maintenance of appropriate Risk Assessments for School and off-site activities and seeking the approval of the Governors for meeting the financial implications of identified control measures.
- vii) Ensure that all certification and statutory inspections are kept up to date.
- viii) To investigate accidents, dangerous occurrences and near misses, complete and send RIDDOR notifications (F2508) to the enforcing authority and the LA
- ix) Issue updates as required to all holders of health and safety policy documents.

## 2.4 Specific Risk Areas

### 2.4.1 Catering Operations

- i) The kitchen manager/ manageress/ including contracted staff are responsible for ensuring that the Health and Safety requirements of the organisation are implemented on a daily basis and will ensure that the relevant parts of the school policy, especially those relating to emergency procedures, are followed by all catering staff.
- ii) The kitchen manager/ manageress will advise the Site Manager/ Premises Officer and/or Head Teacher of any health and safety concerns.

### 2.4.2 Grounds Maintenance

- i) The Grounds Maintenance contractors will have its own health and safety policies relating to their activities which must be followed on site and in addition the contractors employees will familiarise themselves with the relevant policies of the school, including the school Risk Assessment for Ground Maintenance.
- ii) In-house ground maintenance, grass cutting and litter picking will be covered by this policy and will be the responsibility of the competent person named in Appendix 1

### 2.4.3 Contractors

- i) Contractors will have their own health and safety policies relating to their activities which must be followed on site and in addition they must make themselves and their employees aware of relevant school requirements, especially in relation to Emergency Procedures. Pre Contract meeting will ensure these requirements are met.

#### 2.4.4 School playground and gardens

- i) Effective communication will be in place, enabling communication between the playground, gardens and main building (located in school office, but also portable when office is unattended for long periods of time) when pupils are all playing outdoors.

### 2.5 Classroom Teacher's Obligations

2.5.1 The health and safety of pupils in classrooms is the responsibility of class teachers. Class teachers are expected to:

- i) check classroom area is safe
- ii) check equipment used is safe before use
- iii) ensure safe procedures are followed
- iv) give clear instruction and warnings to pupils, as often as necessary
- v) report defects to the Premise Officer
- vi) avoid introducing personal items of equipment (electrical, mechanical) into school without authorisation from the Head teacher
- vii) follow safe working procedures personally
- viii) carry out special tasks as assigned in Appendix 1 (this will identify any particular duties that teachers are responsible for if any).

### 2.6 Obligations of all Employees under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

2.6.1 All employees are expected

- i) to know the health and safety organisation and arrangements to be adopted in their own working areas and to ensure they are applied;
- ii) to observe standards of dress consistent and appropriate with safety and/or hygiene;
- iii) to exercise good standards of housekeeping and cleanliness;
- iv) to know and to apply procedures in respect of fire, first aid and other emergencies;
- v) to use and not wilfully misuse, neglect or interfere with things provided for his/her own health and safety and/or the health and safety of others;
- vi) to co-operate with other employees in promoting improved health and safety arrangements in the school;
- vii) to co-operate with the appointed Trade Unions Health and Safety Representatives and the officers of the Health and Safety Executive or the Local Authority.

- viii) to report all accidents, defects, dangerous occurrences and near misses to the Premises Officer/ Head Teacher.

## 2.7 Responsibilities of the Premises Officer

- i) Have a general responsibility for the application of the school's health and safety policy to their own area of work, and are directly responsible to the Head Teacher.
- ii) Will establish and maintain safe working procedures including (referring to relevant documents) arrangements for ensuring so far as is reasonably practicable, the absence of risks to health and safety in connection with the use, handling, storage and transport of articles and substances (e.g. chemicals, boiling water and sharp instruments).
- iii) Will carry out regular health and safety assessments of the activities for which they are responsible, and report to the Head Teacher/ any defects, which need attention.
- iv) Will ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, the provision of sufficient information, instruction, training, supervision, to enable other employees and pupils to avoid hazards and contribute positively to their own health and safety, as part of the schools health and safety training requirements.
- v) Will, where appropriate, ensure relevant advice and guidance on health and safety matters is sought.
- vi) Will advise the Head Teacher on requirements for health and safety equipment and on additions or necessary improvement to plant, tools, equipment or machinery.

## 2.8 School Health and Safety Representatives

2.8.1 The Governing Body and Head teacher recognise the role of Health and Safety representatives. Where there are no trade union appointed safety representatives, the Head teacher will appoint Representatives of Employee Safety from volunteers in consultation with all staff and reflecting areas in and around the school site. There will also be an appointed representative on the Governing Body. Health and Safety representatives must be allowed:

- i) to investigate accidents and potential hazards.
- ii) to investigate complaints by constituents about matters relating to health, safety and welfare.

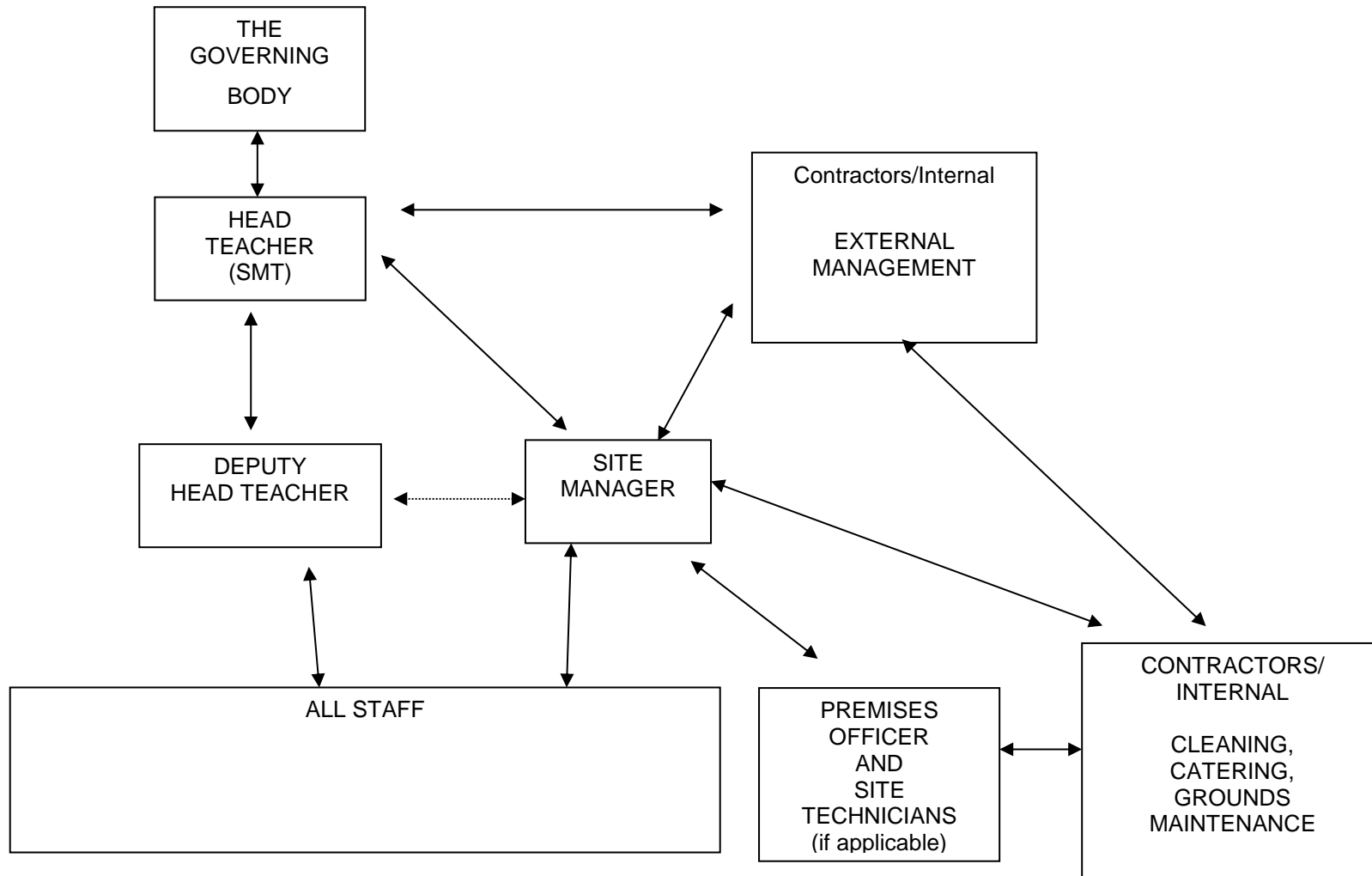
- iii) to make representation to the employer about such matters arising from such complaint and such investigation and on general issues affecting health, safety and welfare in the workplace.
- iv) to carry out school inspection within directed time, but wherever practicable outside teaching time.
- v) to represent constituents in consultation with enforcement agencies.
- vi) to receive information that inspectors are required to provide.

## 2.9 **Visitors and Other Users of the School**

2.9.1 Visitors and other users of the premises will be required to observe to health, safety and welfare rules of the school. In particular parents and other volunteers helping out in school, including those associated in self-help schemes will be made aware of the health and safety policy applicable to them by the teacher to whom they are assigned. Visitors unknown to staff and pupils must wear an identification badge at all times. The Head Teacher/secretary will inform all staff when unknown visitors are on site who will then inform the pupils; all safeguarding procedures will apply. All visitors must sign in and out at the school office.

2.9.1 Note: All relevant tasks should be identified and allocated to an individual through part 2 (organisation) of this policy.

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### 3 Part 3 Arrangements for Implementation

#### 3.1 Distribution of Health and Safety Information

- i) The master copy of the Safety Policy, Risk Assessments, COSHH Assessments, Working Documents, Codes of Practice and guidance, etc will be kept between the Head Teacher's office/ Premises Manager's room and centrally in the main School Office. Each classroom and specified area of the school will also have an information folder, containing templates and proformas, to be used as a working document and point of reference. Staff are encouraged to refer to these documents and seek advice whenever they are considering health and safety issues;
- ii) A copy of the Safety Policy together with relevant documents concerning specific areas will be kept by the Premises Officer;
- iii) All staff will receive copies of the Safety Policy (Parts I to III) and will be expected to familiarise themselves with the contents. Where codes of practice, guidance and advisory booklets or leaflets are referred to in this policy copies can be found at the locations set out above.
- iv) The Head Teacher will issue updates, new guidance and approved revisions as soon as they become available.
- v) All new staff including part time, temporary and supply staff will be provided with a copy of the policy (parts I to III) and will receive induction training which will include relevant health and safety issues.
- vi) The Health & Safety Law poster is displayed in the staff room.

#### 3.2 Accidents, Dangerous Occurrences and Near Misses

- i) **Immediate first aid**  
Accidents involving injury or ill health effects will be notified immediately to the nearest first aider (see appendix 1) to facilitate first aid treatment. Where injuries are serious enough to warrant hospital treatment staff must telephone 999 for an ambulance to transport the patient to hospital, inform the next of kin and the Head Teacher.
- ii) **Completion of Accident Book**  
Staff should ensure that all accidents involving injury or ill health effects are notified to the School Office and/ or Head teacher with enough information to allow him/her to complete the Leicestershire County Council's accident database as appropriate. All staff dealing with minor incidents are expected to fill in the Accident form (with one copy kept in class and the other given to the School Office) and send letters home to parents.
- iii) **Internal Reporting and Investigation**  
A member of staff who witnesses, or is first on the scene or first to be informed of any accident, dangerous occurrence or near miss will complete the internal report form as soon as possible after the incident and send it to the Head Teacher. The Head Teacher will investigate all incidents reported by staff unless so trivial in nature that investigation is not warranted. Investigations will



involve consultation with Safety Representatives with the aim of identifying the cause and implementing preventative strategies.

iv) **Compliance with RIDDOR regulations**

The Head Teacher will determine which accidents and dangerous occurrences are required to be notified to the Health and Safety Executive under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995. The Head Teacher will complete the necessary report form (F2508) and, following consultation with the LA, send it to the enforcing authority within 15 days of the incident. In the event of a major injury or fatality the notification must be immediate, by telephone, with written confirmation (F2508) following as soon as possible.

**3.3 Asbestos (Refer to the Policy for the Management of Asbestos in Buildings Owned and/or Operated by Leicestershire County Council)**

- i) It is the policy of the Governing Body that no work of any kind shall be undertaken by any staff employed at the school on any material which either contains or may contain asbestos.
- ii) The Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 2012 require that all materials containing or having the potential to contain asbestos will be identified and their location marked. The survey to comply with these requirements will be carried out by the local authority property services department. A copy of the results of that survey will be kept by the responsible person i.e. The Head Teacher. All contractors must check available information in the School's Asbestos Survey before commencing work on site.

**3.4 Contractors**

**3.4.1 All Contractors will:-**

- i) observe their own health and safety policies and procedures
- ii) report to the Premise Officer and sign in at Reception on arrival
- iii) comply with the general requirements of the school health and safety policy particularly in relation to emergency procedures
- iv) examine the Asbestos Log prior to commencing any work on site
- v) comply with the requirements of the Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 1994
- vi) report to the Premise Officer and sign out at reception when leaving

**3.5 COSHH – Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002**

- i) Risk Assessments required under COSHH will be undertaken on all hazardous substances. These assessments will only be carried out by competent persons. For the purposes of this policy a competent person is one who has

- received sufficient training and has the knowledge and experience to make decisions about the risks and actions needed
- ii) In the vast majority of commercially available chemicals the presence of a warning label will indicate whether COSHH is relevant. Such labelling is required under the Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) Regulations 2002 (CHIP). These Regulations also require the supplier to provide a safety data sheet.
  - iii) COSHH also applies to biological agents connected to the workplace e.g. Legionellae, dust in harmful concentrations, pesticides not covered by CHIP and substances produced in chemical processes.
  - iv) Copies of COSHH risk assessments including actions required will be kept in accordance with Section 1 of this Part detailing the distribution of Health and Safety Information.
  - v) As a general principle it is the policy of the Governing Body that wherever possible safer alternatives be considered when purchasing hazardous substances

### 3.6 Display Screen Equipment

- i) The Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992 require employers to minimise the risks for staff who habitually use DSE as a significant part of their normal work.
- ii) Staff who habitually use DSE shall complete a DSE self -assessment in accordance with the Guidance on Regulations issued by the HSE. This self-assessment shall be repeated every two years.
- iii) Eye tests should be facilitated for those staff falling within the regulations in accordance with the above guidance.
- iv) Staff using DSE must ensure that the adjustable elements of their workstation are set to promote ease of use and comfort e.g. screen, mouse and keyboard position, height of seat, avoidance of glare and reflections, etc. More detailed information is available in the guidance and in the HSE leaflet “Working with VDU’s”.

### 3.7 Electricity at Work

3.7.1 The Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 requires that electrical installations be maintained to prevent danger.

- i) Fixed installations will be inspected and tested by the Council’s Building Services Department at 5 yearly intervals and in the event of a fault developing.
- ii) Portable equipment shall be checked in accordance with the guidance issued by the LA and summarised in their buildings file.
- iii) In addition to the safety checks detailed above staff using portable equipment should take notice of the condition of plugs and flexes each time a particular piece of equipment is used and should report any faults identified to the Head Teacher

## 3.8 Emergency Procedures

### 3.8.1 Evacuation

- i) Buildings will be evacuated in emergency situations such as suspected fire, bomb threat, gas leak or any other situation, which may cause an imminent risk to personal safety.
- ii) In the event of a suspected fire the alarms will be operated but in other cases such as a gas leak emergency contact procedures will operate to evacuate all buildings without sounding the alarms or operating any electrical equipment.
- iii) In all cases buildings will be evacuated by the nearest fire exit route that is safe to the approved assembly points identified in Appendix 1.
- iv) The Head Teacher and or in the absence of the Head teacher the next most senior member of staff will determine when it is safe to re-occupy the buildings.

### 3.8.2 Fire

- i) A Type 1 and Type 2 fire risk assessment must be in place and reviewed on a regular basis
- ii) All fire appliances will be checked at least annually by specialist maintenance personnel.
- iii) All fire stop doors must be free swinging at all times so that they are normally closed. Fire exit doors must be unlocked and easily accessible and openable from within the building.
- iv) The fire alarms will be tested on a weekly basis using a different call point each time and the results, including date and time, will be recorded.
- v) Fire Drills will be held once per half term, when the Fire Marshals will record the evacuation time and the general performance of the drill.
- vi) Appropriate members of staff will be trained how to use relevant fire appliances. The Head teacher will identify fire-training needs and will incorporate that information into the Health & Safety Training Plan.
- vii) Clear instructions must be issued to staff regarding the nearest fire call point, fire extinguisher, the means of escape and assembly points during fire drills. These instructions must be issued on the first day of employment as part of the induction process. Details of Fire Marshals and assembly points are set out in Appendix 1.

### 3.8.2 Bomb Threat

- i) In the event of a warning the Head teacher will institute emergency evacuation procedures. Personal belongings should be taken out at the same time if that can be achieved without causing undue delay. This will facilitate the search process.
- ii) Any suspicious objects should be reported to the Head Teacher. Under **no** circumstances should the object be touched or moved.

### 3.8.3 Chemical or Biological Incident

- i) Any chemical or biological incident within the school will be dealt with according to the scope and seriousness of the incident. Appropriate emergency procedures will be applied by the Premises Officer in consultation with the Head Teacher.

### 3.8.4 First Aid

- i) First Aid boxes will be maintained at the sites specified in Appendix 1 to this part.
- ii) It is the policy of the Governing Body that there will be sufficient numbers of trained First Aiders on the site at all times. Those with current certificated training are listed in Appendix 1 to this part. In consideration of Pupil safety it is recommended that additional First Aiders be provided, in accordance with the First Aid Risk Assessment.
- iii) A nominated "Appointed Person" for the purposes of the First Aid at Work Regulations 1981 and will ensure that first aid box contents are replenished
- iv) A record of treatment given must be maintained by the qualified first aider or appointed person and shall be used in conjunction with the accident reporting and investigation procedures as a means of accident prevention. In addition good records of initial treatment may be valuable if further medical attention is required, or if legal action is considered by those involved in an accident.
- v) External and internal contractors will maintain their own first aid boxes and provide their own trained first aiders, although they will be allowed to use the school first aid boxes in an emergency. In that event the nominated 'appointed person' must be notified so that replenishment can be organised.

### 3.9 Glass and Glazing

- i) Doors which can be pushed open from either side should have a viewing panel appropriate to users so that a clear view of the area close to both sides is allowed.
- ii) Where windows and transparent or translucent surfaces in walls, partitions, doors, etc. pose a risk of injury, they should be made of safety material or otherwise protected against breakage. (Refer to establishment glazing risk assessment)

### 3.10 Inspections, Monitoring and Audit and Review of Performance

#### 3.10.1 Inspection

- i) General inspections take place once per term by the Premises Officer with the assistance of the Headteacher as necessary and in consultation with the Safety Representatives;
- ii) In addition, staff in supervisory roles will carry out monthly checks on their area of operation, complete a monitoring sheet and report any problems to the Premise Officer.

### 3.10.2 Monitoring

- i) The schools 'Health and Safety Committee' falls within the remit and responsibility of the RM Committee and will always appear as an agenda item in their meeting plans. They will meet at least once per term and usually following the termly inspection so that any issues found can be addressed.
- ii) The Head teacher will monitor the school's performance on Health and Safety issues.
- iii) The Governing Body will receive a report on the review and audit of Health and Safety at least annually and will have a standard item on the agenda of each meeting for any Health and Safety issues arising.

### 3.10.3 Audit and Review of Performance

- 3.10.3.1 There will be a regular audit of all aspects of Health and Safety conducted by the Health, Safety and Wellbeing Service. Safety Representatives will be invited to participate in the audit process. Findings will be reported to the Governing Body.

### 3.10.4 Performance Standards

- 3.10.4.1 The school should set performance standard based on annual statistics. They will enable standards to be monitored and acted upon where needed.

### 3.11 Management of Health and Safety

- i) The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 and the relevant Code of Practice and Guidance will form the basis of the School health and safety system.
- ii) Risk assessments and safe systems of work will be developed and implemented in each section by competent persons with the assistance of the Premises Officer. These will be available to all employees in the locations set out in section 3.1 Distribution of health and safety information. Training will be given where necessary in accordance with the Health and Safety Training Plan which will be revised annually.
- iii) The Governing Body wishes to ensure that health and safety becomes an integral part of the daily operation of the School and to that end it is essential that all employees comply with Section 7 of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974. This section imposes duties on employees to take care of their own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by their actions or omissions. In demonstrating that care staff will be expected to follow advice and training given and to report to their immediate line manager any hazards, incidents or near misses.

### 3.12 Manual Handling

- i) Manual Handling causes over one third of all reported injuries. It is the policy of the Governing Body that management and staff will comply with the requirements of the Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 and the guidance issued by LA.
- ii) The general principles are to avoid manual handling wherever possible, to assess the risks where manual handling is necessary and to reduce those risks to the lowest level which is reasonably practicable.
- iii) Training will be a key part of reducing the risks for those staff involved in manual handling.
- iv) Manual handling risk assessments will be undertaken for manual handling tasks.

### 3.14 New Plant, Machinery and Equipment

- i) The relevant requirements are contained in the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1992 (PUWER). It is the responsibility of manufacturers and suppliers to ensure that any article is designed and constructed to be safe and without risk to health when properly used. They must give instructions to purchasers as to the way in which the article may be used safely. This information will then be given to employees during instruction on safe use.
- ii) Second hand articles or those belonging to staff will not be allowed to be used on site without the express permission of the Head teacher. He/She will not grant such permission unless he/she can be sure that all Health and Safety implications have been satisfied.

### 3.15 Noise at Work

- i) The Noise at Work Regulations 2005 require employers to assess and minimise the risks associated with exposure to high levels of noise there is an approved code of practice (L108) on the implementation of these regulations issued by the HSE.
- ii) In the School environment the circumstances where these regulations may apply are very limited. Assessments will be made on the noisiest activities to determine whether it is likely that they will apply e.g. grounds maintenance equipment.
- iii) As a general rule the regulations will not apply where noise levels are below 85dBA. Where trigger levels are exceeded an external competent person will be commissioned to carry out the required assessment.

### 3.16 Occupational Health

#### 3.16.1 Access to Occupational Health services

- i) The LA has an Occupational Health Service, which can provide confidential assistance on a wide range of matters affecting personal health.
- ii) Staff wishing to access this service should initially discuss the problem with the Head teacher, who will respect the privacy of the individual concerned.
- iii) Where the health of an individual is causing concerns for the health and safety of others, management reserve the right to refer that person to the occupational health service following consultation with the LA.

#### 3.16.2 Bullying

- i) Bullying of any employee will not be tolerated and will be regarded by the Governing Body as a disciplinary issue. Management in dealing with such incidents for addressing bullying will be developed and its contents will follow procedures.

#### 3.16.3 Drugs and Alcohol Policy

- i) Where it is apparent that the behaviour and performance of an individual is impaired by drugs, substance misuse or alcohol to the extent that there is a potential risk to the health and safety of others the matter will be dealt with in accordance with the approved Drugs and Alcohol Policy
- ii) Managers have the option of involving occupational health services following discussion with the individual concerned in an attempt to provide constructive assistance. In serious cases managers may involve disciplinary procedures.

#### 3.16.4 Health Surveillance

- i) It is not considered that any employees on site are subjected to continued exposure to any substances which are so hazardous as to require their health to be monitored.

#### 3.16.5 Health Promotion

- i) The Governing Body recognises that, whilst it will make every effort to provide a healthy workplace, it is the behaviour and personal choices of the employee that have the greatest impact on individual health. The 3 most important factors affecting health are smoking, diet and lack of regular exercise.
- ii) Assistance will be given wherever practical in relation to:

- a) smoking cessation courses
- b) encouraging healthy diet (healthy options available in school dining facilities)
- c) encourage staff to use the sporting and exercise facilities on site (where available)

### **3.16.6 Legionnaires Disease**

- i) Legionnaires disease is caused by ubiquitous bacteria which are present in water systems and when allowed to colonise and proliferate can cause serious outbreaks of disease. This is well recognised and an Approved Code of Practice (L8) has been issued by the HSE.
- ii) A legionella risk assessment will be undertaken on a regular basis and will form how the school manages the risk of water hygiene issues.
- iii) Whilst it has frequently been associated with cooling towers it is also common in showers, whirlpool baths, spray taps and virtually any water system capable of generating airborne droplets which can be inhaled.
- iv) The advice in the Approved Code of Practice will be followed on site. Specific actions will include removal of all shower heads and sterilising them prior to the commencement of each school year. Hot and cold water systems will be flushed through to remove any stagnant water from the system and storage tanks will be checked for any growth of algae. This will be undertaken by the Premises officer or the Council's Property Services Department.

### **3.16.7 New and Expectant Mothers**

- i) The guidance issued by the HSE in their booklet "New and expectant mothers at work – A guide for health professionals" will be followed.

### **3.16.8 Smoking Policy**

- i) The School Smoking Policy will be followed which means specifically that smoking is not allowed in any building where there is a risk of others being affected by passive smoking.

### **3.16.9 Stress at Work**

- i) Stress is becoming an increasingly important issue. The LA has produced a general guidance document entitled 'Stress at Work'. It is the policy of the governing body that is guidance is followed.

### **3.16.10 Violence at Work**

- i) Violence to any employee will be treated very seriously and the advice set out in the document issued by the HSE (violence at work – a guide for employers) will be adopted as the means of dealing with such incidents when they occur and in the development of strategies to minimise their occurrence.

## **3.17 Off site Educational Visits/Activities**



- i) It is imperative that the guidance manual issued by the LA is strictly adhered to.
- ii) A good practice guide has been issued by the DCS entitled “Health and Safety on Educational Visits” which must also be followed.
- iii) All visits to sites which involve overnight stays must be assessed and approved by the LA.
- iv) Any teacher wishing to participate in an off-site visit must follow the school policy and must submit a request for permission together with a risk assessment carried out by a competent person to the Head teacher at least 10 working days before the visit is due to take place.
- v) A good practice guide has been issued by the DCS entitled “Health and Safety on Educational Visits” which must also be followed.
- vi) Any teacher wishing to participate in an off-site visit must follow the school policy and must submit a request for permission, together with a risk assessment carried out by the competent person, to the Head Teacher- wherever possible, at least 10 working days before the visit is due to take place. Within this time-frame, Governors will also be made aware of any off-site trips/ visits.

### **3.18 Personal Protective Equipment**

- i) The requirements of the Personal Protective equipment at Work Regulations 1992 and the Guidance on Regulations issued by the HSE (L25) will be followed.
- ii) The circumstances where these regulations apply are fairly limited within school premises e.g. Science & Technology, but where risk assessment has identified that any personal protective equipment is necessary it will be supplied by the school. Employees must then ensure that it is worn at appropriate times.
- iii) Abuse of any PPE supplied is a direct offence under Section 8 of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

### **3.19 Safety Representatives/Safety Committee/Consultation**

- i) Under the Safety Representatives and Safety Committees Regulations 1977 employers must put in place arrangements to enable Safety Representatives to be consulted on appropriate health and safety issues.
- ii) The Health and Safety (Consultation with Employees) Regulations 1996 require employers to consult with representatives or directly with non-union employees.

- iii) Employers also have obligations under the Health and Safety (Information for Employees) Regulations 1989
- iv) The Governing Body will fulfil these obligations though the Head Teacher who will involve all staff including representatives in the development of health and safety. This policy details the methods of involvement including accompanied inspections, safety committee meetings, development of risk assessments, disseminating information and assisting in developing training needs.

### 3.20 **Site, Building and Staff Security and Safety**

#### 3.20.1 **Site**

- ii) The site should be securely fenced but where it is not possible to secure the whole site strategically placed CCTV cameras if appropriate will provide a deterrent to unauthorised access. A Risk Assessment for the perimeter fencing will be enforced
- iii) Doors will be secured with locks/key-pads, as will gates and the entrance to the pond.
- iv) No child will be permitted to open the main exterior doors to any person known or unknown; this is the responsibility of the adults in charge.
- v) Signs will be placed at all main entrance points requiring visitors to report to the school office before entering the site.
- vi) No child will be permitted to leave the site without prior written consent from a parent or carer. Any pupil leaving the site during school hours should be signed out/in by a parent or carer. A separate Risk Assessment will be enforced for Home-time procedures.
- vii) Any member of staff leaving the premises should make it known to the Head teacher and/or secretary; they should also report their return to school. When the Head teacher leaves (and returns) the school site, she will inform the next most senior member of staff, who will assume responsibility for the school in her absence; other staff will also be made aware as appropriate.
- viii) There will be designated areas on the playground/field for specific play activities, e.g. football, running. Pupils will be involved in Risk Assessments for safe play, e.g. using the climbing frames.
- ix) A separate, smaller play area is available for younger pupils if needed or is appropriate.
- x) Rules for safety around the school site will be an integral part of class discussions with all pupils at appropriate times during the school year.

#### 3.20.2 **Separation of Vehicular and Pedestrian movement**

- i) The Head Teacher will ensure that car parking arrangements including those for disabled persons do not compromise the safety of pedestrians.
- ii) The Head Teacher will ensure that when contractors are on site that their activities and vehicular movements do not compromise the safety of pedestrians.
- iii) The Head Teacher will ensure that deliveries are not made during break or lunch times or for 15 minutes prior to the opening and after the close of school in order to avoid peak pupil movement times.

- iv) Separate access will be delineated for pedestrian access which removes as far as reasonably practicable the risk of contact with moving vehicles
- v) A risk assessment will be undertaken for all vehicular movement on site.
- vi) It is the responsibility of all staff to ensure the safety of pupils in and around the access points to the school hall. The Head teacher will liaise with the dinner-delivery-driver regarding acceptable means of vehicular access and egress.
- vii) The drive to the school hall will not be for public use, i.e. disabled, emergency vehicles only; this includes pedestrians. Exceptions will be made with prior consent of the Head teacher, e.g. visiting teachers/coaches with equipment to unload; parents & toddlers walking down the drive rather than through a busy playground.

### 3.20.3 Staff

- i) Staff working either in isolated parts of the building and/or out of normal hours should follow the LA advice on “Working Alone Policy” where applicable.
- ii) Contract cleaning staff should sign in with the caretaker on commencement of work and sign out at the end of their shift.

### 3.20.4 Visitors

- i) Visitors must sign in at reception and will be issued with a visitor’s badge which must be returned on leaving the site.

## 3.21 Statutory Inspections and Examinations

- 3.21.1 Statutory inspections and examinations of boilers, pressure vessels lifting equipment and fire equipment will be carried out at statutory intervals by competent persons. The register of these will be held by the Premise Officer who will confirm that arrangements for inspection and examination are made by the due dates.

## 3.22 Supervision of Pupils

- 3.22.1 The Head Teacher shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that appropriate staff supervision is provided for pupils during lessons and off-site activities.
- 3.22.2 The Head Teacher shall take all reasonable steps to ensure appropriate supervision by duty staff at break time and lunch time.
- 3.22.3 All staff will share the responsibility for ensuring that pupils adhere to the school code of conduct in terms of their behaviour when moving between different parts of the buildings and site.
- 3.22.4 Staff supervising pupils in and around practical rooms i.e. sports hall will be responsible for ensuring that pupils behaviour is safe and in accordance with the school code of conduct.
- 3.22.5 In all cases a risk assessment should be conducted that will detail the numbers/ratio in relation to the activity and the individuals taking part in the task.

### 3.23 Training

3.23.1 All employees shall be instructed as to possible hazards which may occur at their place of work and shall receive such information, instruction and training as may be deemed necessary to enable them to do their work in a safe and efficient manner. Safety training will be incorporated into an annual plan which will be approved by the Governing Body.

3.23.2 The Training Plan will cover:-

i) **Induction Training**

Every effort must be made to ensure that all new staff receive appropriate induction training which should include making them aware of their statutory duties, emergency procedures, relevant risk assessments and an explanation of this policy. On the first day of employment the Safety Induction checklist must be completed and a copy of Parts I to III of this policy will be issued.

ii) **Management Training**

The Governing Body recognises that all sectors of management must receive the training necessary to enable them to effectively carry out their duties in the areas for which they are responsible.

iii) **Specialist Training**

The Head teacher will arrange specialised courses of training as appropriate for employees in the safety requirements of their duties. The need for such courses will have been identified in the Training Plan.

iv) **Fire Training**

All members of staff shall receive training on actions to be taken in the event of fire, advice on fire precautions and where necessary, practical training on the use of fire fighting equipment and alarms.

3.23.3 The school will follow Leicestershire County Competence Training and Awareness Policy to ensure that all staff have sufficient competence, training and awareness of the occupational health and safety risks associated with their work activities.

### 3.24 Visitors

3.24.1 Employees will ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to safeguard visitors and that they are made aware of emergency procedures.

3.24.2 In the event of an evacuation, visitors should accompany the employee they have come to see to the approved assembly point identified in Appendix 1.

### 3.25 Work Experience

3.25.1 The Head Teacher will ensure that all young persons under the age of 18 who are either employed by the school or gaining work experience have a suitable and sufficient risk assessment in place before they commence employment/the placement (ref to LEBC 'Extended Work Experience Agreement')