



Health and Safety Policy

Review Date: October 2021

Next Review Date: October 2022

Ethos Statement

Pakeman School offers a positive, safe learning environment for its community, in which everyone has equal and individual recognition and respect. We celebrate success and are committed to the continuous improvement and fulfilment of potential in every child. We encourage increasing independence and self-discipline amongst the pupils. Everyone within the school has an important role to play in sharing responsibility for the development of this policy.

Emma Bonnin
Headteacher

Date

Janet Convery
Chair of Governors

Date

Rationale

Our school is the working environment for many groups of individuals and plays host to many others. It is important, therefore, that a safe environment is established in which children and adults can work together with confidence. It is the responsibility of the senior management team and governing body to ensure this is the case.

In order to promote this we must all take responsibility for being vigilant and be aware of possible risks. Children and adults should be encouraged to look out for themselves and one another and share any concerns they may have swiftly and appropriately.

We must also, however, be aware of the need to keep a balance between security and safety and the maintenance of a comfortable, welcoming learning environment. This policy aims to address and provide guidance on this balance, identifying individual and group responsibilities.

Aims

- To provide a safe, secure and healthy working environment for staff, children and parents/carers.
- To encourage everyone to take responsibility for being vigilant and to be aware of possible risks whilst also feeling confident and comfortable within their environment.

Objectives

- Be vigilant around the school premises for intruders finding a balance between challenge and confrontational behaviour.
- Ensure there is sufficient information, instruction and supervision to enable all people and pupils to avoid hazards and to contribute to their own safety and health at work.
- Maintain electrical equipment to an appropriate standard and ensure a safe environment for handling, storing and transporting items.
- Administer appropriate procedures according to fire regulations.
- Have procedures in place for the safe administration of medicines and for dealing with accidents and illness.
- Maintain regular checks of the building and safety and security.
- Be aware of the pressures on staff and the possible effects which stress may have.
- Give guidance on lone working and personal safety.
- Lay down procedures to use if there is an accident.
- Give guidance on the use of images.
- Inform about what should be done in case of emergency.

Informing people of this policy

This health and safety policy is kept in the Policies Folder in the school office.

New members of staff receive health and safety information as part of the induction policy.

It is the responsibility of teachers to ensure that pupils are made aware of existing and new health and safety information.

Responsibilities of individual staff members

The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 requires governors and employees, according to their particular roles, to take the initiative on certain matters. The following list is a guide to the particular responsibilities that individuals have.

- Know the safety measures and arrangements to be adopted in their own working areas and ensure that they are applied
- Observe standards of dress consistent with safety and/ or hygiene
- Keep good standards of hygiene and cleanliness
- Know and apply the procedures in respect of emergencies
- Co-operate with other employees and the safety representative in promoting health and safety measures
- Report any hazard or breakage
- Follow health and safety instructions and use appropriate safety equipment and protective clothing
- Maintain safely tools and equipment
- Report any incidents, assaults or 'near misses'
- Set a good example to the children in their care
- Supervise pupils and ensure that they know about emergency procedures and safety measures
- Ensure that pupils' bags, coats and belongings are safely stowed away
- Include all relevant aspects of safety in the curriculum according to the science and PHSE curriculum.
- Make parents/carers volunteers aware of safety procedures in the classroom/ work area
- Give clear instructions and warnings as often as necessary
- Ensure that relevant risk assessments are completed and followed

Responsibilities of post-holders

Those responsible for others should ensure that:

- Members of their team are complying with health and safety regulations
- Draw the attention of the headteacher to any breach of procedure amongst their team which cannot be dealt with
- Supply teachers, temporary staff and new members of permanent staff are made familiar with health and safety procedures
- The headteacher or school site manager is informed if any difficulties occur and that near misses and accidents are reported and recorded
- They set a good example to members of their team and children
- They keep an overview of the parts of the premises for which they are responsible
- They keep up-to-date with new pieces of advice relating to health and safety
- They keep an overview of equipment and substances kept in their areas
- All donated equipment is safe for use, if necessary seeking specialist advice
- They complete necessary risk assessments and check that members of their team complete them when necessary
- They implement existing policies and follow advice and instructions

Responsibilities of the Governing Body

- Ensure the high profile of health and safety in relation to financial planning, personnel decisions and in-service training
- Ensure that policies relating to health and safety are in place and updated regularly
- Enable a member of the governing body to have a key monitoring role in relation to health and safety including a termly walk around the school building with the site manager and headteacher
- Approve as appropriate arrangements for residential trips according to LA guidelines
- Ensure that safety standards for purchased goods and equipment are met and that items offered for sale by the school are safe

Responsibilities of the Headteacher

- To ensure that the school meets as far as is reasonably practicable, the requirements of the health and safety legislation
- To regularly review the safety and security of the school building during an annual Governors' meeting
- To undertake risk assessments as and when required and review regularly
- To put into practice and monitor the procedures described in associated policies i.e. first aid, emergency, fire, reporting of defects
- To act upon referrals from employees
- To ensure staff and pupils comply with agreed procedures
- To record and inform relevant external agencies as and when appropriate
- To ensure access to this policy and other health and safety information as legally required
- Advise and inform the Governing Body as to health and safety practice, legislation and compliance
- To ensure that appropriate logs and records of incidents are completed and acted upon
- To ensure policies and employees are updated as to new legislation and guidance
- To ensure that employees have adequate training and information to enable them to act upon health and safety recommendations
- To ensure that temporary/ supply staff are informed of health and safety practice
- To meet with the health and safety representative of the governing body termly to discuss health and safety issues and 'walk the school'
- To report on any audits/ inspections to the governing body and follow-up any necessary actions
- To ensure that procedures are in place to ensure the safety of contractors and hirers
- To make sure that fire drills are held at least once per term and cover a variety of situations including the blocking of an exit, a child not registering and lunchtime evacuation
- To ensure that escape routes are kept clear and monitor on a daily basis for hazards and emerging issues effecting the health and safety of staff, pupils and visitors, immediately acting with a view to the highest priority the safety of all on site
- Ensure adequate first aid cover is provided

Responsibilities of visitors

Regular visitors and other users of the school will be required to observe the safety rules of the school. The headteacher will ensure that visitors are informed of health and safety matters which may affect them during their visit.

Parent/carers helping out in school will be made aware of the health and safety arrangements by the teacher who they are working with.

Groups of people who regularly hire the premises will be made aware of safety arrangements through our hiring leaflet and in discussion with the school bursar.

Health and Safety Procedures and Codes of Practice

The Governing Body and Headteacher have agreed that the following procedures/ codes of practice shall be followed within the school:

Defects

- 1) Any member of staff finding a defect in the building, furniture or equipment will take steps to remove the hazard or ensure that the risk is minimised and report the details immediately to the site manager or Headteacher
- 2) The site manager, in consultation with the Headteacher, if necessary, will take steps to have the defect rectified, i.e. by notifying a competent contractor
- 3) Details of the defect will be reported in the premises wimi, signed and dated
- 4) A faulty item or electrical item discarded by staff must also be removed from the Electrical Appliance Register by the site manager
- 5) The contents of the premises wimi will be checked daily by the site manager.

Accident reporting

All serious accidents that occur on the site should be recorded on Cpoms/Iris and the details forwarded immediately or as soon as is possible to Islington Council's Health and Safety Department. All minor accidents should be reported on Cpoms. Where necessary, parents/ carers or other persons should be notified of the accident.

If the accident is serious, senior management should be informed immediately and action taken to ensure the location of the accident is still safe to use.

Electricity

Electrical items are regularly PAT tested. All defective items are removed or repaired.

Staff should be vigilant for:

- Damage to plugs and switches
- Damage to leads
- Correctly fitted connectors
- Coloured insulation of the internal wires not showing at plug or appliance
- Damage to outer case of equipment
- Signs of overheating
- Signs of liquid spillage or entry of foreign materials, ventilation ports not blocked
- The appliance not being used for the purpose it was designed for

Pupils in years 5/6 are allowed to connect/disconnect electrical equipment (under supervision). Stage lighting is checked annually.

COSHH (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health)

Our school is alert to the need to limit the use of any hazardous substance and use alternative substances where possible. A file is kept in the school office. All COSHH materials have a data sheet which is kept in the school office.

All staff are reminded annually of COSHH materials.

The site manager is COSHH trained.

Asbestos

An asbestos register is available and shown to contractors prior to work beginning. This should be signed to confirm. An asbestos risk assessment is available. Further information is contained in the LA asbestos policy.

Access equipment

Staff are reminded that they should only use approved equipment to put up displays and access higher level shelving. Consideration should be given to the appropriate clothing and footwear necessary.

Risk assessments

Risk assessments must be completed whenever there is the possibility that a hazard or danger might be encountered as part of a school activity. A list of risk assessments are kept in the school office. These are reviewed when necessary,

Staff should inform senior management if they notice that any risk assessment appears dated or does not deal with the potential risks encountered. It is important to note that expectant mothers should be risk assessed and every off-site visit should be risk assessed.

Educational visits

Off-site educational visits are an important part of school life. Children benefit enormously from the opportunity to experience residential and 'days out' at selected venues. However, it is crucial that these visits are prepared well in advance, that risk-assessments are completed and that parents/carers, LA and school staff are involved in the preparation.

Our Educational Visits Coordinator, Ann Dwyer, will help to support the planning process of a school visit and will provide advice. Necessary arrangements, information and preparation are to be completed by the line manager responsible for the children experiencing the visit.

Pre-site visits are always recommended in order that staff can feel sure about potential risks involved and prepare alternative arrangements in the case of bad weather. Staff should also consult with colleagues who have previous experience of the venue or children involved.

All residential visits need approval from the LA and the headteacher.

Manual handling

All members of staff should be aware of manual handling activities involved in their day-to-day activities i.e. the movement of bundles of paper, the reorganisation of classroom furniture, the carrying of books, the movement of IT and music equipment.

Children should not be required to move heavy objects and should only move awkward objects with appropriate supervision.

Staff are reminded annually about correct posture when lifting and carrying equipment. All staff should alert senior members of staff if they feel that an action they are involved with is having an affect on their physical health and well-being.

PE equipment

The PE equipment is inspected annually. The site manager is responsible for overseeing this inspection and for keeping a weekly check of whether equipment is fit for purpose.

During PE lessons, careful consideration should be given to the use of apparatus. Staff should be particularly alert to the use of equipment with children with behavioural needs. It may be necessary for additional staff support to be given where there are concerns.

Work experience

We welcome work experience students. In order to make sure that their experience is beneficial it is important to:

- follow the work experience risk assessment
- ensure an appropriate match between the student and the activity
- ensure appropriate supervision at all times

Work experience students are co-ordinated by the 'Mentoring lead' (Rob Gutteridge). He is responsible for ensuring their induction and mentoring them whilst on site.

Contractors and visitors

All contractors and visitors entering the premises are required to sign in and wear a visitors' badge. They are alerted to important health and safety information. In addition, contractors are advised about the location of asbestos and asked to sign to acknowledge that they have received this information.

Fire

Fire drills are held termly and will on occasion include:

- the blocking of an exit
- the removal of a child to test effectiveness of register checks
- lunchtime drills

Responsibilities during fire drill

Headteacher	Supervision of evacuation
Deputy headteacher	Evaluation of procedures
Site manager	Training and guidance
Office staff	Calling the fire brigade
In class staff	Roll call
Office staff	Registers Checking visitors
Site Manager	Completing fire drill report

Responsibilities for class teachers

During the first day of school all classteachers should explain to children what the procedure is should the fire bell sound. This should include information about:

- Fire exit to be used
- Assembly point
- Action on discovering a fire
- Keeping gangways clear

Fire exit to be used – is the nearest available exit. Please also make note of alternative exits should this one be blocked.

Assembly point – is on the playground standing in registration groups. Where children have been in sets or working in other groups, they should return to their registration group for roll call.

Action on discovering a fire – children inform someone immediately and should never try to put a fire out themselves.

Keeping gangways clear – children should be reminded about hanging coats and bags out of the way

Reporting – registers will be taken out on to the playground by office staff and handed over to classteachers. Once the register has been checked teachers should let the office staff know that the class are all present.

The same procedure will be used in the event of another emergency where evacuation of the school building is needed. For further information see 'Emergency procedure' document. This also provides information about the notification of staff, parents and LA in the event of school closure.

Tests and checks

Daily (Site Manager)	On arrival Exits and routes to remain unobstructed Exit doors unlocked Main fire panel working On leaving Exit and windows adequately secured All fire doors closed
Weekly (Premises Manager)	Test fire alarm systems and record in caretaker's log Test one alarm each week on a rota
Monthly	Check extinguishers are in the correct place

(Premises Manager)	
Termly (the headteacher)	Fire drill – on occasions to include the blocking of an exit, removal of a child and lunchtime evacuation
Six monthly (premise manager)	Check emergency lighting and record in log
Annually (landlord)	Test fire alarm system Check door closers all in order Annual inspection of fire extinguishers

Fire notices are contained in each room.

Key holders

The only key holders are the site manager and the headteacher.

Personal security

The school, as a responsible employer, does not expect any employee to go into a dangerous situation for which he / she is not prepared. If you think you may be exposing yourself to danger in entering a building or site you should not do so.

Key holders responding to an alarm

Please note:

- Always assume an alarm is genuine
- If possible, speak to anyone who has drawn your attention to the alarm or incident to find out if they have any information about what may be happening
- Take a torch with you
- Take a mobile phone
- Tell someone where you are going and how long you are likely to be

If police are attending the incident then wait for the police to arrive before entering the site.

If the police are not attending:

- Never confront an intruder or approach or enter a building if you think an intruder may be in there. Call the police and wait outside
- Do not enter or approach a building on your own if you are concerned for your safety
- Check from outside of the school and at a distance to see whether there are any signs of an intrusion
- Check whether there are any unexpected vehicles in the area
- Make sure you have a mobile phone to summon help if necessary

Staff working alone in the building

If you are working alone in the building or in an isolated situation, take the following precautions:

- Tell somebody where you are and what time you will be home
- Ensure that entrances are secure – ensure that the main entrance is bolted and that you can get out of another door in case of an emergency without using a key
- If you are the last member of staff to leave ensure that the door through which you leave locks behind you

- If anyone suspicious attempts to enter the building or you see or hear anything suspicious contact the police using the telephone in the headteacher's room, main office or mobile phone
- Always be alert when leaving the building

Key holders managing lettings

- As far as possible only open up the part of the building which has been hired
- For locking up, return to the building before the hirers leave
- Check the areas for any hidden intruders before the hirers leave

Leaving an empty building

- Carry out locking up and security checks from the inside of the building wherever possible
- Start the locking up process while there are still staff inside the building
- Set all alarms
- Always be on the alert when leaving an empty building in case someone is waiting for you to do so

In the event of trespassers

Where a person is not immediately recognised as having legitimate reason to be on the school grounds they should be politely asked if they need any help. Assuming the person seems to have a valid reason they should be directed towards the office where they will be asked to sign in and out and be given a visitor's badge.

If it emerges that the person has no right to be on school premises then

- They should be asked to leave by the nearest exit and observed until they do so
- The most senior member of staff available should be informed

If an intruder refuses to leave, becomes abusive or seems to present a threat to the safety of others, the police should be called without delay.

If you feel in anyway threatened do not approach but find a safe place and call the police. Don't try to physically remove trespassers from the site or engage in arguments with them. Make your point, withdraw and call the police.

In the event of a break in on site

Remember personal safety is far more important than the protection of property.

1. Ensure that if children are still on site any available barriers e.g. locked / security doors, are put into operation
2. Alert colleagues who should call emergency services and seek assistance
3. Monitor the intruders and check their progress

In the event of an abusive parent/ carer

Make sure any meeting with any adult whom you suspect may turn abusive is conducted in a room that can easily be monitored and with members of staff within easy reach. Always request that an additional member of staff meets with the parent/carers depending upon circumstances.

Should a parent / carer become abusive they should be asked to leave the premises in a calm and non-threatening way. It might be appropriate for a member of staff to alert the police should the adult refuse to leave or if their behaviour is causing concern in any way.

If any incident has occurred an incident form should be completed and it may be necessary to inform the governors and/ or LA for further action to be taken. Make sure you attend to your own emotional needs following any incident and seek help and support if necessary. In the case of an employee support should be offered following an incident.

In the event of it being suspected that a pupil is carrying a weapon

As a general rule, the police should be called to deal with any incident believed to involve a weapon. There may be exceptions where the circumstances appear to be wholly innocent and the matter can be dealt with on a disciplinary basis. If in any doubt, call the police.

In exceptional circumstances staff may decide that they need to take action before the police arrive. Where possible, staff should not confront a pupil in the presence of other pupils. Preferably two or more members of staff should divert the pupil or person to a place where no other pupils are present.

Reporting Incidents

Use Cpoms to report all incidents, however, minor, including all alarm responses. Use Iris for any serious child or staff incidents. All trespass incidents are reported to the Local authority. In addition, any occurrence where individuals are, or feel threatened must be reported to the police and the LA, as it is a serious matter.

First Aid

Responsibilities

All staff have had basic first aid training.

The paediatric first aiders are: All EYFS staff, all office staff and playcentre leads.

Although these people can be requested for advice and support during the school day, it is asked that discretion is used as to the frequency and timing of any interruptions to their normal school duties.

Equipment

The first aid box is kept in the school office. It contains only approved equipment, together with guidance on the treatment of injured people. It also contains latex gloves, which must be used for first aid treatment, particularly if blood is present. This is to eliminate the risk of HIV virus infection.

For the supervising of an out-of-school visit there is a first aid bag available – staff must ensure that this is taken on a trip.

Support staff on that level should check and replenish stocks as necessary.

All classes and halls have a first aid box.

Procedures

In case of concern about the health of an individual the following precautions should be followed:

1. the child is checked by a qualified first aider
2. the injury/ concern is checked and an assessment made of the level of treatment needed
3. a decision will be communicated to the classteacher and/or office manager as necessary

4. parents/carers are informed when necessary

Levels of action include

- treatment on school premises for minor ailments/ accidents – Cpoms
- parents/carers are contacted immediately in the case of head injuries – Cpoms – LA informed if sufficiently serious
- if parents/carers are unavailable and the injury is considered to be sufficiently serious then removal to hospital by school staff – Cpoms/ Iris
- if a very serious injury or there is any uncertainty about the level of severity an ambulance will be called immediately and parent/carer informed

In each case every attempt should be made to:

- check the injury to the best of our ability
- inform the relevant people in the case of more serious incidents. This includes:
 - the headteacher
 - the parents/carers
 - the key paediatric first aiders
- keep accurate records of the injury, events leading up to the injury and actions subsequently
- err on the side of caution
- consider the needs of the child as central to all actions

Medication training

Our school will take reasonable steps to store medicines and make them reasonably available to children. There are, however, no legal or contractual requirements for staff to administer medication. Both office staff have had training in how to administer medication. If children cannot manage, parents/carers should be offered the facility of coming in to school. If this is not possible, first aid staff may volunteer to help. Any member of staff volunteering should have the necessary training made available. Where, regular, demanding needs are required to be met, special arrangements may be made.

The following points should be noted where children are administering their own medicine:

- There should be written instructions on the medicine container or from parents or other competent authority to indicate when the medicine is to be taken and how much constitutes a normal dose
- Medicines should be kept in the office.
- Half termly checks should be made to ensure that no medicines have been left in the cupboard beyond the period of administration. Whenever possible no medication should be discarded in school but rather sent home in the same way they were originally brought to school.
- All medicines should be clearly labelled with the child's name on both the outer and inner containers where appropriate.
- Children should not remove their medicines from the offices when doses are being taken
- Two members of staff should observe a child taking their medicine and sign to record that this has taken place

Where a first aider has volunteered to administer medicine:

- Phone consent should be obtained from parents/carers
- All medication given should be documented

Smoking

To help ensure that we offer pupils, staff and visitors a safe, secure and healthy environment our school has adopted a no smoking policy, which covers the school and playgrounds.

Health and safety during science experiments

The use of practical equipment during science lessons is encouraged. We recognise the benefits of children being given the opportunity to conduct experiments for themselves. Safety rules for conduct during these opportunities include:

- be sensible during the experiment
- follow instructions immediately
- only touch equipment when you are told to
- carry equipment with care and always walk
- make sure any equipment used is returned carefully
- inform your teacher of any breakages
- if you're not sure – ask!

All experiments should be carefully planned and prepared for. Preparation should include:

- consideration of staffing levels
- consideration of group mix and children with special needs
- room dynamics
- a risk assessment according to the materials and equipment to be used

Where there are any concerns or queries the science coordinator should be consulted.

Swimming lessons

The 'duty of care' is shared between the class teacher and swimming instructor whilst the pupils are on the poolside.

Medical considerations

Children with colds, open wounds, sores should be excluded from the water. School medical records should be checked carefully and any relevant medical disabilities reported in writing to the swimming instructor. Children with asthma should ensure that they bring their inhaler.

Supervision

- Children should go to the toilet and have clean feet before going onto the poolside.
- Children and teachers should not chew anything during the lesson.
- There should be no outdoor footwear on the poolside and all staff must carry a whistle.
- Children are not allowed to run on the pool surrounds and staff must not turn their back on the class.
- All children and staff must understand the pool emergency procedure.

Class size

It is not expected that there should be more than thirty learners per teacher.

Poolside

Teachers must have a whistle and use this to alert the staff to any difficulties.

The lifeguard is there to ensure the safety of all pool users and should not be unnecessarily distracted.

In the event of a rescue being effected all teachers should assume responsibility for removing their class from the water and take direction from the pool staff or Duty Manager.

Emergency evacuation

The fire alarm is the signal to evacuate. Staff must evacuate the pool and assemble swimmers by the nearest fire exit.

Under no circumstances should children be taken to the changing areas to collect their belongings. Teachers are responsible for ensuring their class is fully accounted for by taking a register.

Photographs and Videos

This policy has the intention of protecting children from the misuse of photographic images. It aims to enable safe practice to continue and allow for the use of pictures, both still and moving, where permission is given and there are educational or recreational benefits.

All parents/carers:

- Will be asked for to complete a photograph permission for the taking of photographs by the media.
- Will be reminded that assemblies and concerts may be photographed and videoed and as such any concerns they have should be expressed to the concert organiser prior to the event. Parents will be asked to refrain from taking photographs or videos where it is known that permission has not been given for one of the participating children.
- Will be reassured that videos and photographs taken within school by school staff will be used for educational purposes and that care will be taken that images respect the self-esteem of the children concerned and are not used to illustrate sensitive or negative issues.

On entry to our school:

- Parents/carers will be informed of school policy and permission requested for use of pictures within the establishment.

Should the situation arise:

- Parents/carers will be asked prior to specific events if they are happy for their child's picture to be taken by the media for use as agreed between the media and the school.

Health and well-being of staff

In order to help prevent stress and to provide the best working environment for the health and well being of staff we recommend:

- that times of meetings are aimed at limiting the length of time and frequency with which staff need to remain in school
- that length of meetings is agreed and where possible adhered to
- that notice is given of cancellations
- that consideration is always given to time scale to enable a reasonable amount of time to be given for completion of a task before the deadline
- that deadlines can be negotiated in extenuating circumstances
- that consideration is always given to workload and that no individual, regardless of level of authority, is expected to complete an unreasonable amount in a limited time
- that no meeting is scheduled on Fridays after school
- that where possible INSET days also allow for inter-phase/ year work and meetings
- that PPA is regular and reliable
- that TAs are deployed to support teachers where possible

Stress

Hopefully, the practices recommended above should help prevent stress. In some cases this may not happen and staff should be alerted to some common effects of stress. These include:

- high level of anxiety
- low self-esteem
- inability to concentrate
- being more prone to accidents
- headaches/ migraine
- depression
- panic attacks
- chest pains
- stomach problems
- relationship problems

Colleagues should be alert to signs of stress in themselves and one another and should take steps to address these as they occur. Methods for dealing with stress might include:

- sharing concerns with colleagues
- prioritising workload
- learning to say 'no'
- taking up a new hobby or sport

- sharing feelings with people at home
- ensuring that some time every week is set aside for relaxation
- discussing responsibilities with a senior colleague and perhaps negotiating deadlines
- pay attention to diet and ensure that you eat healthily and regularly

It is important that we create in school an environment which welcomes the sharing of problems and concerns and offers support and advice as needed. If symptoms persist staff should contact a GP and concerns should be discussed with a senior colleague.

Monitoring arrangements

The governors will call for annual reports on:

- accidents/ incidents
- results of internal or external health and safety inspections
- complaints
- summary of 'walk about' information from health and safety link Governors