



Essendon C of E (VC) Primary School

Encouraging everyone's light to shine (Matthew 5:16)

Health and Safety Policy

Policy number: FP01

Frequency of Review: 1 year

Date of Ratification: March 2023

Ratified by: Finance and Premises Committee

Date of Next Review: March 2024

This policy has been adapted from the Herts for Learning model policy.

PART 1. STATEMENT OF INTENT

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

This policy 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 all members of staff via the Staff Handbook. A copy is saved in the Teachers Shared/Policies folder. Governors have access to this policy via Governhub. A paper copy can be requested at the school office.

This policy and the accompanying organisation and arrangements will be reviewed annually.

PART 2. ORGANISATION

As the employer, the Local Authority ("LA") has overall responsibility for Health and Safety in 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 systems should adhere to the LA's health and safety policy, procedures and standards as detailed on the H&S pages of the [Hertfordshire Grid](#) and follow the HSE's '[Managing for health and safety](#)' (HSG65) (hse.gov.uk), namely:

- **Plan**-set the strategic direction for effective H&S management.
- **Do**-ensure management systems deal with risks sensibly, responsibly and proportionately.
- **Check**-monitoring and reporting processes are in place to ensure the school is compliant.
- **Act**-undertake a formal review of health and safety performance.

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

The school's health and safety governor is Mr Jan Bedregeanu.

The Governing body will receive regular reports from the Headteacher or other nominated member of staff 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. LA 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 and 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.

Responsibilities of other staff holding posts of special responsibility

- 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 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 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 at all times.
- 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.
- 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.ARRANGEMENTS

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

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APPENDIX 1

RISK ASSESSMENTS

General Risk Assessments

The school conducts and documents risk assessments for all activities presenting a significant risk. These are co-ordinated by the Head teacher following guidance contained on the H&S pages of the [Hertfordshire Grid](#)

Risk assessments are available for all staff to view and are held centrally in the Headteacher's Office and electronically in Teachers Share/Health & Safety/Risk Assessments. 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.

As part of the review process previous versions of risk assessments are clearly dated and securely kept. Risk assessment records will be kept for a minimum of 5 years (any relevant risk assessments linked to pupil incidents and subsequent investigations will be retained for a minimum of 3 years after their 18th Birthday).

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 the Head teacher. 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 Subject Leaders using the relevant codes of practice and model risk assessments detailed below. Whenever a new scheme of work is adopted or developed all activities are checked against these and significant findings incorporated into long term, medium term or weekly planning as appropriate.

All LA schools have a subscription to CLEAPSS (www.cleapss.org.uk) and their publications are used as sources of model risk assessment within science, art and DT. In addition, the following publications are used within the school as sources of model risk assessments:

- Be Safe! Health and Safety in primary science and technology, 4th Edition ASE ISBN 978-0-86357-426-9
- National Society for Education in Art & Design (NSEAD) www.nsead.org/hsg/asp
- Safe Practice in Physical Education and School Sport Association of PE 'afPE' www.afpe.org.uk

OFFSITE VISITS

The LA has adopted the Outdoor Education Advisory Panel's 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/>

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

The member of staff planning the trip will submit all relevant paperwork and risk assessments relating to the trip to the school's Educational Visits Co-ordinator who will check the documentation and planning before submitting the risk assessment to the Headteacher for approval.

HEALTH AND SAFETY MONITORING AND INSPECTION
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A general inspection of the site will be conducted at least termly and be undertaken by the Headteacher, Chair of Governors and Health and Safety Governor if available.

A written report will be completed and circulated to governors. Responsibility for following up items detailed in the safety inspection report will rest with the Headteacher and Health and Safety Governor.

The Health and Safety Governor will be involved in an audit of the school's health and safety management systems on an annual basis and report back to both the relevant sub-committee and full governing body meetings.

Advice and pro forma inspection checklists can be found on the Grid.

FIRE EVACUATION AND OTHER EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring the school's fire risk assessment is undertaken by a competent person and implemented following guidance contained in the in ['Fire safety risk assessment; Educational premises'](#) and the [Grid](#)

The fire risk assessment is located in the school's fire log book and will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Emergency Procedures

Fire and emergency evacuation procedures are detailed in the Staff Handbook 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.

Evacuation procedures are also made available to all contractors / visitors.

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

Emergency contact details are maintained by the Office Manager and updated to the LA via Solero.

Key holder details are maintained by the Headteacher on an ongoing basis.

Fire Drills

- Fire drills will be undertaken termly and results recorded in the fire log book.

Fire Fighting

- 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 firefighting equipment and receive basic instruction in its correct use at induction.

Details of service isolation points:

Gas – by the main school gate

Water – in the pavement outside the school

Electricity – in the plant room on the main corridor

Details of chemicals and flammable substances on site.

An inventory of these will be kept by the Office Manager as appropriate, and kept in the school office for consultation.

INSPECTION /MAINTENANCE OF EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

The Headteacher 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 the School Office.

FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

Fire alarm call points will be tested weekly in rotation. This test will occur on Fridays after school.

Any defects on the system will be reported immediately to the alarm contractor Island Fire Protection Ltd, 0800 7311 450.

A fire alarm maintenance contract is in place with Island Fire Protection Ltd and the system tested regularly by them.

FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT

Weekly in-house checks that all firefighting equipment is available for use and operational and for any evidence of tampering.

Island Fire Protection Ltd 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 Island Fire Protection Ltd

MEANS OF ESCAPE

Daily checks will be made for any obstructions on exit routes and ensures all final exit doors are operational and available for use.

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):

Not required as less than 50 staff

TRAINED TO EYFS STANDARD (PAEDIATRIC FIRST AID, 2 days/12 hrs):

Tracy O'Connor, Katie Holding, Terri Jenner

TRAINED TO EMERGENCY FIRST AID AT WORK (1 DAY/6 HRS):

Ellie Moore (Office anager)

OTHER TRAINING IN EMERGENCY FIRST AID (6 hr):

None

First aid qualifications remain valid for 3 years. Ellie Moore 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:

In each classroom and next to the photocopier.

AEDs (automated external defibrillators) ARE LOCATED AT THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

DfE intending to provide a defibrillator to all schools without one by end of 22/23 academic year. Currently no mandatory requirement for schools to purchase a defibrillator it continues to be dependent on your own risk/needs assessment.

Tina Wilkinson is responsible for regularly checking (termly) that the contents of first aid boxes including travel kits are complete and replenished as necessary.

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 111) and, in the case of pupil with the parents/carers.

Administration of medicines

All medication will be administered to pupils in accordance with the DfE document "**Supporting Pupils At School With Medical Conditions**"

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.

Tina Wilkinson 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 Tina Wilkinson.

All non-emergency medication kept in school is securely stored in the school office. Refrigerated medicines are kept in clearly labelled containers within the staffroom fridge. Tina Wilkinson will ensure that 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 either in the classroom or, for younger pupils, at the school office and clearly labelled.

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 will be put 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 the child enrolls/on diagnosis, being communicated to the school and will be reviewed annually by the Office Manager.

All staff are made aware of any relevant health care needs and copies of health care plans are available in the school office.

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

All employee accidents, no matter how minor, must be reported to HCC using the online accident reporting system hosted on Solero.

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

A local accident book in the school office is used to record all minor incidents to non-employees, more significant incidents as detailed below must also reported to the LA 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.

All major incidents will be reported to the Headteacher and Health and Safety Governor. Parents / carers will be notified immediately of all major injuries. 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.

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).

Any incident notified to the HSE must also be reported to the Education Health and Safety Team.

HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION & TRAINING

Consultation

The Finance and Premises Committee meets half-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. Employees and/or their representatives will be consulted on all matters that affect their health, safety and welfare

Communication of Information

Detailed information 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 the staffroom.

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;
- updated 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.)
- refresher training where required.

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

Training records will be kept in / by the school office. The head teacher 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.

Each member of staff is also responsible for drawing the Headteacher's or their 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 notify the Headteacher.

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.

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. Keys are held by the Headteacher, and all teaching staff.

PREMISES AND WORK EQUIPMENT

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

The Headteacher 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 labelled accordingly.

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 by the Office Manager (Key areas for compliance are outlined on the [Grid](#) and the DfE's [Good Estate Management for schools](#))

Curriculum Areas

Subject leaders are responsible for ensuring maintenance requirements for equipment in their areas are identified and implemented.

Electrical Safety

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

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 Cambs-PAT.

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.

A fixed electrical installation test (fixed wire test) will be conducted on a 5 year cycle. An annual inspection and 20% physical test of wiring will be undertaken annually in order to provide a full set of results over a 5 year period.

External play equipment

External play equipment will only be used when appropriately supervised. This equipment will be checked daily before use for any apparent defects, and the Headteacher will conduct a formal termly inspection of the equipment. PE and Play equipment is subject to an annual inspection by John Harrison.

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) Subject Leaders 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 school’s nominated person responsible for substances hazardous to health is the Headteacher.

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.
- where required COSHH risk assessments are conducted and that these assessments are seen and understood by those staff that are exposed to the product/substance.
- all chemicals are appropriately and securely stored out of the reach of children.
- all chemicals 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.

Records of exposure to hazardous substances in the workplace should be kept for up to 40 years.

PPE

All staff required to wear PPE will be provided with suitable information, instruction and training in its use and will use PPE provided accordingly, reporting any defects to their manager.

Where persons may be affected by their use on site, the Office 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*).

ASBESTOS

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 2nd October 2012.

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

The Headteacher will ensure that all school staff (including those such as catering and cleaning staff who may be employed by others) are made aware of the location of asbestos containing materials (ACM) within their work areas.

Under no circumstances must staff drill or affix 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 the Headteacher who will contact HCC's asbestos team asbestos@hertfordshire.gov.uk.

The school's asbestos authorising officer is Belinda Canham. Refresher training is required on a three-yearly cycle.

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, the asbestos authorising officer **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).
- 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 and that any asbestos works (removal, new project specific surveys, etc.) are notified to the LA via asbestos@hertfordshire.gov.uk

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 the school office 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. See the school's "Contractors Working on Site Policy" for further details.

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

School Managed projects

The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015¹ apply to all building, demolition, repair and maintenance or refurbishment work.

Where the school undertakes projects directly the governing body are considered the 'client' and therefore have additional statutory obligations.

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 www.thegrid.org.uk/info/premises/property.

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.

¹ 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 contractor must be appointed in writing by the client) it is recommended that an agent be used to work on the school's behalf.

WORK AT HEIGHT

Working at height can present a significant risk. 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 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 <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 staff, drama, ICT technician etc. See also LA455 – The Ladder Association.

The establishment's nominated person(s) responsible for work at height is the Headteacher.

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 and all equipment is regularly inspected and maintained;
- any risks from fragile surfaces are 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.

All manual handling activities which present a significant risk to the health and safety of staff, will be reported to the Headteacher 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

No staff member will move or handle pupils without having received appropriate training. All staff either have or are expected to complete Herts Steps training which outlines the techniques used at Essendon for the general moving and handling of people. Any staff member who either has not yet completed this training or who has been assessed as not competent to move and handle people will not do so.

For any pupil requiring more specialist training, including in the use of lifting equipment, hoists, slings, etc, an individual plan will be put in place and specific training given to staff working with that pupil. Equipment for moving and handling people 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 the [Grid](#)

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.

The vehicle access gate must not normally be used for pedestrian access. The gate normally remains closed. The bus which transports children from and to the traveller site opens and closes the gate each time on entering/leaving the school car park.

STRESS / WELLBEING

The school and governing body are committed to promoting high levels of health and well-being and recognise the importance of identifying and reducing workplace stressors through risk assessment, in line with the HSE and HCC's management standards.

There is a clear staffing structure with lines of responsibility. This is detailed in the Staff Handbook. Each member of staff also has a named appraiser. This ensures that all staff are aware of who they can go to should any issues arise, whether this be the Headteacher or another member of staff.

During the performance management process, there are regular opportunities for staff to comment on their workload, and whether or not they are happy. If staff are not happy this is taken into account when target setting for the following year. Staff also have the opportunity to raise their views at staff meetings or in strictest confidence with the Headteacher at any time.

LEGIONELLA

The school complies with advice on the potential risks from legionella as identified in the Grid.

A water risk assessment of the school has been completed on 16th July 2016 by Clearwater. The Headteacher 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 where significant changes have occurred to the water system and/or building footprint.

The risks from legionella are mitigated by basic operational controls. The following measures are in place to mitigate the risks.

- All cold water tanks have been removed and replaced with mains water alternatives.
- Weekly flushing of seldom used outlets and all showers (with all outlets flushed after school holiday periods).
- Quarterly disinfection / descaling of showers

SCHOOL SWIMMING

Primary school in public places

These will be planned as an offsite visit in line with the school's policy. The school will obtain a copy of the pool's normal operating procedure (NOP) and emergency evacuation plan (EAP) which identify the safety arrangement for the host pool.

In addition the school will obtain assurance over:

- The level of training of the swimming teacher(s) (Swim England level 2 Teaching Swimming (formerly ASA level 2));
- Pupil / swimming teacher ratios;
- Rescue / lifeguard provision provided;
- Changing provision / arrangements

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