



## **Health and Safety Policy**

**September 2020**

<b>Formally adopted by the Governing Board of:-</b>	<b>Buxton Primary School</b>
<b>On:-</b>	<b>September 2020</b>
<b>Chair of Governors:-</b>	<b>Kathryn Curtis</b>
<b>Last updated:-</b>	<b>September 2020</b>
<b>Review Date:</b>	<b>September 2021</b>

# Buxton Primary School

## Part 1: Governing Board Statement of Intent

Effective health and safety management is integral to delivering our ambition for excellence in education and our performance as a school. Our overall objective is to provide and maintain a safe and healthy environment for our staff and pupils and others with whom we work.

We will achieve this by:

- Developing and maintaining a positive health and safety culture with an emphasis on continually improving our performance taking into account human and cultural factors
- Ensuring that health and safety management is an integral part of decision making and organisational processes
- Adopting a sensible and proportionate approach to managing risks, with well informed decision making processes for higher risk activities and ensuring a disproportionate amount of time is not spent on trivial or everyday risks
- Providing a safe and healthy working environment for our staff, pupils and others working in the school
- Ensuring safe working methods are in place and providing safe equipment.
- Communicating and consulting with our staff and their trade union representatives
- Complying with statutory requirements and where possible best practice
- Investigating and learning the lessons from accidents and work related ill health incidents
- Providing effective information, instruction and training to enable our staff to be competent in their roles
- Monitoring and reviewing systems and preventative measures to make sure they are suitable, sufficient and effective
- Ensuring adequate resources are available to fulfil our health and safety responsibilities and objectives
- Working with and monitoring our contractors to ensure consistent and comparable health and safety standards

We recognise that overall responsibility for health and safety lies with all levels of management having direct responsibility for activities and staff under their control. However, all staff have a legal and moral responsibility to take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and for others who may be affected by their acts or omissions.

**Name of Chair of Governors: Kathryn Curtis**

**Date: September 2020**

**Review date: September 2021**

## Part 2: Responsibilities and Organisation

### Introduction

To comply with the Governing Board's Statement of Intent the following responsibilities have been assigned:

**The Governing Board** is responsible for ensuring that suitable organisational arrangements are in place for the management and control of health and safety within the school. In particular, we will ensure that:

- A written policy statement is created and communicated which promotes a positive attitude towards health and safety in staff and pupils
- Responsibilities for health, safety and welfare are allocated to specific people and those people are informed of these responsibilities
- A lead governor for health and safety is nominated (David Hagan-Palmer)
- People have sufficient experience, knowledge and training to perform the tasks required of them
- Clear procedures are created which assess the risk from hazards and produce safe systems of work
- Sufficient funds are allocated to operate safe systems of work
- Health and safety performance is monitored and targets for improvement are set
- The school's health and safety policy is reviewed annually
- Our management of health and safety considers the needs of anyone with a protected characteristic under the Equalities Act

**The Headteacher** is responsible for all staff and activities under their control and will ensure that the requirements of relevant safety policies and procedures are implemented and complied with. In particular, they will:

Be fully committed to the Governing Board's Statement of Intent, ensuring that a positive health and safety culture is demonstrated and promoted through their leadership.

Ensure that appropriate risk assessments are undertaken by competent persons and that suitable control measures are taken on a risk basis to manage the health and safety risks to staff and any other people who may be affected by the school's activities

- Monitor and review health and safety performance through:
  - Undertaking health and safety inspections of work areas/practices in line with relevant policy

- Setting health and safety targets and objectives through appraisals and other supervisory reviews
  - Reviewing incidents and accidents
  - Monitoring commissioned and contracted work under their control for compliance
  - Ensure that the management of health and safety in the areas under their control considers the needs of anyone with a protected characteristic under the Equalities Act
- Develop safe systems of work and procedures and ensure that they are implemented
  - Ensure prompt action is taken to resolve any situations that may adversely affect the health and safety of staff or other people
  - Ensure that they undertake all relevant training and staff are given adequate information, instruction, training and supervision to carry out their duties, paying particular attention to new/inexperienced employees and trainees
  - Ensure that all plant and work equipment provided is: selected through a risk assessment process, suitable, properly maintained and subject to all necessary tests and examinations
  - Ensure that accidents and incidents (including near misses and violence and aggression) are reported and investigated and the findings acted upon without delay
  - Ensure there are meaningful, effective arrangements in place for consulting employees and their trade union representatives on health and safety matters that affect them
  - Ensure information that may assist safety representatives in their role is provided to them When commissioning work through partners and contractors, ensure that they are selected and managed in line with statutory requirements and Council policy
  - Ensure that they seek timely assistance and advice where expert help is required from the Health, Safety and Well-being team
  - Report to the Governing Board at least annually on the school's health and safety performance

**Lead Governor for Health and Safety** has the following responsibilities:

- To be fully and visibly committed to the Statement of Intent for health and safety
- To scrutinise and review health and safety performance
- To provide support and challenge to the Headteacher and the Governing Board in fulfilling their health and safety responsibilities

- To ensure in particular that risk assessments of the premises and working practices are carried out and documented

**School Health and Safety Coordinator** has the following responsibilities:

- To coordinate and manage the annual risk assessment process for the school
- To coordinate performance monitoring processes
- To make provision for the inspection and maintenance of work equipment
- To manage the keeping of records of all health and safety activities including management of building fabric and building services in liaison with NPS and other contractors.
- To advise the Headteacher of situations or activities which are potentially hazardous to the health and safety of staff, pupils and visitors.
- To ensure that staff are adequately instructed in safety and welfare matters about their specific workplace and the school generally.

**Teaching and support staff holding positions of special responsibility**

This includes SLT, Subject Leaders and Caretakers. They have the following responsibilities:

- Apply the school's Health and Safety Policy and the relevant health and safety Codes of Practice to their own department or area of work and be directly responsible to the Headteacher for the application of the health and safety procedures and arrangements
- Carry out regular health and safety risk assessments of the activities for which they are responsible
- Ensure that all staff under they manage are familiar with the relevant health and safety Codes of Practice, for their area of work
- Resolve health, safety and welfare issues that staff refer to them, or refer to the Headteacher any matters for which they cannot achieve a satisfactory solution within the resources available
- Carry out regular inspections of their areas of responsibility to ensure that equipment, and activities are safe and record these inspections where required
- Ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the provision of sufficient information, instruction, training and supervision to enable other staff and pupils to avoid hazards and contribute positively to their own health and safety
- Investigate any accidents that occur within their area of responsibility

**Class Teachers** are expected to:

- Exercise effective supervision of their pupils, to know the procedures for fire, first aid and other emergencies and to carry them out
- Follow the particular health and safety measures to be adopted in their own teaching areas as laid down in the relevant Codes of Practice
- Give clear oral and written instructions and warnings to pupils when necessary
- Follow safe working procedures
- Require the use of protective clothing and guards where necessary
- Make recommendations to their Headteacher or manager regarding equipment and improvements to plant, tools, equipment or machinery
- Integrate all relevant aspects of safety into the teaching process
- Report all accidents, defects and dangerous occurrences to their manager

### **Health and Safety Representatives**

The Governing Board believe that consulting employees on health and safety matters is important in creating and maintaining a safe and healthy working environment.

Safety representatives of trade unions recognised by Norfolk County Council will be consulted on all matters of health and safety that may affect staff and on the provision of health and safety information and training. Non-union staff will also be consulted directly.

Before making any decisions which could have health and safety consequences for staff, the governing board will inform safety representatives about the proposed course of action and give them an opportunity to express their views.

### **All Employees**

All staff have individual responsibility to take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and for others who may be affected by their acts or omissions. In particular, they must:

- Comply with the school's health and safety policy and procedures at all times
- Co-operate with managers in complying with relevant health and safety safe systems of work and procedures
- Use all work equipment and substances in accordance with instruction, training and information received
- Wear, use, store, maintain and replace personal protective equipment as appropriate

- Not intentionally misuse anything provided in the interests of health, safety and welfare
- Take part in and contribute to health and safety inspections, risk assessments etc. as appropriate
- Report all accidents (personal injury and vehicle), ill health, incidents of violence and aggression, near misses, hazardous situations, general health and safety concerns, defective equipment or premises
- Attend all training relevant to their role

### **Pupils**

Pupils, allowing for their age and aptitude, are expected to:

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



### **Part 3: Procedures and Arrangements**

The following procedures and arrangements have been adopted to ensure compliance with the Governing Board's Statement of Intent.

#### **Lead Governor for Health and Safety**

The lead governor with responsibility for scrutiny of health and safety performance is David Hagan-Palmer.

#### **Risk Assessment:**

##### **General Risk Assessment**

General Risk Assessment will be coordinated by Kelly Hall following guidance and templates available from HR Direct.

Imran Khan will be responsible for ensuring the actions required are implemented.

##### **Fire Safety**

A fire risk assessment will be carried out and local fire safety procedures developed for the premises by John Lemmon and Kelly Hall following guidance and templates available from HR Direct.

##### **Manual Handling**

Manual handling risk assessments will be carried out by John Lemmon following guidance and templates available from HR Direct.

##### **Computers and Workstations**

Computer and workstation risk assessments will be carried out by Imran Khan / Kelly Hall following guidance and templates available from HR Direct.

##### **Hazardous Substances**

John Lemmon will identify hazardous substances for which no generic assessment exists in the Codes of Practice mentioned below, following guidance and templates available from HR Direct.

##### **Violence to Staff**

Assessment of the risks of violence to staff will be carried out by Imran Khan following guidance and templates available from HR Direct. This assessment cross-refers to the school's behaviour policy.

##### **Lone Working**

Assessment of the risks of lone working staff will be carried out by Imran Khan / Kelly Hall following guidance and templates available from HR Direct.

##### **Risk Assessment of Curriculum Activities**

Risk Assessments for curriculum activities will be carried out by relevant subject leaders and teachers using health and safety curriculum Codes of Practice available from HR Direct.

##### **Caretaking Code of Practice**

Assessment of the risks to Caretakers will be assessed by Kelly Hall and John Lemmon following the Caretaking Code of Practice guidance available.

## **Handling Money**

Assessment of the risks of handling money will be carried out by Kelly Hall following guidance and templates available from HR Direct.

## **Consultation with Employees**

Union-appointed safety representatives - there are none designated in school.

Consultation with employees not represented by a union is provided through Kelly Hall.

## **Safe Plant and Equipment**

Plant and equipment will be inspected, maintained and, where necessary, tested by appropriate contractors appointed through the NPS Building Maintenance Partnership scheme. The Governing Board have agreed to purchase this service to school.

Routine local testing of emergency lighting, fire alarm call points, flushing of infrequently used water outlets and monthly water temperature monitoring will be carried out by the caretaker/site manager.

Any problems or defects regarding plant and equipment should be reported to the school office for reporting to NPS.

## **Information, Instruction and Training**

### **Information and Advice**

A [Health and Safety Law Poster](#) is displayed in the staff room. Health and safety advice is available from the Headteacher / Health and Safety Coordinator and from HR Direct on 01603 222212 or email [hrdirect@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:hrdirect@norfolk.gov.uk)

### **Health and Safety Training:**

#### **Induction**

Health and safety induction training will be provided for all new employees and for work experience placement students by Kelly Hall following guidance and templates available. This covers the following areas as a minimum:

- Fire arrangements for the workplace, including assembly point, exit routes, fire alarm sounder and specific details as they relate to the premises.
- First aid arrangements – first aid contacts and location of first aid equipment.
- Details of asbestos containing materials which are relevant to the place(s) of work
- Welfare facilities – toilets, kitchen, rest areas.
- Incident reporting requirements.
- Display Screen Equipment assessment
- Staff responsibilities (general, specific arrangements such as checking portable electrical equipment using the checklist, responsibility for pupil safety in lesson planning and delivery).
- Relevant risk assessments which apply to the work and safe working practice

- Arrangements for competency development such as mentoring, job shadowing, training courses and what work tasks cannot be carried out until the required competency level is achieved.
- Means to report building defects and Premises Headteacher/line manager information.
- Premises security and any lone working requirements.
- Pupil safety and safeguarding

Short health and safety e-learning modules are provided which cover core subjects including manual handling, display screen equipment and fire. Use of these courses may not necessarily replace the need for staff to attend a formal training course or receive further instruction and information, for example, lifting techniques for manual handling.

Staff and governors named below have received or will receive health and safety training in the following areas:

### **Strategic Health and Safety Management and Premises Management Training**

- Health and Safety Awareness for Governors: David Hagan-Palmer
- Health and Safety Management for Headteachers: : Imran Khan
- Premises Management 1 – General: John Lemmon and Kelly Hall
- Premises Management 2 – Asbestos: John Lemmon
- Premises Management 3 – Fire Safety Risk Assessment: John Lemmon and Kelly Hall

### **Curriculum/Subject Specific Health and Safety Training**

#### **Primary and Secondary PE and School Sport**

- Ensuring Pupils are Safe in PE (primary teachers and coaches): Alison Verney
- Safe Supervision of Swimming: Rebecca Weir

#### **Occupational Risks**

- First Aid at Work: Gail Swann / Rebecca Weir
- Emergency First Aid at Work: All staff (as detailed earlier in policy)
- Paediatric First Aid (for schools with children up to age 5: Gail Swann, Lauren Gower, Angelina Woodall
- Moving and Handling of Disabled Pupils: via Amy Cossey Occupational Therapist (most recent training Sept 2019)
- Musculoskeletal Injuries Rehabilitation Scheme Referral Managers Training: Kelly Hall
- Norfolk Steps training: All teaching and TA staff Sept 2018

#### **Caretaking/Site Management – all completed by John Lemmon and Emma Spence**

- Slips and Trips e-learning
- Manual Handling e-learning
- Display Screen Equipment e-learning
- Risk Assessment e-learning

- Introduction to Hazardous Substances e-learning
- Fire Prevention and Procedures e-learning
- Introduction to Health and Safety e-learning

### **Health and Well-Being**

- Well-Being Facilitators: Anna Clayphan, Angelina Woodall, Amanda Haslam, Rebecca Purdy (well-being committee)

### **Training Records and Training Needs Identification**

Health and safety training records are held by: Kelly Hall

Training needs will be identified, arranged and monitored by: Kelly Hall

### **Incident Reporting and Investigation**

All accidents and cases of work-related ill health involving employees (or non employees where the injury is potentially caused by a deficiency in activity, equipment or premises must be recorded. In NCC Schools this should be made via the OSHENs online incident reporting system.

Minor injuries to non-employees (i.e. pupils and visitors) where first aid is given will be reported on the First Aid Record of Treatment form. These forms are kept at: KS2 First Aid area.

SLT will investigate all incidents and act on findings to prevent a recurrence.

### **First Aid**

First aid boxes are kept at: 1: 1 room in KS1 and KS2 First Aid area. First aid policy in place renewed September 2020.

The following employees are available to provide first aid: IK, JS, BH, CB, LF, JBe, RW, GS, AH, AV, AT, CS, SH, VB, BF, JL, ES, KH, RP, SM, DS, MW, LGo, MT, JP, JBu, AC, TM, RM, AW

### **Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions**

Prescribed medication will be administered to pupils following [guidance and documentation on Norfolk Schools](#).

Kelly Hall is responsible for management of administration of medicines to pupils.

### **Site Security and Visitors**

All visitors must report to the main school entrance/office where they will be asked to sign the visitors book and wear a visitors' badge.

Other arrangements to ensure the security of pupils and employees on site are: All external doors are locked from the inside, signs identify school entrance.

### **On-Site Vehicle Movements**

The risks of persons and vehicles coming into contact will be controlled by the following measures: Any vehicle which needs to move during school hours will be supervised by adult. The school drive is blocked at the start of the school day and at the end of the school day. Vehicles are prohibited from moving during these times

and there are no deliveries to take place from suppliers. Suppliers are made aware of this when orders are placed.

### **Selection and Management of Contractors / Construction & Refurbishment works**

Contractors and Construction Projects are selected approved and managed by Imran Khan. Guidance and templates available from HR Direct.

### **Management of Asbestos**

The asbestos register and asbestos management plan is held at: the school office. Kelly Hall is responsible for ensuring that contractors who may be working in areas where asbestos has been identified sign the register and that any changes to the register are notified to NPS.

### **Educational Visits**

Educational visits, including residential visits and any school-led adventure activities, will be organised following guidance produced by the Outdoor Education Advisers Panel and adopted by Norfolk County Council.

### **Occupational Health**

Access to occupational health services is via HR Direct Norfolk County Council.

### **Emergency Procedures – Fire and Evacuation**

Escape routes are checked by: John Lemmon – weekly site inspection.

Fire extinguishers are maintained and checked: via NPS Contract (John Lemmon (Caretaker) undertakes visual weekly inspection to check for damage)

Alarms are tested weekly by: John Lemmon

Emergency evacuation procedures will be tested once every term.

### **Monitoring**

Routine inspections of the premises to ensure safe working practices are being followed will be carried out by John Lemmon.

Inspections of individual departments and specific work areas will be carried out by Heads of Department or nominated staff (i.e. outdoor area by Forest Schools Leader before each session).

### **Review of Policy**

This policy will be reviewed at least every 2 years and possibly revised in light of experience, or because of operational or organisational changes.

## Appendix 1: COVID-19 Secure - Our school health and safety arrangements

We recognise that our health and safety responsibilities apply to the management of COVID-19. We are committed to operating our school in a way that protects the safety of everyone

We have undertaken a risk assessment and put new measures in place for the COVID-19 Recovery Phase in our school and we have introduced a range of new measures to reduce the risk of virus transmission. In order to achieve this, our school will be operating in a very different way following all required government guidelines on infection control.

Our new measures include:

- Ensuring we have the facilities available to encourage excellent personal and respiratory hygiene (bins, tissues, wash hand basins, liquid soap and hand sanitiser)
- Ensuring we maintain excellent environmental cleaning across our buildings and sites
- Grouping pupils and staff to limit the contact with others
- Making changes to the way we carry out activities to avoid close contact where it is possible to
- Making changes in classrooms and other spaces to reduce close contact where it is possible to
- Ensuring our school is well ventilated
- Arrangements to welcome essential visitors safely
- Increasing the way that we communicate our new arrangements including through parent surveys, increased signage and marking areas of our site.
- Making changes to how we travel to the school and school times
- Educating and supporting pupils in personal and respiratory hygiene
- Providing our staff with information, instruction and training so that they can work safely
- Asking our pupils about their health and making sure that they can let us know about how they feel
- Ensuring that our staff are fit to work and go home immediately if they develop symptoms.
- Looking after pupils if they develop symptoms while they are waiting to be collected

- Working with parents and carers to support our new arrangements by following the new arrangements and encouraging pupils to follow hand and respiratory hygiene at all times.

We will:

- Follow Government guidelines on infection control though following Norfolk County Council's Compliance Code and guidance
- Consult with our recognised unions and engage with our employees when planning to reopen or extend our provision
- Consider the individual health needs and personal circumstances of our staff and pupils in our risk assessment processes
- Provide our staff with the information, instruction and training they need to carry out their roles for everyone's good and safety

**Chair of Governors**

**Headteacher**

**Date: September 2020**