



BRADGATE
Education Partnership

Stronger Together

POLICY:

Health & Safety Policy

Approved: December 2024 – Trust Board

Annual Review Due: December 2025 (Head of Estates & IT)

Annual Review Due: December 2026 (Head of Estates & IT)

Review Date: December 2027 (Trust Board)

Responsible Officer: Head of Estates & IT

Ambitious

Collaborative

Ethical



BRADGATE
Education Partnership

MISSION:

Through strong collaboration between our schools, Bradgate Education Partnership is committed to providing an ambitious and inclusive education for all.

We want our children and young people to realise their full potential academically, socially and personally. We celebrate the distinctive ethos of each individual school. We ensure that all who are part of our Trust have a deep sense of belonging and a supportive opportunity to grow.

Stronger Together



VALUES:



Ambitious

We aim high and are aspirational for all.



Collaborative

We work closely together to encourage, support, challenge and share.



Ethical

We treat everyone fairly, within a culture of kindness and respect.

VISION:



PUPILS

All our pupils are equipped with the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes to thrive in life and make a positive difference.



SCHOOLS

All our schools provide a safe and happy space where pupils study an ambitious curriculum which unlocks their personal potential so that they achieve exceptional outcomes.



WORKFORCE

All staff have positive impact in their roles whilst feeling supported and valued both personally and professionally.



COMMUNITY

All our schools embrace the local area they serve within a deeply embedded culture of community partnership.



WIDER WORLD

All our pupils and staff understand, respect and embrace the diversity of the wider world in which they live.



SUSTAINABILITY

Across our partnership, everything we do is aligned to meet the needs of the present without compromising a sustainable future.

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Key Information:

Key Word/Phrase	Description
Competent Individual	A competent person is someone who has sufficient training and experience or knowledge. The level of competence required will depend on the complexity of the situation.
Approved Contractor	A contractor on an approved contractor list as approved by the Trust.
CEO	Chief Executive Officer.
LAB	Local Advisory Board.

Links with other policies

This Health & Safety policy links to the following policies:

- First Aid Policy
- Risk Assessment Policy
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Accessibility plan (school specific)
- Premises Management Document
- Health and Wellbeing Policy
- Child Protection Policy
- Family Friendly Policy (new and expectant mothers)

Linked Documents:

- Trust Premises Officer Log Book
- Local Advisory Board Handbook (LAB Handbook)
- Safer Recruitment Procedure
- Onboarding Policy

All linked documents can be found in the BEP Trust SharePoint site:

<https://bepschools.sharepoint.com/sites/BEPTrustSharePointSite>

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1.**Bradgate Education Partnership (BEP) understands its statutory responsibilities in relation to Health & Safety. The Trust will ensure that it meets its statutory obligations, in particular the requirements of the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and associated regulations and codes of practice.
- 1.2.**The Board of Trustees accepts its responsibilities and duties to conduct its operations in a manner which protects the health, safety and wellbeing of employees, pupils and visitors so far as is reasonably practicable. The Trust will take all reasonable steps to mitigate risk within each of the workplaces within the Trust.
- 1.3.**This policy sets out the Trust's approach to the management of Health & Safety and therefore all those working within the Trust are expected to comply with the information set out within this policy.

2.0 Scope & Principles

- 2.1.**This policy applies to all workers and individuals who undertake work for Bradgate Education Partnership this includes, Trustees, Local Advisory Board members, volunteers, third party workers and trainees.
- 2.2.**All workers have a duty and responsibility to act in compliance with this policy and ensure that they are familiar with their role to ensure compliance with Health & Safety procedures within the workplace. Workers have a duty to take reasonable care of themselves and others and to co-operate to ensure statutory duties and obligations are fulfilled.
- 2.3.**All workers are expected to raise Health & Safety concerns in line with section 3.1 of this policy so that they are addressed by the appropriate teams accordingly, all workers must ensure that Health & Safety issues within the workplace do not get ignored and reported as soon as possible.
- 2.4.**Any employees found to be in breach of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action in line with the Trust's Disciplinary Policy.
- 2.5.**This policy provides the overall approach to Health & Safety for the Trust, it is expected that each school then implements school specific procedures led by the Head Teacher that ensure compliance with this policy.
- 2.6.**The Trust will:
 - 2.6.1.** Aim to conduct all activities safely and in compliance with legislation and where possible within best practice guidelines.
 - 2.6.2.** Aim to provide safe working conditions and safe equipment.
 - 2.6.3.** Will use reasonable endeavours to ensure safe handling and use of substances.
 - 2.6.4.** Will use reasonable endeavours to ensure a systematic approach is in place to the identify risks and the allocation of resources to control them.
 - 2.6.5.** Provide suitable information, instruction, training, and supervision.

- 2.6.6.** Promote a positive Health & Safety culture that is demonstrated by open communication, consultation where needed, to instil a joint commitment to the importance of health, safety, and wellbeing.
- 2.6.7.** To take all reasonable steps to prevent accidents and cases of work-related ill health.
- 2.6.8.** Promote the principles of sensible risk management.
- 2.6.9.** Monitor, review and modify this policy and any arrangements as required.
- 2.7.** Risk assessments and arrangements will be in place as necessary to aim to prevent and protect as far as is reasonably practicable using a sensible risk management approach (including where significant risks are identified) in compliance with the Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations.
- 2.8.** This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education on Health & Safety in schools and the following legislation:
- 2.8.1.** The Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, which sets out the general duty's employers have towards employees and duties relating to lettings.
- 2.8.2.** The Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999, which require employers to carry out risk assessments, make arrangements to implement necessary measures, and arrange for appropriate information and training.
- 2.8.3.** The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002, which require employers to control substances that are hazardous to health.
- 2.8.4.** The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) 2013, which state that some accidents must be reported to the Health & Safety Executive and set out the time frame for this and how long records of such accidents must be kept.
- 2.8.5.** The Health & Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992, which require employers to carry out digital screen equipment assessments and states users' entitlement to an eyesight test.
- 2.8.6.** The Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998, which require work on gas fittings to be carried out by someone on the Gas Safe Register
- 2.8.7.** The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, which requires employers to take general fire precautions to ensure the safety of their staff.
- 2.8.8.** The Work at Height Regulations 2005, which requires employers to protect their staff from falls from height.

2.8.9. The school follows national guidance published by Public Health England when responding to infection control issues.

2.8.10. Sections of this policy are also based on the statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage.

2.9. This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3.1 Reporting Concerns

Appendix 1 outlines a flow chart of how Health & Safety concerns should be reported. All Health & Safety concerns must be reported in the following ways:

3.1.1. Primary Schools – Email to be sent to the Head Teacher, Office Manager, and safety@bepschools.org

3.1.2. Secondary Schools – Email to be sent to the Head Teacher and Site Manager and safety@bepschools.org

3.1.3. If an emergency arises within the workplace, these must be reported verbally to a member of the Senior Leadership Team as soon as possible, as soon as reasonably practicable this must be followed up in writing in line with 3.1.1 or 3.1.2 above.

3.1.4. When reporting a concern, the following information must be included:

3.1.4.1. Nature of the concern

3.1.4.2. Location of the concern

3.1.4.3. As much detail as possible

3.1.4.4. Date and time

3.1.5. Verbal reporting is accepted but this must be followed up in writing following the procedures above.

3.2 Accident Reporting

3.2.1. **Appendix 2** outlines a flow chart of how incidents/accidents/near misses should be reported.

3.2.2. Where an accident occurs within school an accident form will be completed as soon as possible after the accident occurs by the member of staff or first aider who deals with it. The template Accident Form is available at **Appendix 3**.

3.2.3. When reporting an accident, the staff member should ensure:

3.2.3.1. As much detail as possible is supplied

3.2.3.2. Information about injuries will also be kept in the pupil's educational record.

3.2.3.3. Date, time, and nature of the accident is detailed clearly.

3.2.4. Records held in the first aid and accident book will be retained by the school for a minimum of 3 years (Staff & Adult Visitors) or until the child reaches 21 years of age (Pupils & Child Visitors), and then securely disposed of in line with GDPR requirements.

3.2.5. Accidents that meet the threshold to be reported to HSE must be discussed with the Head of Estates and IT as soon as possible.

4.0 Roles and Responsibilities

Appendix 4 provides an overview of the levels of responsibility within the Trust in relation to Health & Safety:

4.1 The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees has ultimate responsibility for Health & Safety matters within the Trust, these will be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for overall strategic oversight on Health & Safety policies and processes within the Trust. The Trust Board:

- 4.1.1.** Has a duty to take reasonable steps to ensure that workers and pupils are not exposed to risks to their Health & Safety. This applies to activities on or off the school premises.
- 4.1.2.** Will use reasonable endeavours to ensure that the CEO is held to account in relation to Health & Safety matters via the Trust's Property, Health & Safety Committee which will take place at least once per term.
- 4.1.3.** Will take oversight on assessment of risk to staff and others affected by school activities through regular review of the risk register, trackers, Local Advisory Board (LAB) documents and the Trust's Property, Health & Safety Committee. This will enable them to identify and introduce the Health & Safety measures necessary to manage potential risks.
- 4.1.4.** Will use reasonable endeavours to ensure that adequate Health & Safety training is provided to all employees of the Trust.

4.2 Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Where reasonably practicable the CEO will manage the Board of Trustees' strategic aims regarding their statutory obligations and objectives toward Health & Safety are met. The CEO:

- 4.2.1.** Will put processes and procedures in place that aim to ensure the required Health & Safety practices, standards and delivery are met Trust wide.
- 4.2.2.** Will set expectations with Head Teachers in relation to budgetary management of Health & Safety funds and how they are used, and be clear that where financial issues arise, these must be discussed with the Trust to implement appropriate plans.
- 4.2.3.** Will implement the appropriate personnel at Trust level to provide advice, guidance and procedures for Head Teachers and schools to utilise as appropriate.

- 4.2.4.** Will be responsible for the line management of the Head of Estates & IT who is employed to provide the advice, guidance, monitoring and support of Health & Safety items/systems for the Trust.
- 4.2.5.** Will take oversight of trackers within the schools and manage responsible personnel accordingly to aim to ensure that all Health & Safety procedures and risks are managed and followed appropriately.
- 4.2.6.** Will aim to ensure that all employees are aware of their own responsibilities and duties and that they carry out their responsibilities and duties in line with this policy via job descriptions, dissemination of this policy and appropriate training (delivered as either e-Learning through our Bradgate Learning Hub, or in person by a qualified professional).
- 4.2.7.** Aims to ensure that communication with Trustees, Local Advisory Boards, Head Teachers, staff, pupils is transparent, up to date and expectations in relation to Health & Safety within the Trust are clear.
- 4.2.8.** Aims to ensure that procedures are in place for all schools within the Trust, for effective monitoring, recording, reporting, and reviewing of accidents, near misses, acts of aggressive behaviour and ill-health.
- 4.2.9.** Will aim to ensure that Health & Safety representatives understand Health & Safety procedures within the Trust to enable them to carry out their responsibilities in line with statutory regulations.
- 4.2.10.** Will communicate with the Board of Trustees to inform them of any breach of statutory requirements.

4.3 Directors of Education

The Directors of Education will support the CEO in the management of Health & Safety via the line management of the Head Teachers. The Directors of Education will:

- 4.3.1.** Hold Head Teachers to account in relation to the management of Health & Safety within the school.
- 4.3.2.** Manage failure to follow the Health & Safety policy in line with appropriate Trust policies by any Head Teacher and report this to the CEO accordingly.

4.4 Trust Head of Estates & IT

The Trust Head of Estates & IT will lead on the day to day management of Trust wide Health & Safety matters, be responsible for providing advice, guidance and support to the Trust and implement policies/procedures, specifically:

- 4.4.1.** Monitoring that the required Health & Safety practices, standards and delivery are met.
- 4.4.2.** The Trust Head of Estates & IT will report any concerns around the implementation of the Health & Safety policy by any Head Teacher directly to the Chief Executive Officer.

- 4.4.3.** Produce and report the Health & Safety information to the Trust's Property, Health & Safety Committee termly with supporting Health & Safety tracker overviews.
- 4.4.4.** Ensure that procedures are in place for all schools within the Trust, for effective monitoring, recording, reporting, and reviewing of accidents, near misses, acts of aggression and ill-health.
- 4.4.5.** Provide the advice, guidance on the implementation of this policy Trust wide.
- 4.4.6.** Will take responsibility for the review and update of this policy for approval by the Trust Board
- 4.4.7.** Will ensure that termly audits and site visits are completed at each school and recorded in the building's tracker, Health & Safety tracker and followed up with a note of visit to each Head Teacher.
- 4.4.8.** Provide the Trust with a 'competent person/preferred supplier list' for schools to use.
- 4.4.9.** Ensure each school has an up to date Premises Logbook and is using it correctly to record all mandatory compliance checks as listed in the logbook.
- 4.4.10.** Book termly visits to each school to complete a site walk, check Premises Logbook and discuss Health & Safety with the Headteacher. All to be recorded as a Note of Visit and saved to SharePoint.

4.5 Head Teacher

The Chief Executive Officer delegates the day-to-day responsibility of Health & Safety within the schools to the Headteacher who is responsible for:

- 4.5.1.** Complying with and implementing this policy within the school
- 4.5.2.** Being aware of current legislation, codes of practice, best practice guidance notes, etc and be prepared to research and implement new guidance as when required.
- 4.5.3.** Ensuring that there are sufficient personnel/resources are available to manage and comply with Health & Safety legislation.
- 4.5.4.** Ensuring that staff understand their roles and responsibilities in relation to Health & Safety legislation and the appropriate resources are available.
- 4.5.5.** Ensuring that reporting procedures are communicated and adhered to within the school.
- 4.5.6.** Ensuring there are enough staff to safely supervise pupils.
- 4.5.7.** Ensuring that the school building and premises are safe and regularly inspected.
- 4.5.8.** Ensuring that staff training as required by the Trust Board is in place for all staff via the Bradgate Learning Hub as well as in person training.

- 4.5.9.** Ensuring that reporting on Health & Safety matters to the Local Advisory Board is done in line with the Trust's Local Advisory Board Handbook
- 4.5.10.** Ensuring appropriate evacuation procedures are in place and fire drills are held at least termly. Each fire drill must be accurately recorded in the Premises Logbook.
- 4.5.11.** Ensure that appropriate invacuation procedures are in place and invacuation drills are held at least annually. Each invacuation drill must be accurately recorded in the Premises Logbook.
- 4.5.12.** Ensuring that in their absence, Health & Safety responsibilities are delegated to another member of the Senior Leadership Team
- 4.5.13.** Ensuring all risk assessments are completed and reviewed sharing these with staff for information and input as appropriate.
- 4.5.14.** Ensuring that all trips and visits that leave are safe and have been fully recorded on e-Visits and signed off correctly as per the Trust's Educational Visits Policy templates.
- 4.5.15.** To ensure Health & Safety Tracker is monitored and is compliant (No REDs). Any items that turn RED must be addressed immediately and the Trust's Head of Estates & IT informed.
- 4.5.16.** To ensure the Buildings Compliance Tracker is monitored and is compliant (No REDs). Any items that turn RED must be addressed immediately and the Trust's Head of Estates & IT informed.
- 4.5.17.** Ensure that Health & Safety inspections of the school are done on a regular basis (at least termly) with the Trust's Head of Estates & IT.
- 4.5.18.** Ensuring that pupils and parents are informed of how to follow Health & Safety procedures on-site and off-site.
- 4.5.19.** Informing employees about risks that may be present within the workplace and the measures in place to manage them.
- 4.5.20.** Ensuring that SLT and Heads of Department are fully aware of their role and responsibilities in relation to managing Health & Safety within the school and their work areas.
- 4.5.21.** If appropriate investigate accidents/near misses that take place within the school
- 4.5.22.** Arrangement and management of any contractors that are on site ensuring they are on the Trust's Approved Contractor List and that the Contractors Induction Form is completed per job.

4.6 Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and Department Heads

All SLT members at each school will have the responsibility to implement the day-to-day operational requirements of this policy, specifically:

- 4.6.1.** Deputising for the Head Teacher in their absence, escalating Health & Safety concerns to the Trust should it be required for the duration of the deputising.
- 4.6.2.** Keeping an up-to-date copy of the Health & Safety policy and relevant procedures to their faculty/departmental/class activities for example - D&T, Science, Sports Activities, out of school activities educational school visits, etc together with all associated documentation, e.g. risk assessments, safe systems of work, codes of practice, BSI Standards, Safe practice in Physical Education, CLEEAPS, appropriate guidance notes, others.
- 4.6.3.** Maintaining and recording any Health & Safety concerns or any financial implications identified by the Risk Assessment process notifying the Head Teacher of any issues relating to both.
- 4.6.4.** Will ensure that Trust template risk assessments are adapted and personalised to the department/class and activity.
- 4.6.5.** Maintaining documentation relating to the certification and statutory inspections of plant & equipment in their charge, and that they are current.
- 4.6.6.** Will maintain accurate records following an accident, incidents, dangerous occurrences and near misses, report such incidents to the Head Teacher and the Trust Head of Estates & IT.
- 4.6.7.** Maintain up to date records in each academy school site of their Risk Assessments, relating to COSHH, PAT testing and any documentation needed for the safe delivery of their services.

4.7 Heads of Department (Secondary Schools)

The Head Teacher will delegate the day-to-day management of Health & Safety within school departments to Heads of Departments, they must:

- 4.7.1.** Be aware of and implement up to date Health & Safety requirements within their department.
- 4.7.2.** Implement this policy to the department or area of work they are responsible for
- 4.7.3.** Provide information to the staff within the department, the SLT and Head Teacher on the application of procedures and arrangements within the department.
- 4.7.4.** Carry out risk assessments of the activities for which they have direct control, review as necessary, submit risk assessment to the Head Teacher for sign off.
- 4.7.5.** Ensure that all departmental staff are familiar with the Health & Safety procedures and risk assessments for their area of work and act accordingly.
- 4.7.6.** Support the Head Teacher in ensuring that departmental staff have had the necessary Trust Health & Safety training for their role.
- 4.7.7.** Work closely with the necessary individuals within the Trust/school to ensure that Health & Safety issues that members of staff refer to them are resolved, this may

involve liaising further with the Head Teacher/SLT member/Site Manager on any issues to which they cannot conclude within the resources available to them.

- 4.7.8.** Carry out regular inspections of the department/area of work to ensure that equipment, furniture, and activities are safe. This includes recording and reporting any defects or unsafe practices, acting on any findings in line with section **3.1** of this policy.
- 4.7.9.** Ensure sufficient information, instruction, training, and supervision is in place to enable other members of staff, to identify Health & Safety risks within the workplace and ensure that all workers are adhering to Health & Safety protocols within the working area.
- 4.7.10.** Identify and implement any specific Health & Safety training as required to the departmental area – e.g. food hygiene, use of equipment.
- 4.7.11.** Ensure all accidents and incidents are recorded and escalated appropriately in line with **3.2** of this policy.

4.8 Employee/Workers

All Trust workers have a responsibility and a duty of care in relation to Health & Safety at work to keep pupils and colleagues safe within the working environment, all workers are expected to:

- 4.8.1.** Read and understand their responsibilities within the Health & Safety Policy
- 4.8.2.** Take reasonable care of their own Health & Safety and that of others who may be affected by what they do at work.
- 4.8.3.** Report any issues related to Health & Safety in a prompt and timely manner in line with section **3.1** of this policy.
- 4.8.4.** Co-operate with the school and the Trust on Health & Safety matters.
- 4.8.5.** Undertake the Health & Safety mandatory training – **Appendix 7** outlines the mandatory training requirements in relation to Health & Safety for each role.
- 4.8.6.** Work in accordance with training and instructions
- 4.8.7.** Inform the appropriate person of any work situation representing a serious and immediate danger so that remedial action can be taken in line with section **3.1** of this policy.
- 4.8.8.** Role model Health & Safety practices to pupils.
- 4.8.9.** Follow school emergency evacuation and invacuation procedures as required.

4.9 Site Manager/Premises Officers

Site Managers and Premises Officers are provided with specific job descriptions in relation to their role. They are expected to comply and follow the expectations of their role to include the statutory

checks that are required within a work setting. The Premises Logbook provides additional information.

4.10 Contractors

Contractors will agree Health & Safety practices with the Head Teacher before starting work. Before work begins the contractor will provide evidence to the Head Teacher that they have completed an adequate risk assessment of all their planned work.

Contractors will also be expected to follow the Trust's Safer Recruitment and Safeguarding Procedures. These will be checked by the Trust Head of Estates & IT, who will then add them to the Approved Contractor List if all checks are completed successfully.

Contractors will complete an Induction Form for each job they undertake within the school.

5.0 Health & Safety Arrangements

All schools will follow the guidelines outlined in this policy and implement local procedures that adhere to the information outlined below:

5.1 Site Security

Site Managers/Premises Officers are responsible for the security of the school site in and out of school hours. They are responsible for visual inspections of the site, and for the intruder and fire alarm systems. All Head Teachers and Site Managers/Premises Officers will have the appropriate training to manage the site security. All premises officers and Head Teachers are to be key holders and will respond to an emergency. Only staff employed directly by the Trust are allowed to be keyholders. Keys to external doors and intruder alarm codes **MUST NOT** be given to non-employees.

5.2 Fire

- 5.2.1.** Emergency exits, assembly points and assembly point instructions are clearly identified by safety signs and notices.
- 5.2.2.** Emergency escape routes must be kept clear at all times.
- 5.2.3.** Fire risk assessment of the premises will be reviewed annually by the school and every 5 years by an external professional who are on the approved contractor list and their recommendations are followed up on by the Head Teacher
- 5.2.4.** Emergency evacuations are practiced at least once a term and must be logged accurately in the Premises Logbook
- 5.2.5.** The Head Teacher will ensure that fire alarm testing will take place once a week and that it is logged accurately in the Premises Logbook.
- 5.2.6.** All new staff will be trained in fire safety by the end of their first week in employment with the Trust, this will be via the Bradgate Learning Hub. All staff and pupils will be made aware of any new fire risks where required. E.g. Via local induction procedures or regularly updates from the school.

5.2.7. Fire Marshal training will be provided by the Trust to those who require it – usually the Office Manager/Operations manager/Site teams.

5.2.8. In the event of a fire:

5.2.8.1. The alarm will be raised immediately by whoever discovers the fire and emergency services contacted. 5.7.2 Evacuation procedures will begin as soon as the fire alarm goes off.

5.2.8.2. Fire extinguishers may only be used by staff who are trained in how to operate them.

5.2.8.3. Staff and pupils will congregate at the assembly points outlined within local procedures. The assembly points are clearly marked in each school on their fire and emergency evacuation plan and all staff, pupils and visitors will be made aware of them.

5.2.8.4. Form tutors/class teachers will take a register of pupils, which will then be checked against the attendance register of that day.

5.2.8.5. The designated fire marshal will take a register of all workers/visitors at the school.

5.2.8.6. Staff and pupils will remain outside the building until the emergency services say it is safe to re-enter.

5.2.8.7. Each school will have special arrangements in place for the evacuation of people with mobility needs and fire risk assessments will also pay particular attention to those with disabilities. **Appendix 8** is the template risk assessment that should be used.

5.2.9. A fire safety checklist that must be completed by all schools annually, the template checklist can be found in **Appendix 9**.

5.2.10. Ensure compliance with the Building Safety Act 2022, including recording of all fire risk assessments (not just significant findings).

5.3 Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH)

5.3.1. Schools are required to control hazardous substances, which can take many forms, including:

5.3.1.1. Chemicals

5.3.1.2. Products containing chemicals.

5.3.1.3. Fumes

5.3.1.4. Dusts

5.3.1.5. Vapours

5.3.1.6. Mists

5.3.1.7. Gases and asphyxiating gases

5.3.1.8. Germs that cause diseases, such as leptospirosis or legionnaires disease

5.3.2. All premises staff including cleaners, science technicians and any other staff member who could have a need to use chemicals in their job role, will receive COSHH training via the Bradgate Learning Hub.

5.3.3. COSHH risk assessments are to be completed and circulated to all employees who work with hazardous substances. Staff will also be provided with protective equipment, where necessary, for example cleaning teams/site teams/specific teaching and support staff

5.3.4. All staff will use and store hazardous products in accordance with instructions on the product label. All hazardous products are kept in their original containers, with clear labelling and product information.

5.3.5. Any hazardous products are disposed of in accordance with specific disposal procedures that are outlined on the product that is being used.

5.3.6. Emergency procedures, including procedures for dealing with spillages, are displayed near where hazardous products are stored and in areas where they are routinely used.

5.3.7. All hazardous substances will be stored in an area that is not accessible to pupils and the school will ensure the area is locked/secure with access to authorised personnel only.

5.4 Gas safety

5.4.1. Installation, maintenance and repair of gas appliances and fittings will be carried out by a competent Gas Safe registered engineer.

5.4.2. Gas pipework, appliances and flues are regularly maintained.

5.4.3. All rooms with gas appliances are checked to ensure that they have adequate ventilation.

5.5 Legionella

5.5.1. A water risk assessment is to be completed by a competent external company who are on the Trust's approved contractor list.

5.5.2. The Site Manager/Premises Officer is responsible for ensuring that the identified operational controls are conducted and recorded in the school's Premises Logbook under the water section.

5.5.3. The water risk assessment will be reviewed every 2 years by the Site Manager/Trust Head of Estates & IT and when significant changes have occurred to the water system and/or building footprint remedial actions will be taken.

5.5.4. The risks from legionella are mitigated by the following:

- 5.5.4.1.** Weekly flushing of low use hot and cold-water outlets –these will be identified by the Head Teacher at the school. This is to be recorded in the Premises Logbook.
- 5.5.4.2.** Monthly temperature checks that will be recorded in the Premises logbook.
- 5.5.4.3.** Termly showerhead disinfecting and descaling, recorded in the Premises Logbook.
- 5.5.4.4.** All hot and cold-water outlets / showers to be flushed through without producing aerosols for 1-2 minutes at the beginning of each term. This is to be logged in the Premises Logbook.

5.6 Asbestos

- 5.6.1.** Staff are briefed on the hazards of asbestos via the Head Teacher. Staff will be told of the location of any asbestos in the school and the action to take if they suspect they have disturbed it.
- 5.6.2.** Asbestos management training is in place for the appropriate central team colleague, Head Teacher, Site Manager and Office Managers
- 5.6.3.** Arrangements are in place to ensure that contractors are made aware of any asbestos on the premises and that it is not disturbed by their work. This is to be confirmed in writing on the Contractors Induction Form.
- 5.6.4.** Contractors will be advised that if they discover material which they suspect could be asbestos, they will stop work immediately until the area is declared safe.
- 5.6.5.** A record is kept of the location of asbestos that has been found on each school's site – located on the site map.
- 5.6.6.** Each school will keep and maintain a Local Asbestos Management Plan (LAMP) which will be reviewed annually by the Head Teacher/Site Manager (signed off by the Head Teacher)
- 5.6.7.** An Asbestos Management Survey Report will be completed every 5 years by an external competent contractor on the approved contractor list.

5.7 Tree Management

- 5.7.1.** A Tree Management Survey Report will be completed every 3 years by an external competent contractor on the approved contractor list.
- 5.7.2.** All remedial work will be followed up on by the school which is the Head Teachers responsibility.

5.8 Glazing

- 5.8.1.** A Glazing Survey Report will be completed every 10 years by an external competent contractor from the approved contractor list.
- 5.8.2.** All remedial work highlighted as significant will be followed up on by the school which is the Head Teachers responsibility.

5.9 Driving

- 5.9.1.** All employees must sign annually a self-declaration sheet to declare if they drive for work purposes and declare whether they have a valid:
 - 5.9.1.1.** Driving Licence
 - 5.9.1.2.** MOT
 - 5.9.1.3.** Business Insurance
- 5.9.2.** SLT and DSLs must have driving documents checked and recorded to enable them to transport a pupil if an emergency if the situation arises, this should only be undertaken in line with the 'Transporting Pupils' Risk Assessment and in line with the Trust's Safeguarding Policy. **Appendix 10** outlines a template risk assessment that each school should have in place.
- 5.9.3.** Any schools who own or rent a Mini-Bus are to ensure a suitable risk assessment is in place as well as completing the Mini-Bus routine inspections checklist. These documents are available at **Appendix 11** and **Appendix 12**.
- 5.9.4.** Any staff members who are approved to drive a Mini-Bus will have completed the driver documents checks (**Appendix 13**) providing evidence of relevant qualifications.

5.10 Equipment

- 5.10.1.** All equipment and machinery are maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. In addition, maintenance schedules outline when extra checks should take place – maintenance schedules are managed by the Premises Officer/Site Manager/Heads of Department/SLT as appropriate.
- 5.10.2.** When new equipment is purchased, it is checked to ensure that it meets appropriate educational standards to ensure that it is fit for purpose and that all procedural checks have taken place prior to its use. These checks are the responsibility of the Head of Department/SLT/Site Manager/Premises Officer as appropriate.
- 5.10.3.** All equipment is stored in the appropriate storage containers and areas. All containers are labelled with the correct hazard sign and contents.
- 5.10.4.** Storage areas will have restricted access where appropriate which is the responsibility of the Head of Department/SLT/Site Manager/Premises Officer.

5.11 Electrical equipment

- 5.11.1.** All staff are responsible for ensuring that they use and handle electrical equipment sensibly and safely.
- 5.11.2.** Any pupil who handles electrical appliances does so under the supervision of the member of staff who so directs them.
- 5.11.3.** Any potential hazards will be reported in line with section **3.1** of this policy immediately.
- 5.11.4.** Permanently installed electrical equipment is connected through a dedicated isolator switch and adequately earthed.
- 5.11.5.** Only trained staff members can check plugs.
- 5.11.6.** Where necessary a portable appliance test (PAT) will be carried out by a competent person on an annual basis (internally trained members of staff and external contractors from the approved contractor list)
- 5.11.7.** All isolators' switches are clearly marked to identify their machine.
- 5.11.8.** Electrical apparatus and connections will not be touched by wet contact e.g. wet hands and will only be used in dry conditions
- 5.11.9.** Maintenance, repair, installation, and disconnection work associated with permanently installed or portable electrical equipment is only carried out by a competent person.

5.12 PE equipment

- 5.12.1.** Pupils are taught how to carry out and set up PE equipment safely and efficiently, this will also be always supervised by staff.
- 5.12.2.** Staff undertaking physical education with pupils check that equipment is set up safely prior to its use.
- 5.12.3.** Any concerns about the condition of the gym floor or other apparatus will be reported in line with section **3.1** of this policy.
- 5.12.4.** Please see section 5.17 for manual handling

5.13 Display Screen Equipment

- 5.13.1.** All staff who use computers daily as a significant part of their normal work have a display screen equipment (DSE) assessment carried out. A paper copy can be completed and is available at **Appendix 14**. 'Significant' is taken to be continuous/near continuous spells of an hour or more at a time.
- 5.13.2.** Staff identified as DSE users are entitled to an eyesight test for DSE use upon request, and at regular intervals thereafter, by a qualified optician.

5.14 Specialist equipment for pupils with medical needs/disabilities

- 5.14.1. Parents are responsible for the maintenance and safety of their children's wheelchairs.
- 5.14.2. In school, staff are made aware of and promote the responsible use of wheelchairs.
- 5.14.3. Oxygen cylinders are stored in a designated space as outlined by the Head Teacher, and staff are trained in the removal storage and replacement of oxygen cylinders.
- 5.14.4. If staff have concerns in relation to the maintenance of specialist equipment, they must report concerns in line with section 3.1 of this policy.
- 5.14.5. Please see Trust's Medication Policy for management of medicines for pupils within our schools

5.15 Lone Working

- 5.15.1. Lone working may include:
 - 5.15.1.1. Late working
 - 5.15.1.2. Home or site visits
 - 5.15.1.3. Weekend working
 - 5.15.1.4. Site Manager/Premises Officer duties
 - 5.15.1.5. Site cleaning duties
 - 5.15.1.6. Working in a single occupancy office
- 5.15.2. Potentially dangerous activities, such as those where there is a risk of falling from height, will not be undertaken when working alone. If there are any doubts about the task to be performed, then the task will be postponed until other staff members are available.
- 5.15.3. If lone working is to be undertaken, the line manager will be informed about this. For each member of staff that undertakes lone working a risk assessment will be in place to mitigate risk – the template risk assessment is available at **Appendix 15**.
- 5.15.4. The lone worker will ensure that they are medically fit to work alone.
- 5.15.5. The risk assessment will be reviewed annually.

5.16 Working at Height

- 5.16.1. All schools will ensure that work is properly planned, supervised, and carried out by competent people with the skills, knowledge, and experience to do the work from the approved contractor list.

- 5.16.2.** Staff will also receive training on working at height to discharge duties effectively and safely.
- 5.16.3.** The Site Teams retains ladders for working at height.
- 5.16.4.** Pupils are prohibited from using ladders.
- 5.16.5.** Staff will wear appropriate footwear and clothing when using ladders.
- 5.16.6.** Contractors are expected to provide their own ladders for working at height.
- 5.16.7.** Before using a ladder, staff are expected to conduct a visual inspection to ensure its safety and ensure that before and during use they follow the 'Working at Height' risk assessment.
- 5.16.8.** Access to high levels, such as roofs, is only permitted by trained persons internally or from the approved contractor list.
- 5.16.9.** All staff will be expected to complete a working at height training course via the Bradgate Learning Hub.

5.17 Manual Handling

- 5.17.1.** It is the responsibility of individuals to determine whether they are fit to lift or move equipment and furniture. If an individual feels that to lift an item could result in injury or exacerbate an existing condition, they must ask for assistance.
- 5.17.2.** The Head Teacher will ensure that proper mechanical aids and lifting equipment are available in school, and that staff are trained in how to use them safely.
- 5.17.3.** Staff and pupils are expected to use the following basic manual handling procedure:
 - 5.17.3.1.** Plan the lift and assess the load. If it is awkward or heavy, use a mechanical aid, such as a trolley, or ask another person to help.
 - 5.17.3.2.** Take the more direct route that is clear from obstruction and is as flat as possible.
 - 5.17.3.3.** Ensure the area where you plan to offload the load is clear.
 - 5.17.3.4.** When lifting, bend your knees and keep your back straight, feet apart and angled out. Ensure the load is held close to the body and firmly. Lift smoothly and slowly and avoid twisting, stretching, and reaching where practicable.
- 5.17.4.** All staff will be expected to complete a manual handling training course in line with mandatory training requirements outlined at **Appendix 7**.
- 5.17.5.** Staff will instruct and guide pupils in relation to manual handling.

5.18 Off-site Visits

- 5.18.1.** In each school there will be a trained member of staff as the named Educational Visits Co-Ordinator (EVC)
- 5.18.2.** When taking pupils off the school premises, the trip leader and EVC will ensure that:
- 5.18.2.1.** Risk assessments will be completed where off-site visits and activities require them, these are to be signed off by a qualified EVC and the Head Teacher
 - 5.18.2.2.** All off-site visits are appropriately staffed, with ratios appropriate for the age range and need e.g. SEND. Further guidance can be found in the Trust's Educational Visits Policy template.
 - 5.18.2.3.** They take a school mobile phone, a portable first aid kit, information about the specific medical needs of pupils along with the parents' contact details.
 - 5.18.2.4.** There will always be at least one first aider on school trips and visits.
- 5.18.3.** For trips and visits with pupils in the Early Years Foundation Stage, there will always be at least one first aider with a current paediatric first aid certificate.
- 5.18.4.** For other trips, there will always be at least one first aider.

5.19 Lettings

The Head Teacher will ensure that to those who hire any aspect of the school site or any facilities, they are made aware of the content of the school's Health & Safety policy, and their duties in relation complying with the procedures.

5.20 Violence at Work

- 5.20.1.** The Trust will take a zero-tolerance approach to violence at work. It is our aim to ensure that staff are not subject to any danger at work.
- 5.20.2.** Violent or threatening behaviour towards staff will be dealt with robustly and all reasonable steps will be taken to avoid this in the workplace.
- 5.20.3.** All staff will report any incidents of aggression or violence (or near misses) directed to themselves in line with the reporting procedures outlined in section 3.2 of this policy. This applies to violence from pupils, visitors, or other staff.

5.21 Smoking/Vaping

Smoking or vaping is not permitted anywhere on the school premises.

5.22 Infection Prevention and Control

- 5.22.1.** All schools within the Trust are expected to follow national guidance published by Public Health England when responding to infection control issues.

5.22.2. We will encourage staff and pupils to follow this good hygiene practice, outlined below, where applicable

5.22.3. Workspaces will be cleaned on a regular basis and staff are reminded that they should also clean toys and equipment frequently and thoroughly.

5.23 Personal Protective Equipment

There are specific times when staff, are expected to wear PPE – for example nappy changing/first aid duties. When undertaking such duties, staff must:

5.23.1. Wear disposable non-powdered vinyl or latex-free CE-marked gloves and disposable plastic aprons where there is a risk of splashing or contamination with blood/body fluids as provided by the Head Teacher

5.23.2. Wear goggles/shields if there is a risk of splashing to the face.

5.23.3. PPE is also required when handling cleaning chemicals.

5.23.4. Staff must also wear personal protective clothing when handling soiled linen, any soiled items must be bagged to be sent home.

5.24 Cleaning of Blood and Body Fluid Spillages

5.24.1. Those staff who are trained will clean up all spillages of blood, faeces, saliva, vomit, nasal and eye discharges immediately and wear personal protective equipment when doing so in line with section 5.23 above. Staff will also adhere to the risk assessment in place.

5.24.2. When spillages occur, clean using a product that combines both a detergent and a disinfectant and use as per manufacturer's instructions as provided by the Head Teacher.

5.24.3. Never use mops for cleaning up blood and body fluid spillages – use disposable paper towels and discard clinical waste as described in section **5.26**.

5.24.4. The Head Teacher will ensure that spillage kits are available for blood spills.

5.25 Laundry

For those staff who are responsible for laundry (cleaners, catering staff, PE staff etc), they must:

5.25.1. Wash laundry in a separate dedicated facility using the appropriate chemicals as provided by the school.

5.25.2. Wash school owned soiled linen separately and at the hottest wash the fabric will tolerate.

5.26 Clinical Waste

5.26.1. Always segregate domestic and clinical waste, in accordance with school procedures, specifically:

- 5.26.1.1.** Ensure that used nappies/pads, gloves, aprons, and soiled dressings are stored in correct clinical waste bags in foot-operated bins.
- 5.26.1.2.** Remove clinical waste with a registered waste contractor.
- 5.26.1.3.** Remove all clinical waste bags when they are two-thirds full and store in a dedicated, secure area while awaiting collection.

5.27 Animals

- 5.27.1.** Some schools within the Trust will have small animals in the learning environment. The Trust consider small animals to be hamsters, guinea pigs, rabbits, fish etc. If you are unsure, please speak to the Trust Head of Estates & IT prior to introducing animals into the school environment. If you do decide to have small animals in the school, then staff must ensure that the following steps are in place to mitigate any risk.
 - 5.27.1.1.** Staff and pupils must wash hands before and after handling any animals.
 - 5.27.1.2.** Keep animals' living quarters clean and away from food areas.
 - 5.27.1.3.** Dispose of animal waste regularly and keep litter boxes away from pupils.
 - 5.27.1.4.** Supervise pupils when playing with animals.
 - 5.27.1.5.** Seek veterinary advice on animal welfare and animal health issues, and the suitability of the animal as a pet.
 - 5.27.1.6.** Head Teachers will ensure the appropriate risk assessment is in place for each type of animal that is in school.
- 5.27.2.** Dogs and Cats are not considered small animals and are not allowed on school sites at any time, except for guide dogs and service dogs.
- 5.27.3.** Reading and therapy dogs - if reading/therapy dogs are to be used with pupils then evidence will be required to show why the pupil will benefit from a reading/therapy dog. The Directors of Education will then make the decision whether to approve, please note that there must be appropriate evidence of pupils needs, the dogs relevant training in place, as well as specific insurance and risk assessments.
- 5.27.4.** If a school wishes to have any other animal on site that is not a small animal or a trained therapy dog, they must first ask the Trust Head of Estates & IT to detail why the animal/s in question is required on site. If approved, the Trust Head of Estates & IT will then advise what will be required to be in place for said animal, i.e. risk assessments, suitable area within the school etc. An example of this would be chickens on site.

5.28 Pupils Vulnerable to Infection

- 5.28.1.** Some medical conditions make some pupils vulnerable to infections that would rarely be serious in most children. The Head Teacher must ensure that there are

local procedures in place so that they are fully aware of which pupils are vulnerable to infection.

- 5.28.2.** Those pupils who are vulnerable to infection are particularly vulnerable to chickenpox, measles, or slapped cheek disease (parvovirus B19) and, if exposed to either of these, the parent/carer will be informed promptly, and further medical advice sought.
- 5.28.3.** Parents of those pupils vulnerable to infection will be advised by the school to seek advice from a medical practitioner in relation to their child having additional immunisations, for example for pneumococcal and influenza.
- 5.28.4.** For those pupils who are vulnerable to infection an individual health care plan (IHCP) should be in place that is shared and followed by staff within the school (as appropriate)

5.29 Exclusion Periods for Infectious Diseases

- 5.29.1.** The school will follow recommended exclusion periods outlined by Public Health England – **Appendix 19.**
- 5.29.2.** In the event of an epidemic/pandemic, the Trust will follow advice from Public Health England, the Department for Education, the Health & Safety Executive and LA Guidelines about the appropriate course of action.
- 5.29.3.** Trust Head Teachers are expected in these types of events to work closely with the Trust and play a key role in developing the Trust response and Health & Safety plans.

5.30 New and Expectant Mothers

- 5.30.1.** A Maternity Risk assessment will be carried out by the Headteacher or a member of HR within one week of the employee notifying the Trust of their pregnancy. The risk assessment is then reviewed again at 26 weeks gestation to ensure it continues to be fit for purpose. Completed risk assessments are the responsibility of the Headteacher to monitor and implement. The template Risk Assessment is available at **Appendix 16.**
- 5.30.2.** A Post-Maternity Risk Assessment is completed by the Headteacher when the employee returns to work, this covers arrangements for expressing and storage of breast milk. The template Risk Assessment is available at **Appendix 17.**
- 5.30.3.** In a rare event where an expectant mother is exposed to an infectious disease within the workplace that can specifically carry risk towards the pregnancy, they will be informed by the school to contact their medical practitioner immediately.
- 5.30.4.** Information on breast feeding facilities for new mothers is available in the Trust's Family Friendly Policy

5.31 Occupational Stress

- 5.31.1.** The Trust are committed to promoting health and wellbeing and recognise the importance of identifying and reducing workplace stressors through risk assessment should it be required – the Trust’s Stress Risk Assessment is available at **Appendix 18**.
- 5.31.2.** Head Teachers are responsible for responding to individual concerns and monitoring staff workloads and will seek advice from the Trust’s HR Department in such circumstances.
- 5.31.3.** Please also refer to the Trust’s Health and Wellbeing Policy for further information

5.32 Reporting to the Health & Safety Executive

- 5.32.1.** The Head Teacher will keep a record of any accident which results in a reportable injury, disease, or dangerous occurrence as defined in the RIDDOR 2013 legislation (regulations 4, 5, 6 and 7)
- 5.32.2.** The Head Teacher will report these to the Trust Head of Estates & IT who will inform Health & Safety Executive as soon as is reasonably practicable and in any event within 10 days of the incident.
- 5.32.3.** Reportable injuries, diseases or dangerous occurrences include:
 - 5.32.3.1.** Death
 - 5.32.3.2.** Specified injuries. These are:
 - 5.32.3.2.1.** Fractures, other than to fingers, thumbs, and toes
 - 5.32.3.2.2.** Amputations
 - 5.32.3.2.3.** Any injury likely to lead to permanent loss of sight or reduction in sight.
 - 5.32.3.2.4.** Any crush injury to the head or torso causing damage to the brain or internal organs.
 - 5.32.3.2.5.** Serious burns (including scalding)
 - 5.32.3.2.6.** Any scalping requiring hospital treatment.
 - 5.32.3.2.7.** Any loss of consciousness caused by head injury or asphyxia.
 - 5.32.3.2.8.** Any other injury arising from working in an enclosed space which leads to hypothermia or heat-induced illness or requires resuscitation or admittance to hospital for more than 24 hours.
 - 5.32.3.3.** Work related injuries where an employee is away from work or unable to perform their normal work duties for more than 7 consecutive days.

5.32.3.4. Where an accident at in the workplace leads to someone being taken to hospital

5.32.3.5. Where something happens that does not result in an injury but could have done.

5.32.3.6. Near-miss events that do not result in an injury but could have done.
Examples of near-miss events relevant to schools include, but are not limited to:

5.32.3.6.1. The collapse or failure of load-bearing parts of lifts and lifting equipment.

5.32.3.6.2. The accidental release of a biological agent likely to cause severe human illness.

5.32.3.6.3. The accidental release or escape of any substance that may cause a serious injury or damage to health.

5.32.3.6.4. An electrical short circuit or overload causing a fire or explosion.

5.33 Notifying parents (EYFS Compulsory)

The Class Teacher will inform parents of any accident or injury sustained by a pupil, and any first aid treatment given, on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable.

5.34 Reporting Child Protection Agencies (EYFS Compulsory)

The Head Teacher will notify the Trust who will notify the relevant child protection agencies of any serious accident or injury to, or the death of, a pupil while in the school's care.

5.35 Reporting to Ofsted (EYFS Compulsory)

The Head Teacher will notify the Trust who will notify Ofsted of any serious accident, illness, or injury to, or death of, a pupil in the while in the school's care. This will happen as soon as is reasonably practicable, and no later than 14 days after the incident.

5.36 Training

5.36.1. All new staff are provided with Health & Safety training as part of their induction process, see **Appendix 7**.

5.36.2. Staff who work in high-risk environments, such as in science labs or with woodwork equipment, or work with pupils with special educational needs (SEN), are given additional Health & Safety training by the school.

Appendices

Please use the below links to access the various appendices. These can all be accessed directly at the Trust SharePoint site: [H&S Appendices](#)

[Appendix 01 – Reporting Health & Safety Concerns](#)

[Appendix 02 – Reporting Incidents Flow Chart](#)

[Appendix 03 – Incident Reporting Form](#)

[Appendix 04 – Organisational Chart](#)

[Appendix 05 – Table of Delegation of Specific Duties](#)

[Appendix 06 – Statutory policies required by education legislation](#)

[Appendix 07 – Training Schedule](#)

[Appendix 08 – Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan \(PEEP\) Template](#)

[Appendix 09 – Fire Safety Checklist](#)

[Appendix 10 – Transporting Pupils Risk Assessment Template](#)

[Appendix 11 – Driving a Minibus Risk Assessment Template](#)

[Appendix 12 – Minibus Procedure & Routine Inspections Checklist](#)

[Appendix 13 – Driver Document Checks](#)

[Appendix 14 – Display Screen Equipment \(DSE\) Checklist](#)

[Appendix 15 – Home Visit Procedure & Risk Assessment Template](#)

[Appendix 16 - Maternity Risk Assessment](#)

[Appendix 17 - Post Maternity Return to Work Checklist and Risk Assessment](#)

[Appendix 18 – Stress Risk Assessment Template](#)

[Appendix 19 - Recommended absence period for preventing the spread of infection](#)

[Appendix 20 – Headteacher Disclaimer](#)

[Appendix 21 – Staff Disclaimer](#)