

Health and Safety Policy



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Contents

1. Aims	3
2. Statement of Intent	4
3. Legislation	4
4. Roles and responsibilities	5
4.1 The trustees	5
4.2 Executive Headteacher and Chief Finance and Operations Manager	5
4.3 Health and Safety lead	6
4.4 Staff	6
4.5 Pupils and parents	6
4.6 Contractors	6
5. Site security	8
6. Fire and Other Emergencies	8
7. COSHH	9
7.1 Gas safety	10
7.2 Legionella	10
7.3 Asbestos	10
8. Equipment	11
8.1 Electrical equipment	11
8.2 Display screen equipment	11
9. Lone working	11
10. Working at height	12
11. Manual handling	12
12. Off-site visits	12
13. Violence at work	13
DEFINITION OF ABUSIVE, THREATENING AND VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR	13
The School's Measures to Avoid, Prevent and Minimise Incidents	13
INVOLVING THE POLICE	14
HARASSMENT	15
BANNING PARENTS AND OTHER VISITORS FROM SCHOOL PREMISES	15
RECORDING AND REPORTING INCIDENTS	15
14. Smoking	16
14.1 The Policy for Third Party Premises	16
14.2 Implementation and Enforcement	16
14.3 Support for those who Smoke	16
15. Infection prevention and control	17

15.1 Handwashing	17
15.2 Coughing and sneezing	17
15.3 Personal protective equipment	17
15.4 Cleaning of the environment	17
15.5 Cleaning of blood and body fluid spillages.....	17
15.6 Pupils vulnerable to infection	17
15.7 Exclusion periods for infectious diseases	18
16. New and expectant mothers	18
17. Occupational stress.....	18
18. Accident reporting and Investigation.....	18
18.1 What is reportable under RIDDOR? Death or "Specified" Injury	19
18.2 Reportable "Specified" Injuries	19
18.3 OVER-SEVEN-DAY INJURIES	20
18.4 REPORTABLE DANGEROUS OCCURRENCES	20
18.5 REPORTABLE OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES	20
HSE INCIDENT CONTACT CENTRE DETAILS	21
18.6 Notifying parents	21
18.7 Reporting to ISA and child protection agencies	21
19. Information, Documentation and Training.....	21
19.1 Driving	22
20. Monitoring	22
21. Links with other polices	22

To be read in conjunction with:

- Risk Assessment Policy
- Child protection and safeguarding Policy
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2022

1. Aims

Our school aims to:

- Provide and maintain a safe and healthy environment
- Establish and maintain safe working procedures amongst staff, pupils and all visitors to the school site
- Have robust procedures in place in case of emergencies
- Ensure that the premises and equipment are maintained safely, and are regularly inspected

2. Statement of Intent

With the conviction that all occupational injuries and instances of ill health are avoidable, the Trustees (of The Southover Partnership) with overall responsibilities for health and safety fully endorse the policy outlined below.

Therefore, the Trustees:

1.1 Recognise and accept that as the employer they have the prime responsibility to provide, so far as is reasonably practicable, a safe and healthy working environment for all employees.

1.2 Will make every effort to meet their legal obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and any other relevant legislation.

1.3 Realize that the greatest asset they have is their employees, but they also recognise that they have responsibilities to safeguard the health and safety of their customers, contractors, visitors and pupils / students/ colleagues in the schools / colleges and homes within which many of their employees are based.

1.4 Recognise that Health and Safety is of equal importance to all other business objectives.

1.5 Will ensure that safe and healthy working conditions are maintained and appropriate plans, systems of work and supervision are provided. Further that all necessary information, instruction, and training is given.

1.6 Require all employees, as representatives of the Partnership, to work safely and to recognise that the commitment to health and safety is an important and necessary part of their work.

1.7 Will employ specialists, as necessary, to provide support in the development of best practices in all areas of health and safety.

1.8 Will regularly monitor the compliance of individuals with the ideals outlined in this statement through regular contact.

1.9 Will keep this policy under review and amend as necessary.

3. Legislation

This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education on [health and safety in schools](#) and the following legislation:

- [The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974](#), which sets out the general duties employers have towards employees and duties relating to lettings
- [The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999](#), which require employers to make an assessment of the risks to the health and safety of their employees, ensure that employees understand those risks, make arrangements to implement necessary risk control measures and arrange for appropriate information and training.
- [The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002](#), which require employers to control substances that are hazardous to health
- [The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations \(RIDDOR\) 2013](#), which state that some accidents must be reported to the Health and Safety Executive and set out the timeframe for this and how long records of such accidents must be kept
- [The Health and Safety \(Display Screen Equipment\) Regulations 1992](#), which require employers to carry out digital screen equipment assessments and states users' entitlement to an eyesight test
- [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

- [The Regulatory Reform \(Fire Safety\) Order 2005](#), which requires employers to take general fire precautions to ensure the safety of their staff
- [The Work at Height Regulations 2005](#), which requires employers to protect their staff from falls from height

The school follows [national guidance published by Public Health England](#) when responding to infection control issues.

4. Roles and responsibilities

4.1 The trustees

The trustees have ultimate responsibility for health and safety matters in the school, but they will delegate day to day responsibility to the Executive Headteacher.

The Trustees of The Southover Partnership have overall responsibility for the fulfilment of the Health and Safety Policy.

In particular, their health and safety duties include:

- Ensuring that appropriate and adequate risk assessments are carried out at Kingsbury Manor, Edgware and Finchley school sites and anywhere else where the work of the organisation is carried out. The Risk Assessment Policy contains example forms for completing such assessments.
- Ensuring that policies and procedures are tailored to the specific needs of the service the organisation provides.
- Reviewing the effectiveness of policies and procedures on a regular basis and amending as necessary.
- Ensuring that health and safety responsibilities are properly assigned and accepted by all employees, including any temporary members of staff.
- The provision of adequate resources to meet health and safety requirements.
- Ensuring that due regard is paid to health and safety when purchasing services, materials, equipment or substances for use by the organisation on any site.
- Appointing external assistance with regard to health and safety as and when necessary.
- Taking personal responsibility for overseeing the effective implementation of the Health and Safety Policy.

4.2 Executive Headteacher and Chief Finance and Operations Manager

The Executive Headteacher and Chief Finance and Operations Manager are responsible for health and safety day-to-day. This involves:

- Implementing the health and safety policy and risk assessments with the Facilities Team
- Ensuring there are enough staff to safely supervise pupils
- Ensuring that the school building and premises are safe and regularly inspected (See Site specific premises health and safety)
- Providing adequate training for school staff
- Reporting to the trustees on health and safety matters

- Ensuring appropriate lock down procedures and fire evacuation procedures are in place, and regular drills held for both
- Ensuring that in their absence, health and safety responsibilities are delegated to another member of staff
- Ensuring all risk assessments are completed and reviewed
- Monitoring cleaning contracts, and ensuring cleaners are appropriately trained and have access to personal protective equipment, where necessary

As delegated by, and in the absence of, the Executive Headteacher and CFOO, the Facilities Manager and Heads of School assume the above day-to-day health and safety responsibilities.

4.3 Health and Safety lead

The nominated Health & Safety (H&S) Lead is the Chair of Trustees. A risk assessment report will be provided to the H&S Lead and Board every term.

4.4 Staff

School staff have a duty to take care of pupils in the same way that a prudent parent would do so.

Staff will:

- Take reasonable care of their own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by what they do at work
- Co-operate with the school on health and safety matters
- Sign the Staff Register accurately on entry into and exit from each Southover Partnership Site
- Work in accordance with training and instructions
- Inform the appropriate person of any work situation representing a serious and immediate danger so that remedial action can be taken
- Model safe and hygienic practice for pupils
- Understand emergency lock down and evacuation procedures, and feel confident in implementing them
- Report all accidents, injuries and near-miss incidents promptly.
- Comply with the requirements of risk assessments that are carried out and that may compel specific control measures to be followed.
- Advise on any additional control measures that may be required that have not yet been identified.

4.5 Pupils and parents

Pupils and parents are responsible for following the school's health and safety advice, on-site and off-site, and for reporting any health and safety incidents to a member of staff.

4.6 Contractors

Contractors will agree health and safety practices with the CFOO or Facilities Manager before starting work. Before work begins the contractor will provide evidence that they have completed a comprehensive Risk Assessment and Method of Work Statement (RAMS) for their planned work.

- We have a statutory duty under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, the Disability Discrimination Act 2005 and a common law duty to ensure that, so far as reasonably practicable, that the school premises are safe and that visitors to school and children come to no harm.

- We require all visitors such as parents/carers, education officials, LA officials, contractors and others to report to the main office or reception area upon entering the school premises. They will be welcomed in a cordial, confidential, efficient and purposeful manner. Visitors will be asked to state the purpose of their visit, and to confirm their status by producing verifiable documentation. They will be asked to sign in on arrival and out again when they depart. They will also be asked to wear a colour coded, visitor lanyard during their visit.
- When working on the school premises contractors have a duty to ensure the health and safety of everyone in the school who may be affected by their work activities. They must also cooperate with our health and safety policies and procedures. We have a legal responsibility under the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 to ensure that, when working on school premises, all contractors act in a responsible and proper manner.

Aims

To ensure that the school premises are safe and that visitors to school and children come to no harm.

Role of the Executive Headteacher

The Executive Headteacher and CFOO will:

- Ensure the health and safety of students, staff, visitors and contractors by monitoring Risk Assessments of the premises and activities.
- Monitor and review this policy.

Role of the Facilities Manager and Team

The Facilities Team will:

- Ensure that all contractors when working on the school premises cooperate with our health and safety
- Ensure that planned work is organized out of school time, wherever possible. No DBS is required for staff working outside of school time.
- For emergency repairs: Workers will be supervised and children will not be allowed near contractors. In the event of contractors being on site for a longer period of time they must have DBS checks. (Children may see them as safe and trustworthy)
- Ensure that all contractors act in a responsible and proper manner
- Come to an agreement regarding how the contractor can work on the school premises during the school day
- Check to ensure that this working agreement is fulfilled
- Ensure asbestos surveys and/or hot works policies are adhered to whilst contractors are on site (during 'holiday-time' work, this may be administered by the Caretaker or Support Team)

Role of School

All school personnel will:

- Take reasonable care of their own health and safety
- Take reasonable care of the health and safety of pupils, visitors and contractors
- Be aware of the safeguarding requirements around any contractor undertaking work in the school

Role of Visitors and Contractors

Visitors will:

- Report to the office/ reception upon entering the school premises;
- Confirm their status by producing verifiable documentation;
- Enter their details in the visitor's book;
- Wear a school visitors lanyard;
- Be familiar with the procedure of evacuating the school building in the event of an emergency;
- Sign out when leaving the school

5. Site security

The CFOO and Facilities Team is responsible for the security of school sites in school hours. The Facilities Team are responsible for visual inspections of the site and for intruder and fire alarm systems.

Kingsbury site has key holding service contract with The Keyholding Company.

Edgware site is provided with key holding services, through landlords, Jewish Care, from The Keyholding Company.

The Keyholding company will respond to an intruder alarm during out of work hours.

The Caretaker, Facilities Manager, CFOO and Executive Headteacher are key holders for all sites and will respond to an emergency. Heads of Site also have the keys for their site.

6. Fire and Other Emergencies

The Southover Partnership recognises that it has a responsibility to provide a safe and healthy working environment and acknowledges that this includes ensuring that procedures are developed and followed in respect of fire and other emergencies.

The Southover Partnership will endeavour to control the associated risks and to comply with the legal requirements relating to fire safety and other emergencies, as contained within the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety Order) 2005 and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, and with the specific guidance notes issued by the Health and Safety Executive and Fire Authority.

In particular, the following rules and procedures will be applied in relation to this area and associated work activities:

- The Southover Partnership will take such general fire precautions as will ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the safety of all employees and other persons that may be affected by its activities.
- Risk assessments will be completed for all premises occupied by The Southover Partnership for the purpose of identifying the general fire precautions required to be implemented.
- The significant findings of the assessments and details of any groups of persons identified as being especially at risk will be recorded and brought to the attention of relevant employees and other affected persons.
- All relevant risk assessments will be subject to periodic monitoring at a frequency prescribed by the assessment.
- All relevant risk assessments will be subject to periodic review at a frequency prescribed by the assessment or when they are no longer valid or significant changes have occurred.

- Where dangerous substances may be present in or on premises, the risk assessment will take account of any relevant special hazards with a view to eliminating or reducing the risks so far as is reasonably practicable.
- All premises will be equipped with appropriate fire-fighting equipment and with fire detectors and alarms where considered to be necessary, as determined by the risk assessment.
- All non-automatic fire-fighting equipment will be easily accessible, simple to use, and their location will be indicated by signs.
- Suitable and sufficient emergency routes and exits will be designated for all The Southover Partnership premises and selected in order for employees and any other persons to evacuate as quickly as possible.
- All emergency routes and exits will lead to a place of safety and will be indicated by signs.
- All emergency exits and the routes to emergency exits from premises must be kept clear at all times.
- All emergency exit doors will open in the direction of escape and allow easy and immediate opening.
- All emergency exit doors must remain unlocked and unfastened at all required times.
- All emergency exits and routes requiring illumination will be provided with suitable emergency lighting.
- All fire alarms will be maintained in efficient working order, good repair, serviced at required intervals and tested at regular intervals, as determined by the risk assessment. A suitable record of such tests will be kept and maintained.
- Fire drills / emergency evacuations will take place at required intervals. A suitable record of such drills shall be kept and maintained.
- All employees will be provided with suitable and sufficient instruction and training on the appropriate precautions and actions required to be taken by them in case of fire or other emergencies. This training will be provided at induction and repeated periodically and/or when required.
- All visitors to The Southover Partnership premises, including contractors, will be provided with suitable health and safety information and will be required to record their details in a register, including times of arrival and leaving.
- The Southover Partnership will appoint one or more suitable `Competent Persons` for every premise, who will be responsible for ensuring that all preventative and protective measures for fire and other emergencies are in place. All such appointees will be provided with adequate information, training and other resources in order to carry out his/her role and duties effectively.
- The Southover Partnership will appoint a Head Fire Marshal and a sufficient number of fire wardens at every premises, to implement and manage the emergency evacuation procedures. Duties of fire wardens will be as detailed below.
- The Southover Partnership will prepare and publish a Fire / Emergency Plan for all premises as detailed below.

A Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan will be produced for any student, staff member, contractor or visitor whose egress might be impeded by mobility issues.

7. COSHH

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

Chemicals

- Products containing chemicals
- Fumes

- Dusts
- Vapours
- Mists
- Gases and asphyxiating gases
- Germs that cause diseases, such as leptospirosis or legionnaires disease

Subject specific control of substances hazardous to health (COSHH) risk assessments are completed by the relevant subject leads and circulated to all employees who work with those hazardous substances. Staff will also be provided with protective equipment, where necessary.

Suitable, COSHH compliant storage facilities will be provided for science resources.

Our staff 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.

At Edgware and Kingsbury sites, COSHH data sheets will be provided by the contracted cleaning company and clearly displayed in a folder, with the substances, in a locked cleaning cupboard. At the Finchley site, this data will be provided by the synagogue's appointed caretaker.

Use of such substances by pupils is under the strict supervision of staff.

Any hazardous products are disposed of in accordance with specific disposal procedures.

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

7.1 Gas safety

- Installation, maintenance and repair of gas appliances and fittings will be carried out by a competent Gas Safe registered engineer.
- Gas pipework, appliances and flues are regularly maintained.
- All rooms with gas appliances are checked to ensure that they have adequate ventilation.

7.2 Legionella

- A water risk assessment is conducted every two years across all three sites.
- The Facilities Manager is responsible for ensuring that the identified operational controls are conducted and recorded in log-books where relevant and on Smartlog. book.
- This risk assessment will be reviewed every five years and when significant changes have occurred to the water system and/or building footprint.
- The risks from legionella are mitigated by the following: weekly temperature checks, running and cleaning of all taps and showers.

7.3 Asbestos

- Staff are briefed on the hazards of asbestos, the location of any asbestos in the school and the action to take if they suspect they have disturbed it.
- 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.
- 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.

- A record is kept of the location of asbestos that has been found on the school sites.

8. Equipment

- All equipment and machinery is maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. In addition, maintenance schedules outline when extra checks should take place.
- When new equipment is purchased, it is checked to ensure that it meets appropriate educational standards.
- All equipment is stored in the appropriate storage containers and areas. All containers are labelled with the correct hazard sign and contents.

8.1 Electrical equipment

- All staff are responsible for ensuring that they use and handle electrical equipment sensibly and safely.
- Any pupil or volunteer who handles electrical appliances does so under the supervision of the member of staff who so directs them.
- Any potential hazards will be reported to the Facilities Team and/or Head of School immediately.
- Permanently installed electrical equipment is connected through a dedicated isolator switch and adequately earthed.
- Only trained staff members can check plugs.
- Portable appliance tests (PAT) will be carried out regularly, by a competent person, on all electrical appliances more than 12 months old.
- All isolator switches are clearly marked to identify their machine.
- Electrical apparatus and connections will not be touched by wet hands and will only be used in dry conditions.
- Maintenance, repair, installation and disconnection work associated with permanently installed or portable electrical equipment is only carried out, regularly tested and certified by a competent person.

8.2 Display screen equipment

- All staff who use computers daily as a significant part of their normal work have a display screen equipment (DSE) assessment carried out. 'Significant' is taken to be continuous/near continuous spells of an hour or more at a time.
- 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 (and corrective glasses provided if required specifically for DSE use.)

9. Lone working

Lone working may include:

- Late working
- Home or site visits
- Weekend working
- Site manager duties.
- Site cleaning duties.
- Working in a single occupancy office.

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.

If lone working is to be undertaken, a colleague, friend or family member will be informed about where the member of staff is and when they are likely to return.

The lone worker will ensure that they are medically fit to work alone.

If a staff member has a medical condition which makes it unsafe for them to work alone, it is their responsibility to advise the school of such.

10. Working at height

We will ensure that work is properly planned, supervised and carried out by competent people with the skills, knowledge and experience to do the work.

In addition:

- Pupils are prohibited from using ladders.
- Contractors are expected to provide their own ladders for working at height.
- Contractors will be required to provide RAMS for any work at height.
- Access to high levels, such as roofs, is only permitted by trained persons.
- The caretaker retains ladders for working at height and these are inspected termly.

11. Manual handling

The school will ensure that all staff complete manual handling training annually. It is up to 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 will ask for assistance.

The school will ensure that proper mechanical aids and lifting equipment are available in school where required, and that staff are trained in how to use them safely.

Staff and pupils are expected to use the following basic manual handling procedure:

- 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.
- Take the more direct route that is clear from obstruction and is as flat as possible.
- Ensure the area where you plan to offload the load is clear.
- 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

12. Off-site visits

When taking pupils off the school premises, we will ensure that:

- Risk assessments will be completed and signed off by the Head of School and Executive Headteacher.
- All off-site visits are appropriately staffed.
- Staff will take a school mobile phone, a portable first aid kit, information about the specific medical needs of pupils along with the parents' contact details.
- There will always be at least one first aider on school trips and visits.

13. Violence at work

The Southover Partnership believes that violence, threatening behaviour and abuse against staff are unacceptable and should not be tolerated. All staff have a right to expect that their workplace is a safe place in which to work and that prompt and appropriate action will be taken on their behalf if they are subjected to abuse, threats or violence by parents and other adults on the premises. (This policy does not cover such behaviour on the part of pupils.) The Southover Partnership will take all reasonable and appropriate action in support of schools and their staff.

Definition of Abusive, Threatening and Violent Behaviour

The most common example of unreasonable behaviour is abusive and aggressive language for which the most widely used remedy, where informal action is not considered to be appropriate or has proved to be ineffective, is the withdrawal of permission to be on school premises.

Where a person recklessly or intentionally applies unlawful force on another or puts another in fear of an immediate attack, it is an offence in law which constitutes an assault. The police would normally be contacted immediately in such cases.

There are three categories of assault, based on the severity of the injury to the victim:

- Common Assault - involving the threat of immediate violence or causing minor injury (such as a graze, reddening of the skin or minor bruise.)
- Actual Bodily Harm - causing an injury which interferes with the health or comfort of the victim (such as multiple bruising, broken tooth or temporary sensory loss.)
- Grievous Bodily Harm - causing serious injury (such as a broken bone or an injury requiring lengthy treatment.)

There is also a racially aggravated form of assault, where there is a racial element to the offence, which carries higher maximum penalties.

It is important to note that no physical attack or injury needs to have occurred for a common assault to have taken place. It is sufficient for a person to have been threatened with immediate violence and put in fear of a physical attack for an offence to have been committed. Individual circumstances will influence the decision as to whether a particular incident should be reported to the Police. The Police would expect to be involved where there is a clear injury (whether physical or emotional) and acknowledge that other factors may need to be taken into account such as the previous behaviour of the offender and the likelihood of a repetition if action is not taken to prevent it.

The School's Measures to Avoid, Prevent and Minimise Incidents

The Executive Headteacher has the prime responsibility in the school to ensure that the staff are protected. This responsibility is delegated to the member of the Senior Leadership Team and support staff who are responsible for safety of staff on a day-to-day basis (Heads of School / CFOO/ facilities Team/ HR).

Staff are advised, in the event of an incident, to:

- Speak calmly and without raising the voice.
- Be assertive but not aggressive.
- Be polite but firm.
- Seek assistance.
- Think about an escape route, should the need arise.
- Walk away.

In the event of an emergency, staff should request assistance from a member of the Senior Leadership Team, if available, otherwise the nearest member(s) of staff. In the longer term, support can be obtained from the Victim Support Service on giving evidence in court.

All parties involved should take into account the needs, views, feelings and wishes of the victim at every stage. The school will ensure that sympathetic and practical help, support and counselling are made available to the victim at the time of the incident and subsequently.

Involving the Police

The Board of Trustees would normally expect all cases of assault, and all but the most minor of other incidents, to be regarded as serious matters which should be reported to the Police and followed up with due care, attention and rigour.

The 999 call system should always be used when the immediate attendance of a police officer is required. The police support the use of 999 in all cases where:

- There is a danger to life.
- There is a likelihood of violence .
- An assault is, or believed to be, in progress.
- The offender is on the premises.
- The offence has just occurred and an early arrest is likely.

All 999 calls receive an immediate response. Unless other arrangements are agreed at the time, other (non-emergency) calls will normally result in attendance within eight hours (and within 24 hours at the latest). In non-urgent cases, where the incident is not thought to be an emergency, but police involvement is nevertheless required, the Force Operations Room should be contacted on 101 so that an incident log can be created for possible further reference.

When they attend the school, the Police will take written statements from the victim (including a 'Victim Personal Statement') and obtain evidence in order to investigate the offence in the most appropriate and effective manner. The Police will also take into account any views expressed by the Executive Headteacher as to the action which the school would like to see taken. The Executive Headteacher should, therefore, speak to the victim and be aware of his or her views before confirming with the Police how the school would wish them to proceed.

In certain cases, the victim may be asked by the Police if he or she wishes to make a complaint or allegation against the alleged offender. In such a situation, it is important that the victim has the opportunity to discuss the matter with the Executive Headteacher, Head of Site, CFOO, colleague, friend or representative before deciding on their response.

The decision on whether or not to prosecute is made by the Police or Crown Prosecution Service on the basis of the evidence and with due regard to the relevant gravity or public interest factors including the Victim Personal Statement. Legal advice suggests that, in the absence of a prosecution supported by the

CPS, a private prosecution is most unlikely to succeed. However, every incident will be judged on its merits and will consider the need for further action in cases where an employee has been assaulted and the CPS has decided against a prosecution.

Harassment

Situations can arise where staff find themselves subjected to a pattern of persistent and unreasonable behaviour from individuals which is not abusive or overtly aggressive but which can be perceived as intimidating and oppressive. In these circumstances, staff may be faced with a barrage of constant demands or criticisms (on an almost daily basis) which, whilst not particularly taxing or serious when viewed in isolation, can have the cumulative effect over time of undermining their confidence, well-being and health. In extreme cases, the behaviour of the parent may constitute an offence under the protection from Harassment Act 1997. If so, the Police have powers to take action against the offender.

If the actions of a parent appear to be heading in this direction, the Executive Headteacher and SLT have the options of writing and/or talking to the parent, explaining the gravity of the situation, banning the parent from the school premises and/or advising the parent to make a formal complaint.

Banning Parents and other Visitors from School Premises

Section 206 of the Education Act 2002 makes it a criminal offence punishable with a fine of up to £500 for a person to trespass on school premises and cause a nuisance or disturbance. Parents and some other visitors normally have implied permission to be on school premises at certain times and for certain purposes and they will not therefore be trespassers unless the implied permission is withdrawn.

There is a procedure in place withdrawing permission for any parent or other person who behaves unreasonably on school premises to be on site. Incidents which could warrant this should be reported to the SLT. It is important throughout this process that a full record is made of each incident, including details of witnesses, since evidence will need to be provided to the Court.

Recording and Reporting Incidents

The recording and reporting of incidents are important because they can enable the school and employees:

- To meet their statutory duties in compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act and Regulations, the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) and Social Security Regulations.
- To collect evidence which may later be necessary if proceedings are brought against an alleged assailant.
- To assist the insurers should any claim for compensation be made.
- To help in reviewing policies and informing future risk assessments.

The recording and reporting of incidents should be made on an Incident Report Form (IRF) copies of which are held in the main office. The school has liability insurance which may apply in the event of injury through physical abuse, and if this occurs the HR department can advise further.

In some instances, the school may need to carry out a risk assessment in relation to a specific individual whose behaviour has been, or may be, a cause for concern.

14. Smoking

From March 2014 smoking is prohibited in The Southover Partnership's premises and on the surrounding grounds, including the car park. Smoking is also prohibited in The Southover Partnership vehicles used by more than one person, and in private vehicles if a passenger is carried. This applies to employees whether employed directly by The Southover Partnership, through an agency, by a contractor and visitors.

Employees who wish to smoke may do so in their own time during lunch breaks. Employees will not be permitted to smoke whilst carrying out their duties and responsibilities for The Southover Partnership.

The sale of tobacco will be prohibited in all The Southover Partnership's premises.

14.1 The Policy for Third Party Premises

Employees required to visit other premises not covered by smoke free legislation as part of their duties (i.e. domestic premises) should advise the visitor when arranging a visit of The Southover Partnership's smoking policy. Although The Southover Partnership has a duty of care to protect its employees, it cannot control the smoking policy on these premises. Employees should agree that the visitor arrange for a nonsmoking area to be provided for the duration of the visit. Where this is not possible, employees should ask the visitor to refrain from smoking inside the premises or in the meeting area for one hour before the visit and that the visitor not smoke during the duration of the visit.

In circumstances where it is not possible to arrange a visit beforehand, employees should seek advice from their line manager, who should take all reasonable steps to protect them from exposure to second hand smoke.

14.2 Implementation and Enforcement

The Senior Leadership Team will:

- Be responsible for the promotion and maintenance of the policy by their staff.
- Receive training and guidance regarding their responsibilities in relation to the policy and enforcement of it.
- Refer to HR for support subject to the usual disciplinary procedure for employees not complying with the policy.

Employees should:

- Inform the appropriate manager of anyone who fails to comply with the policy.

Visitors:

- Visitors not adhering to the policy will be asked to comply or leave the premises or site.

14.3 Support for those who Smoke

The Southover Partnership recognises that smoking is an addiction and that the smoking policy will impact on smokers' working lives.

The Southover Partnership:

- Wishes to support employees who want to stop and help individuals adjust to this change.

- Will give each employee who smokes, and wishes to stop, four hours paid time off to seek professional help from the local NHS Stop Smoking Service, their GP or other recognised method of smoking cessation. HR can provide smoking cessation support/information on free local NHS stop smoking services.

15. Infection prevention and control

We follow national guidance published by Public Health England (PHE) when responding to infection control issues.

Staff will receive annual training on infection control.

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

15.1 Handwashing

Wash hands with liquid soap and warm water, and dry with paper towels. Always wash hands after using the toilet, before eating or handling food, and after handling animals. Cover all cuts and abrasions with waterproof dressings.

15.2 Coughing and sneezing

- Cover mouth and nose with a tissue.
- Wash hands after using or disposing of tissues.
- Spitting is discouraged.

15.3 Personal protective equipment

- 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.
- Wear goggles if there is a risk of splashing to the face.
- Use the correct personal protective equipment when handling cleaning chemicals.

15.4 Cleaning of the environment

The school will arrange for the premises to be cleaned frequently and thoroughly.

15.5 Cleaning of blood and body fluid spillages

- Clean up all spillages of blood, faeces, saliva, vomit, nasal and eye discharges immediately and wear personal protective equipment.
- When spillages occur, clean using a product that combines both a detergent and a disinfectant and use as per manufacturer's instructions.
- Ensure it is effective against bacteria and viruses and suitable for use on the affected surface.
- Never use mops for cleaning up blood and body fluid spillages – use disposable paper towels and discard clinical waste as described below.
- Make spillage kits available for blood spills.

15.6 Pupils vulnerable to infection

Some medical conditions make pupils vulnerable to infections that would rarely be serious in most children. The school will normally have been made aware of such vulnerable children. These children 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. Advise these children to have additional immunisations, for example for pneumococcal and influenza.

15.7 Exclusion periods for infectious diseases

In the event of an epidemic/pandemic, we will follow advice from Public Health England about the appropriate course of action.

16. New and expectant mothers

Risk assessments will be carried out whenever any employee or pupil notifies the school that they are pregnant.

Appropriate measures will be put in place to control risks identified. Some specific risks are summarised below:

- Chickenpox can affect the pregnancy if a person has not already had the infection. Expectant mothers should report exposure to antenatal carer and GP at any stage of exposure. Shingles is caused by the same virus as chickenpox, so anyone who has not had chickenpox is potentially vulnerable to the infection if they have close contact with a case of shingles.
- If a pregnant person comes into contact with measles or German measles (rubella), they should inform their antenatal carer and GP immediately to ensure investigation.
- Slapped cheek disease (parvovirus B19) can occasionally affect an unborn child. If exposed early in pregnancy (before 20 weeks), the pregnant person should inform her antenatal care and GP as this must be investigated promptly.

17. Occupational stress

We are committed to promoting high levels of health and wellbeing and recognise the importance of identifying and reducing workplace stressors through risk assessment.

Systems are in place within the school for responding to individual concerns and monitoring staff workloads.

18. Accident reporting and Investigation

The Southover Partnership recognises that it has a responsibility to provide a safe and healthy working environment and acknowledge that this includes ensuring that all accidents and incidents are reported and investigated.

The Southover Partnership will endeavour to comply with the relevant legal requirements, as contained within the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, and with the specific guidance (INDG453) issued by the Health and Safety Executive.

Every case of injury, accident, or incident on school premises must be fully and accurately reported to Executive Headteacher or the Heads of School, according to local arrangements. An accident book is kept in the staff office on each site, for this purpose. If you are the victim of abusive or violent behaviour in the workplace, this must be reported to the Executive Headteacher who will be able to arrange support if needed.

The following rules and procedures will be applied in relation to this area:

- All employees are required to report all accidents to their manager as soon as possible.
- For these purposes an accident is defined as any unplanned event which may give rise to injury, ill health, property or plant damage or any other potential loss, including near misses.
- All accidents involving injury must be recorded in the accident book or equivalent form of recording. This record should be made by the relevant first aider with the injured person. If

necessary, another suitable person e.g. manager, colleague or other appointed person can make the report to ensure the incident is recorded swiftly and accurately.

- The completed accident report form will be reviewed by HR/Facilities Team/ SLT if further investigation is necessary and reviewed by the Health & Safety committee for analysis.
- If the accident or incident is reportable under RIDDOR the required notification procedures as detailed below must be followed by the nominated person/s within Southover Partnership (see Information Library document "Accidents - RIDDOR 2013 Requirements").
- The Health & Safety committee will be responsible for analysis and possible further investigation of all accidents and for producing accident statistics and reports where required.
- Where an accident investigation reveals matters that are required to be implemented to prevent a recurrence, the required action must be taken immediately by the appropriate manager.
- Where an investigation reveals that immediate action is required to prevent a recurrence, but circumstances dictate that it is not possible or feasible, any required interim measures to ensure the safety of the persons affected must be taken (e.g. disconnection of equipment).

18.1 What is reportable under RIDDOR? Death or "Specified" Injury

When an accident involves the following:

An employee, or a self-employed person working on The Southover Partnership premises is killed or suffers a "specified" injury (including as a result of physical violence); or

A non-employee such as a member of the public is killed or taken to hospital from the site of the accident;

The relevant enforcing authority or Incident Contact Centre must be notified without delay (e.g. by telephone or by submitting an online form, available on the HSE website).

18.2 Reportable "Specified" Injuries

These include:

- Fractures, other than to fingers, thumbs and toes
- Amputations
- Any injury likely to lead to permanent loss of sight or reduction in sight
- Any crush injury to the head or torso causing damage to the brain or internal organs; - serious Burns (including scalding) which:
 - Covers more than 10% of the body or
 - Causes significant damage to the eyes, respiratory system or other vital organs
 - Any scalping requiring hospital treatment
 - Any loss of consciousness caused by head injury or asphyxia
 - 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.

18.3 Over-seven-day Injuries

If there is an accident connected with work (including an act of physical violence) and an employee, or a self-employed person working on The Southover Partnership premises, suffers an over-seven-day injury an online accident report form (F2508) must be completed on the HSE website.

An over-seven-day injury is one which is not major but results in the injured person being away from work or unable to do the full range of his/her normal duties for more than seven days (including any days they wouldn't normally be expected to work such as weekends, rest days or holidays) and not counting the day of the injury itself.

18.4 Reportable Dangerous Occurrences

If any type of incident that is classed as a dangerous occurrence must be reported immediately (e.g. by telephone) to the relevant enforcing authority and an online form completed on the HSE website.

There are 27 different categories of reportable dangerous occurrences including:

- Collapse, overturning or failure of load-bearing parts of lifts and lifting equipment.
- Plant or equipment coming into contact with overhead power lines.
- Accidental release of any substance which could cause injury to any person.

The full list of dangerous occurrences can be found in the detailed guide to the Regulations.

18.5 Reportable Occupational Diseases

If an employee reports diagnosis of an occupational disease, where it is likely to have been caused or made worse by their work, a report of the diagnosis must be sent using Form F2508A to the relevant enforcing authority without delay.

These diseases include:

- Carpal tunnel syndrome;
- Severe cramp of the hand or forearm;
- Occupational dermatitis;
- Hand-arm vibration syndrome;
- Occupational asthma;
- Tendonitis or tenosynovitis of the hand or forearm;
- Any occupational cancer; - any disease attributed to an occupational exposure to a biological agent.
- The full list of reportable diseases, and the work activities they are related to, can be found in the detailed guide to the Regulations.

HSE Incident Contact Centre Details

Incident Contact Centre: Call 0345 300 9923 (Monday to Friday, 8.30 am to 5 pm) for reporting fatal and major injuries.

General Inquiries: For general questions, you can reach out via HSE Live at 1800 700 700 (Monday to Friday, 8 am to 8 pm).

Media Inquiries: For media-related inquiries, call 0151 922 1221 or email media.enquiries@hse.gov.uk.

Out of Hours: For urgent media inquiries outside of regular hours, you can contact the duty officer at 0151 922 9235.

Internet: www.riddor.gov.uk or www.hse.gov.uk/riddor

The appointed person/s for reporting accidents/incidents under RIDDOR will be the Chair of Trustees and the Executive Headteacher. The person/s within Southover Partnership with responsibility for implementing and monitoring the rules and procedures in this area will be Chair of Trustees and the Executive Headteacher.

18.6 Notifying parents

The Heads of School 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.

18.7 Reporting to ISA and child protection agencies

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

The Executive Headteacher will also notify the relevant local authority of any serious accident or injury to, or the death of, a pupil while in the school's care.

19. Information, Documentation and Training

Employees (including temporary employees) should either receive copies or have their attention drawn to relevant safety information contained in the Health & Safety Policy. Health & Safety documents are held in the main school office by the School Administrator.

It is the responsibility of HR Department and Facilities Team, monitored by the Executive Headteacher and CFOO, to identify the training needs of staff and keep a record of those who have attended training, including health and safety training.

The person responsible for contacting the Health & Safety Consultant when issues arise that need his attention is the Facilities Manager or CFOO.

On a termly basis, the Health and Safety Committee will review and action the General and Fire Risk Assessments produced by the Health and Safety Consultant.

19.1 Driving

All staff driving on Southover Partnership business are required to confirm to the Executive Headteacher or Heads of School that they have business cover on their insurance policy if they use their own vehicles for work purposes.

20. Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed every year.

At every review, the policy will be approved by the Executive Headteacher and Chair of Trustees

21. Links with other policies

This health and safety policy links to the following policies:

- First aid
- Risk assessment
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Accessibility plan
- Remote learning
- Emergency or critical incident plan