

“Every child is a unique child of God.”

WHINMOOR



ST. PAUL'S
C of E Primary School

Whinmoor St Paul's (VA) C of E Primary School

Health and Safety Policy

Every Child is a Unique Child of God

At Whinmoor St. Paul's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School, everything we do is underpinned at all times by the Christian ethos of valuing the individual. We believe that every child is respected as a unique child of God, the future adults in society. We believe children are gifts from God and we are privileged to work with their families and carers, to enable them to live life to the full.

Agreed: January 2024

Review Date: July 2029

Signed: Chair of Governors: Mrs R Davies

Date: January 2024



Our Mission and Ethos

At Whinmoor St Paul's we believe that every child is a unique child of God and lives in a world that God has made. We believe that all adults and children should be given opportunities to '**Let their Light Shine.**' We have a loving, caring community, underpinned by our Christian ethos, in which everyone, regardless of our differences, feels valued, nurtured and secure.

Our Vision...

To promote the development of secure, happy, well-adjusted individuals who are equipped for lifelong learning. At Whinmoor St Paul's Primary School we believe that every child is a unique child of God and lives in a world that God has made.

Our aims are to...

- Provide a safe, happy and nurturing environment where every child can achieve their full potential
- Provide a curriculum which is knowledge-rich, wide, progressive, purposeful & connects to our community & the world we live in
- Enable each child, through fostering high expectations, to grow and develop intellectually, physically, spiritually, and morally in order to enable him/her to achieve their potential
- Develop attitudes which will be positively helpful to the individual child, the whole school and to society in general, valuing all faiths and cultures
- To build strong relationships with the local community, our city and the wider world
- And to do all this as a caring community based on strong Christian values.

The Governing Body and staff of Whinmoor St Paul's Primary School take as our first priority the responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of our pupils, to minimise risk and to work together with other agencies to ensure rigorous arrangements are in place within our school to identify, assess, and support those children who are suffering harm and to keep them safe and secure whilst in our care.



School Management System for Health and Safety

The school Health and Safety Policy Statement	Section 1	This section sets out the health and safety objectives for the school.
The school Organisation and Responsibilities	Section 2	This section gives details on the structure for the management of health and safety; responsibilities for senior managers, consultation arrangements and auditing and monitoring arrangements.
Standards affecting the whole school	Section 3	This section will contain arrangements in the form of standards for managing health and safety issues which impact across all areas of school activity.
Review and Audit procedures	Section 4	This section gives details of audit arrangements compliance and external recognition from a Quality Safety Auditing Body
School arrangements for managing health and safety to include procedures, operational guidelines and instructions	Section 5	This section is left blank for schools to insert their own arrangements, procedures, operating instructions and codes of practice.



Section 1: General Statement of Health and Safety Policy

The following statement sets out the health and safety objectives for

Whinmoor St Paul's C of E Primary School

with the aim of ensuring best practice in the management of health and safety.

Whinmoor St Paul's C of E Primary School

- Will take all reasonable steps to provide safe and healthy conditions for staff, pupils and others who may be affected by its activities.
- Will take steps to ensure compliance with all relevant health and safety legislation.
- Will provide adequate resources to implement this policy including access to support from health and safety competent persons. Where necessary external specialist advice and assistance will be obtained.
- Accepts that health, safety and welfare are an integral part of all its activities and will take steps to manage these effectively.
- Expects all staff and pupils to co-operate in complying with all legal obligations and to take reasonable care of their own health and safety and have regard for the health and safety of others.
- Is committed to providing the necessary information, instruction and training to all staff and pupils where applicable.
- Acknowledges and actively supports the role and responsibilities of employee representatives and will give full co-operation to elected Safety Representatives of recognised Trade Unions to enable them to carry out their duties effectively.
- Is committed to regular evaluation and review of its Health and Safety Policy to ensure its objectives are met and, as necessary, to modifying the Policy in light of new legislation and other changing circumstances.
- Will set out full details of the organisation and arrangements for the management of health and safety in the school, in separate documents.

Signed:

L Vaughan

Headteacher

Dated January 2024



Section 2: Organisation and Responsibilities

Responsibilities for implementing and reviewing the school's Health and Safety Policy are detailed below:

1.0 The Governing Body

The Governing Body of a Community or Voluntary Controlled School has responsibility for ensuring that the Leeds City Council Health and Safety Policy is approved for use and that arrangements are in place for the school to implement it.

In Foundation and Voluntary Aided Schools the Governing Body has an additional responsibility for producing the School's Health and Safety Policy, although it can resolve to adopt the Policy produced by Leeds City Council.

2.0 Management Structure

2.1 The Governing Body is responsible for strategic health and safety planning and for periodic review of health and safety performance.

2.2 The Headteacher is responsible to the Governing Body for securing the full implementation of the school's health and safety policy.

2.3 Members of the school senior leadership team are responsible for ensuring that the requirements of this policy and all other legislative requirements are managed under the normal method of delegated powers and by establishing a system of appraisal of management performance against agreed health and safety performance indicators.

2.4 Heads of departments are responsible for ensuring that the requirements of this policy and legal requirements specific to their sphere of activity are implemented and monitored.

2.5 'Competent person'

Emma Brew

is responsible as the competent person for advising the Headteacher and other Senior Managers in the discharge of their responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and all health and safety regulations made there-under, and for liaising with Leeds City Council's Health and Safety Advisors and enforcement officers such as HM Inspectors of the Health and Safety Executive and West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service Officers.

2.6 Leeds City Council's Health and Safety Advisors are responsible for providing advice and support to schools on all aspects of health and safety.



3.0 Implementation

3.1 The Headteacher, Governing Body and Senior Leadership Team, will implement the school's health and safety policy by:

- Ensuring adequate resources, both personnel and financial, are allocated to secure implementation of the policy.
- Planning, organising and implementing arrangements to eliminate or control significant risks and to comply with relevant statutory provisions.
- Determining and documenting procedures, operational instructions, guidelines and codes of practice to implement the school's Health and Safety Policy.
- Ensuring that their responsible managers and employees are competent through recruitment, training or otherwise, to carry out their duties for health, safety and welfare.
- Setting health and safety performance standards to ensure effective management within their areas of control.
- Ensuring that all hazards are identified, significant findings of assessments are recorded, groups exposed to risks are identified and the actions taken to protect the health and safety of these groups are recorded.
- Ensuring that all employees are familiar with, and comply with, the requirements of the school's Health and Safety Policy and that all new employees are inducted into the requirements of the Health and Safety Policy and any school and departmental guidelines and instructions.
- Ensuring that any contractors and sub-contractors who work in school premises have effective arrangements for health, safety and welfare.
- Establishing systems for monitoring all arrangements to ensure that they are working effectively.
- Reviewing information from monitoring systems to ensure continued and effective compliance with performance standards.
- Reporting annually to the Governing Body on health and safety issues within the school.

3.2 Heads of Department will ensure that:

- Any health and safety matters that they cannot deal with directly are brought to the attention of the Headteacher and Senior Management Team.
- Significant hazards within their department are identified and suitable risk assessments undertaken, which will include general workplace risks, substance risks, equipment risks etc.
- Safety measures and controls identified by risk assessments are implemented.
- Employees and pupils are provided with suitable and sufficient information, instruction and training to enable compliance with this policy and legal standards.
- Will implement a system to manage health and safety within their department, which may include a schedule of inspection; service and



maintenance arrangements for equipment and services; accident investigation arrangements.

- Equipment and substances are suitable for the purpose they are used.

3.3 Staff

All staff are responsible for:

- Complying with the school's Health and Safety Policy.
- Taking reasonable care of their own health and safety and that of others affected by their acts or omissions.
- Co-operating with their management in complying with relevant statutory provisions.
- Using all work equipment and substances in accordance with the instruction and training received.
- Not intentionally misusing anything provided in the interests of health, safety and welfare.
- Following all prescribed safe working practices and not working while unfit to do so.
- Reporting to the schools senior management team any health and safety problem they cannot deal with themselves or any shortcoming they find in the health, safety and welfare arrangements.

3.4 Pupils

All pupils will be responsible for

- Complying with school rules and procedures.
- Taking reasonable care of themselves and others.
- Co-operating with their teachers and other school staff.
- Using equipment and substances in the manner in which they are instructed.
- Not misusing anything provided for the purposes of health and safety.
- Reporting anything they believe to be hazardous or dangerous to their Teacher/ Form Tutor/ Headteacher.

3.5 Consultation

There will be full consultation with representatives elected by the trade unions recognised by the school and Leeds City Council regarding the establishment and implementation of all of the school's health, safety and welfare arrangements in accordance with consultation arrangements to be agreed.

Wherever possible this may extend to include pupil representation.



4.0 Audit and Review

The principal means used for reviewing the school's health and safety policy will be:

- Audits of health and safety management in individual departments.
- Annual reports to the Governing Body covering the management of health and safety within the school.
- Regular evaluation and review to ensure that new legislation or other changing circumstances are incorporated within the health and safety policy and that the policy remains effective.
- Evaluation of health and safety management against performance indicators to ensure that objectives are met and that best value provision is obtained.

Section 5: Standards affecting the whole school

The general arrangements and standards required to implement the school's health and safety policy are set out within the Health and Safety Handbook for Schools. Brief details are set out below:-

Arrangements

1. Safety Management System: [Guidance document PG101](#)

A safety management system will enable schools to implement, monitor and review all aspects of health and safety management. A safety management system outlines who has responsibility for undertaking key health and safety tasks, such as risk assessments.

2. Accident reporting and Investigation : [Guidance documents PG103 and PG104](#)

Accidents must be recorded and reported in accordance with the procedure outlined in guidance documents. Accidents must be investigated as soon as possible after occurrence and should be investigated by management of the premises in which the accident happened. Investigation provides reactive monitoring data.

3. Asbestos: [Guidance document PG301](#)

If asbestos has been identified as being within school or presumed to be in school the requirements of the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2007 must be followed. Any part of the building fabric containing or presumed to contain asbestos must not be disturbed until the asbestos within it has been made safe.



4. Building work contracts: [Guidance document PG302](#)

Schools need to ensure that building contractors do not place pupils or staff at risk from their activities. This requires management control of any building work undertaken. The guidance document includes checklists and a hand out sheet outlining basic rules for contractors to follow.

5. Consultation with employees: [Guidance document PG105](#)

Employers have a legal duty to consult with all members of staff in respect to health and safety issues. Schools will need to establish mechanisms to ensure that all staff are consulted on any health and safety issue that affects them. This may be achieved by setting up a health and safety committee or by including health and safety as an agenda item on all staff team meetings.

6. Contractors: [Guidance document PG106](#)

Any contractor working on a school site has to be managed to ensure that they do not import any risks into school without ensuring that suitable precautions are in place and that staff and pupils are informed if they will be affected. Similarly, schools must ensure that contractors are not placed at risk from any school activities.

7. Display Screen Equipment: [Guidance document PG201](#)

Wherever a member of staff uses a computer workstation an assessment must be carried out to ensure that the person is not likely to be placed at risk from using the equipment. Anyone who is classed as a 'user' – i.e. they have no option but to use a computer and use it for at least one hour a day every day – is entitled to an eye or eyesight test that will be paid for by the employer.

8. Educational Visits: [Guidance document PG501](#)

The guidance contained with the Handbook for Educational Visits must be followed where any such visits take place. Visits must be planned and well managed; staff leading visits must be competent to lead the visit.

9. Electrical appliances: [Guidance document PG401](#).

Schools must manage the use and testing of electrical appliances. The frequency of testing will depend upon the type and use of equipment and will be undertaken following a risk assessment process.

10. Emergency Evacuation and Planning: [Guidance documents PG502/503](#)

Systems must be implemented to ensure that all occupants of the premises can be evacuated in an emergency. Different systems may be required depending upon the cause of the evacuation. Schools must also plan for emergencies. The type of emergency may be loss due to fire, events occurring during an



educational visit, loss of electricity, major road traffic accident outside the school gates etc. Arrangements should also be in place to enable normal operation to continue alongside the management of an emergency.

11. First-aid: [Guidance document PG504](#)

Details first-aid requirements for schools. Every school must ensure that first-aid is provided to all staff and pupils.

12. Fire Safety: [Guidance document PG107](#)

All schools must carry out a fire risk assessment in accordance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. Procedures must also be in place to ensure that alarm systems, firefighting equipment, lighting etc, is regularly tested and maintained in a good condition.

13. Gas Electric and Water services: [Guidance document PG303](#)

Schools must ensure that gas, electricity and water services are maintained in a safe condition. Gas services and appliances must be regularly inspected and tested by a "Gas Safe" registered gas engineer. Mains electricity should be inspected and tested at least once every five years. Water services must be maintained in a condition that does not give rise to risk.

14. Glazing: [Guidance document PG304](#)

Assessments should be undertaken to ensure that any glass that is likely to cause injury if it is broken is either replaced or made safe.

15. Health and Safety in Design and Technology [Guidance document PG601](#)

Specific procedures should be implemented within Design and Technology departments to reduce risks from equipment and processes to a minimum.

16. Health and Safety in Science [Guidance document PG602](#)

Specific procedures should be implemented within Science departments to reduce risks from equipment and processes to a minimum.

17. Jewellery and other Personal Effects: [Guidance document PG513](#)

Schools should ensure that they have specific policies relating to the range and type of jewellery and other personal effects that pupils can wear whilst at school as certain items can place children at risk of injury.

18. Liquefied Petroleum Gas and other temporary heating:
[Guidance Document PG305](#)

Wherever schools require temporary heating specific criteria need to be addressed prior to introducing supplementary LPG or electric heating.



19. Lifting Equipment Guidance document PG405

Any equipment used for lifting objects or people must be maintained in a good condition. The frequency for inspection and testing will be in accordance with legal requirements outlined in the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER)

20. Lone & Isolated Working: Guidance document PG203

Systems should be implemented in workplaces where staff will either work by themselves or in isolated parts of the building to help reduce the likelihood of injuries being caused and to enable assistance to be obtained if required.

21. Manual Handling: Guidance document PG202

Activities involving manual handling that may cause injury must be assessed to determine the most effective way to reduce the likelihood that injury will occur and to identify any equipment or change in procedures that should be implemented to reduce risk.

22. Medication: Guidance document PG505

Wherever possible arrangements should be made to prevent the need for any medication to be given to any pupil at school, however there will be instances where this is difficult to achieve. Whenever this is likely to occur schools need to ensure that clear procedures are followed to reduce the likelihood that incorrect dosage and incorrect medication will be given.

23. Mobile Phones Guidance document PG506

Concerns have been raised regarding the installation of mobile phone base stations and the possible ill-health effects caused by the use of mobile phones. Current guidance points to there not being any significant effects yet known to exist, although a precautionary approach is advised.

24. Monitoring Processes: Guidance document PG108

Schools need to monitor the provision of health and safety within the school setting. This can be achieved by undertaking regular inspections of the premises, investigation and analysis of accidents and audit of systems and procedures.

25. New and Expectant Mothers Guidance document PG208

Assessments need to be carried out wherever a new or expectant mother is at work. The assessments should take into consideration any condition of the work that could adversely affect the mother and/or unborn child.



26. Noise **Guidance document PG510**

There are limits contained within the Noise at Work Regulations that should not be exceeded. If they are specific requirements must be put into place. Noise levels below the action levels should also be minimised wherever possible, particularly where the level is likely to affect the effectiveness of the teaching environment.

27. Occupational Health **Guidance document PG109**

The most important asset to any organisation is its staff. Schools should have regard to ensuring that proactive and reactive strategies are in place in respect to maintaining and promoting good health amongst staff.

28. Permits to Work **Guidance document PG112**

High risk activities in Schools may, on occasion, require very strict controls. Control can be applied using a permit to work system. A permit will identify the safe conditions and requirements that must be present before any work can be started and must be signed by a senior manager.

29. Personal Protective Equipment **Guidance document PG111**

The use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must only be considered as a last resort after every other possibility to reduce risk has been examined, as a temporary measure until further improvements can be made, and where it is not possible to provide any other means to reduce risk – e.g. for some cleaning tasks. PPE has to be carefully selected, with consultation on the type to be used being undertaken with the people who will be required to use it. It must be suitable for the task and be maintained in a safe condition.

30. Play Areas: **Guidance document PG514**

Any play area, and the equipment installed within the area, provided for pupil use must be designed, installed and monitored in accordance with British and national standards.

31. Purchase of equipment: **Guidance document PG406**

Equipment must be purchased from reputable suppliers and should conform to any relevant national standards and comply with the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998.

32. Pupils carrying out work activities in school **Guidance document PG507**

Measures should be in place to ensure that whenever any pupils are requested to undertake any work activity on behalf of the school suitable and sufficient precautions are taken to prevent them being placed at significant risk of injury.



33. Dogs on the premises

At Whinmoor St. Paul's no dogs are allowed on the school site (with the exception of guide dogs). This is for health and safety purposes. Many children (and adults) can be scared and intimidated by dogs and not always know how to react to them. It is important that the school site is a safe place for all children and adults.

34. Risk Assessment: [Guidance document PG102](#)

Any work related activity that may place any person that may be affected by it at risk of injury or ill health should be assessed. The risk assessment should identify the likelihood that harm will occur and the most likely severity of that harm. Measures to reduce the risk can then be identified and put in place. Specific legislation outlines assessments that need to be made for particular types of activity – such as manual handling, use of display screen equipment, noise and hazardous substances. A general risk assessment will identify where such other assessments are required. Once suitable means for reducing risk have been identified those measures need to be implemented. Assessments should be reviewed on a regular basis and at least every year or whenever there is a significant change to the activity or people likely to be affected by it.

35. Safe use of Ladders: [Guidance document PG 207](#)

Injuries received from the incorrect use of ladders can be severe. There are measures that should be taken whenever such equipment is used to reduce the likelihood of injury occurring.

36. Safe Practice in Physical Education: [Guidance document PG603](#)

Specific procedures should be implemented within Physical Education departments to reduce risks from equipment and activities to a minimum.

37. Security and Personal Safety: [Guidance document PG204](#)

The safety and well being of staff and pupils within schools can be affected by security and personal safety issues. Schools today need to ensure that appropriate measures are implemented according to their location and the likelihood that they may be affected by intruders, vandals and arsonists.

38. School Premises safety: [Guidance document PG110 & 306](#)

Linking with monitoring processes, a proactive measure that can be taken to reduce the likelihood of accidents occurring is to undertake regular inspections of the premises. Inspections can be carried out using a checklist pro-forma, although the person undertaking the inspection will need to be aware of the safety issues to be checked. These guidance documents provide a pro forma and outline common workplace safety issues that may be found within schools.

39. Stage Equipment: [Guidance document PG403](#)



Specific requirements need to be addressed to ensure that equipment used on and around a school stage is maintained in a safe condition.

40. Stress : Policy and Guidance document PG205

An increasing issue within all workplaces is the subject of stress. Stress can affect different people in different ways. The causes of stress can vary greatly. School senior leadership team members need to be able to identify signs of stress and to take early preventive action to deal with the things causing them stress and to enable them to cope with whatever issues are affecting them. Managers need to be able to identify possible causes and to take action to reduce the likelihood that staff will become stressed. Suitable measures must also be in place to enable anyone suffering from stress related symptoms to receive appropriate help and assistance.

41. Substances: Guidance document PG508

Substances that are used or are produced as the result of a process that may cause harm to anyone exposed to them must be assessed and have measures taken to reduce the risks presented. Substances can be hazardous to health, such as solvent vapours, and can also have physical characteristics that could cause harm and injury, such as a flammable liquid.

42. Swimming Pool Safety : Guidance document PG307 & 511

A swimming pool can be a hazardous environment if not adequately managed. Guidance from the Health and Safety Executive outlines minimum standards that should be met within all swimming pools. Schools must have a suitable operating and emergency plan and staff supervising swimming lessons need to be trained in appropriate rescue and resuscitation skills. The management of pool safety includes the methods used to disinfect and further treat swimming pool water.

43. Training Records: Guidance document PG113

Schools should maintain records of all training staff have received. A training needs analysis should be carried out for each member of staff and each staff group. Risk assessments should be used to help identify training needs.

44. Work Experience for Pupils & Young Persons' Safety:
Guidance document PG512 & PG507

Systems should be in place to ensure that any establishment accepting any pupil on work experience has informed the pupil's parents or guardians about the risks that may be encountered. Checks need to be made to ensure that the organisation to which a pupil is sent complies with health and safety requirements. Young persons must be considered as being at greater risk than adults due to their age and immaturity. This should be considered whenever a risk assessment is undertaken for anything that may affect a young person or child.



45. Work at Heights: [Guidance document PG209](#)

Where a person undertaking work is not on the ground they must have suitable risk control measures in place. Work at height will include working with ladders & step ladders (see guidance document PG 207) as well as using mobile tower scaffolds and erecting edge protection to the sides of buildings.

46. Work Equipment: [Guidance document PG402 & 404 & 406](#)

Any equipment used at work must be suitable for the purpose for which it will be used and only used for the purpose for which it has been designed. Work equipment must comply with the requirements of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998. Equipment must be maintained in a safe condition and taken out of use if it becomes defective. People using equipment must be competent to use the equipment.

47. Work Related Violence: [Guidance document PG206](#)

Studies have shown that school staff can be subject to incidents of violence from members of the public as well as colleagues. An incident will be violent if the victim perceives it to have been, and can range from verbal insults and verbal abuse to threats with a weapon and physical assault. In addition to the measures that can form part of a school's security and personal safety assessment measures are available to help reduce continued acts of a violent nature.

48. Workplace Health, Safety & Welfare: [Guidance document PG306 & PG509](#)

Regulations outline the minimum standards that all workplaces should comply with to ensure the health, safety and welfare of staff. Schools are subject to additional Schools Premises Regulations that go further than the Regulations that affect other workplaces for certain issues, such as indoor temperature. Some parts of the Health, Safety and Welfare Regulations are also not applicable to school classrooms, such as the requirements for minimum working space. The majority of the Regulations do, however, apply, and are concerned with issues such as having suitable and sufficient lighting, waste removal and adequate ventilation; safety issues such as prevention of falls from height, management of traffic in and around the premises, provision of adequate flooring and safety of doors and gates; welfare issues such as the provision of a rest area for pregnant women and nursing mothers, suitable facilities for changing clothing if required, provision of suitable drinking water and provision of suitable toilet facilities

We have a clear duty under the Equality Act 2010 to ensure that our teaching is accessible to all pupils. Inclusive PSHE will foster good relations between pupils, tackle all types of prejudice and promote understanding and respect, enabling us to meet the requirements, and live the intended spirit of the Equality Act 2010.