

Scarning VC Primary School

Health and Safety Policy 2026

Adopted by FGB: 10.3.26

Review Date: Spring 2027

Health and Safety Policy
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Part 1: Governing Body Statement of Intent

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

We will achieve this by:

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

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

Health and Safety Policy

Part 2: Responsibilities and Organisation

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

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

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

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

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

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

- Monitor and review health and safety performance through:
    - Undertaking health and safety inspections of work areas/practices in line with relevant County Council policy
    - Setting health and safety targets and objectives through appraisals and other supervisory reviews
    - Reviewing incidents and accidents
    - Monitoring commissioned and contracted work under their control for compliance
    - Ensure that the management of health and safety in the areas under their control considers the needs of anyone with a protected characteristic under the Equalities Act

- Develop safe systems of work and procedures and ensure that they are implemented

- Ensure prompt action is taken to resolve any situations that may adversely affect the health and safety of staff or other people

- Ensure that they undertake all relevant training and staff are given adequate information, instruction, training and supervision to carry out their duties, paying particular attention to new/inexperienced employees and trainees

- Ensure that all plant and work equipment provided is: selected through a risk assessment process, suitable, properly maintained and subject to all necessary tests and examinations

- Ensure that accidents and incidents (including near misses and violence and aggression) are reported and investigated and the findings acted upon without delay

- Ensure there are meaningful, effective arrangements in place for consulting employees and their trade union representatives on health and safety matters that affect them

- Ensure information that may assist safety representatives in their role is provided to them When commissioning work through partners and contractors, ensure that they are selected and managed in line with statutory requirements and Council policy

- Ensure that they seek timely assistance and advice where expert help is required from the Health, Safety and Well-being team

- Report to the Governing Body at least annually on the school's health and safety performance

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

- To be fully and visibly committed to the Governing Body's Statement of Intent for health and safety

- To scrutinise and review health and safety performance

- To provide support and challenge to the Headteacher and the Governing Body in fulfilling their health and safety responsibilities

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

Health and Safety Coordinator
The Health and Safety Coordinator has the following responsibilities:

- To coordinate and manage the annual risk assessment process for the school

- To coordinate performance monitoring processes

- To make provision for the inspection and maintenance of work equipment

- To manage the keeping of records of all health and safety activities including management of building fabric and building services in liaison with NPS and other contractors.

- To advise the Headteacher of situations or activities which are potentially hazardous to the health and safety of staff, pupils and visitors.

- To ensure that staff are adequately instructed in safety and welfare matters about their specific workplace and the school generally.

Teaching and support staff holding positions of special responsibility
This includes Deputy/Assistant Headteachers, Business Managers, Caretakers/Site Managers

They have the following responsibilities:

- Apply the school's Health and Safety Policy and the relevant health and safety Codes of Practice to their own department or area of work and be directly responsible to the Headteacher for the application of the health and safety procedures and arrangements

- Carry out regular health and safety risk assessments of the activities for which they are responsible

- Ensure that all staff under they manage are familiar with the relevant health and safety Codes of Practice, for their area of work

- Resolve health, safety and welfare issues that staff refer to them, or refer to the Headteacher any matters for which they cannot achieve a satisfactory solution within the resources available

- Carry out regular inspections of their areas of responsibility to ensure that equipment, and activities are safe and record these inspections where required

- Ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the provision of sufficient information, instruction, training and supervision to enable other staff and pupils to avoid hazards and contribute positively to their own health and safety

- Investigate any accidents that occur within their area of responsibility

Class Teachers
Class teachers are expected to:

- Exercise effective supervision of their pupils, to know the procedures for fire, first aid and other emergencies and to carry them out

- Follow the particular health and safety measures to be adopted in their own teaching areas as laid down in the relevant Codes of Practice

- Give clear oral and written instructions and warnings to pupils when necessary

- Follow safe working procedures

- Require the use of protective clothing and guards where necessary

- Make recommendations to their Headteacher or manager regarding equipment and improvements to plant, tools, equipment or machinery

- Integrate all relevant aspects of safety into the teaching process

- Report all accidents, defects and dangerous occurrences to their manager

Employee Consultation/Safety Representatives
The Governing Body believes that consulting employees on health and safety matters is important in creating and maintaining a safe and healthy working environment.

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

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

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

- Comply with the school's health and safety policy and procedures at all times

- Co-operate with managers in complying with relevant health and safety safe systems of work and procedures
- Use all work equipment and substances in accordance with instruction, training and information received
- Wear, use, store, maintain and replace personal protective equipment as appropriate
- Not intentionally misuse anything provided in the interests of health, safety and welfare
- Take part in and contribute to health and safety inspections, risk assessments etc. as appropriate
- Report all accidents (personal injury and vehicle), ill health, incidents of violence and aggression, near misses, hazardous situations, general health and safety concerns, defective equipment or premises
- Attend all training relevant to their role

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

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

Part 3: Procedures and Arrangements

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

Lead Governor for Health and Safety
The lead governor with responsibility for scrutiny of health and safety performance is Dave Langley.

General Risk Assessment
General Risk Assessment will be coordinated by Nick King following guidance and documentation on Schools' PeopleNet. They will be responsible for ensuring the actions required are implemented.

Fire Safety
A fire risk assessment will be carried out and local fire safety procedures developed for the premises by Nick King following guidance and documentation on Schools' PeopleNet.

Manual Handling
Manual handling risk assessments will be carried out by Nick King following guidance and documentation on Schools' PeopleNet.

Computers and Workstations
Computer and workstation risk assessments will be carried out by Nick King following guidance and documentation on Schools' PeopleNet.

Hazardous Substances
Nick King will identify hazardous substances for which no generic assessment exists in the Codes of Practice mentioned below, following guidance and documentation on Schools' PeopleNet.

Violence to Staff
Assessment of the risks of violence to staff will be carried out by Nick King following guidance on Schools' PeopleNet. This assessment cross-refers to the school's behaviour policy.

Risk Assessment of Curriculum Activities
Risk Assessments for curriculum activities will be carried out by relevant Heads of Department/Heads of Faculty using health and safety curriculum Codes of Practice on Schools' PeopleNet.

Consultation with Employees
Union-appointed safety representatives is TBC

Consultation with employees not represented by a union is provided through TBC

Safe Plant and Equipment
Plant and equipment will be inspected, maintained and, where necessary, tested by appropriate contractors appointed by the Governing Body

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

Any problems or defects regarding plant and equipment should be reported to: Rob Bartlett.

Information, Instruction and Training

Information and Advice
A Health and Safety Law Poster is displayed at: The staffroom

Health and safety advice is available from the headteacher/health and safety coordinator

Health and Safety Training:

Induction
Health and safety induction training will be provided for all new employees and for work experience placement students by Nick King following guidance and documentation on Induction on Schools' PeopleNet.

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

Strategic Health and Safety Management and Premises Management Training

- Health and Safety Awareness for Governors:
- Health and Safety Management for Headteachers: Nick King
- Health and Safety for Managers: Rob Bartlett
- Premises Management 1 – General: Rob Bartlett
- Premises Management 2 – Asbestos: Rob Bartlett
- Premises Management 3 – Fire Safety Risk Assessment: Nick King
- General Risk Assessment: Nick King

Primary and Secondary PE and School Sport
- Risk Management in PE (primary and secondary subject leaders): Dan Basson
- Ensuring Pupils are Safe in PE (primary teachers and coaches): Dan Basson

Occupational Risks
- Emergency Paediatric First Aid Level 3: Whole school staff is aspiration
- 2 Day Level 3 First-Aid training – Sara Donnelly, Jack Casey, Dawn Burnham, Fran Cook, Carrah Saunders
- Moving and Handling of Disabled Pupils: Erika Simpson would lead on this if training needed.
- Musculoskeletal Injuries Rehabilitation Scheme Referral Managers Training: No-one has been on training
- Norfolk Steps training: Ongoing main tranche completed 2024

Caretaking/Site Management
- IOSH Working Safely (Norse Commercial Services): No
- Ladder Use and Inspection (Norse Commercial Services) : No
- Health and Safety Workshop (COSHH) (Norse Commercial Services): No
- Institute of Sport and Recreation Management (ISRM) Pool Plant Operators Certificate: No

Health and Well-Bein
- Well-Being Facilitators: Jack Casey, Amy Tullock, Steph Leithall, Mandy Arnold, Pippa Gunn

Minibuses
- Norfolk County Council Minibus driver training: Not present

Training Records and Training Needs Identification

Health and safety training records are held in Staff folders.
Training needs will be identified, arranged and monitored by:HT

Incident Reporting and Investigation
All accidents and cases of work-related ill health involving employees (or non employees where the injury is potentially caused by a deficiency in activity, equipment or premises must be recorded on the Norfolk County Council online incident reporting system following guidance on Schools' PeopleNet.

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

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

First Aid
We have a First Aid Room, but throughout school (in classes) are First Aid Kits

- Emergency Paediatric First Aid Level 3: Whole school staff is aspiration
- 2 Day Level 3 First-Aid training – Sara Donnelly, Jack Casey, Dawn Burnham, Fran Cook, Cara Saunders

Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions
Prescribed medication will be administered to pupils following guidance and documentation on Norfolk Schools.

HT, with support from SENCO, is responsible for management of administration of medicines to pupils.

Site Security and Visitors
All visitors must report to Reception where they will be asked to sign the visitors book and wear a visitors' Lanyard.

Other arrangements to ensure the security of pupils and employees on site are: DBS checks for staff and volunteers; barriers at front of the school; end of school arrangements for hand-over of children.

On-Site Vehicle Movements
The risks of persons and vehicles coming into contact will be controlled by the following measures:Barrier and playground fencing.

Selection and Management of Contractors
Contractors are selected and managed following guidance and documentation on Schools' PeopleNet.

Management of Asbestos
The asbestos register and asbestos management plan is held at: Reception
HT is responsible for ensuring that contractors who may be working in areas where asbestos has been identified sign the register and that any changes to the register are notified to NPS.

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

Occupational Health
Access to occupational health services is via HR referral
Emergency Procedures – Fire and Evacuation
Escape routes are checked by Rob Bartlett

Fire extinguishers are maintained and checked by NPS

Alarms are tested in house by Rob Bartlett; externally by NPS.

Emergency evacuation procedures will be tested once every term.

Monitoring
Routine inspections of the premises to ensure safe working practices are being followed will be carried out by HT

Review of Policy
This policy will be reviewed at least every year.