



# Harrietsham Church of England Primary School

## Health and Safety Policy

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Responsibility:	Site Manager
Date approved by Governing Body:	November 2025
Governor signature:	Rebecca Emson (Chair)
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# Harrietsham Church of England Primary School Health and Safety Policy

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## School Context:

### Harrietsham CEP Vision Statement

*We are a warm, welcoming, and inclusive school rooted in our rural community. Like the mustard seed we grew from tiny beginnings and our branches are now spread wide –providing support and taking our values beyond the school gates. All those in our community feel safe and nurtured - able to flourish and grow academically, spiritually, emotionally and physically to achieve their full God-given potential.*

### **“Nurtured we flourish”**

We are a nurturing school. As such we believe in, and follow, **The Six Principles of Nurture** in all of our practice.

1. Children’s learning is understood developmentally.
2. The classroom offers a safe base.
3. The importance of nurture for the development of wellbeing.
4. Language is a vital means of communication.
5. All behaviour is communication.
6. The importance of transition in children’s lives.

### **Our Values**

The roots of our vision are in the parable of the Mustard Seed.

*‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches’.*

**Matthew 13 31-32**

In order to grow and reach our potential, everything that we do in school is driven by our vision and underpinned by our core Christian values of:

### ***Love, Fellowship and Forgiveness***

The school’s vision and values have informed this policy and provide a basis for spiritual and moral development within the school.

The Governing body and all members of staff have read and have access to this policy and are committed to ensuring the Health and Safety of all members of our community.

Provision is made so that all may flourish safely.

Every member of our caring community plays a part in making it safe and secure for all.

*'Nurtured We Flourish'*

**Kent County Council  
Children, Young People and Education**



**Health and Safety at Work Act  
1974**

**Health and Safety Policy Statement  
Of  
Harrietsham Church of England Primary School**



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## **Section A – Introduction:**

### **Statement of intent:**

The Headteacher and governors are committed to establishing and implementing arrangements that will:

- Ensure staff and pupils are safeguarded when on school premises, or engaged in off-site activities (e.g., school trips, sports events etc.).
- Ensure the premises for which they are responsible have safe access and egress for all staff, pupils and visitors.
- Provide adequate facilities and arrangements for welfare.
- Provide and maintain safe plant and safe systems of work without risks to health.
- Ensure safe use, handling, storage and transport of articles.
- Provide suitable information, training, instruction and supervision to keep all staff, pupils and visitors safe.

## Section B – Organisation

### B1: Employer responsibilities

Kent County Council (KCC) as the employer has a statutory duty in respect of health and safety in community and voluntary controlled schools to ensure that premises and people are healthy and safe.

The responsibility is devolved to the Headteacher, who has day to day responsibility for staff, pupils and others as 'officer in charge' of the premises.

The Headteacher will ensure the overall implementation of this policy.

### B2: Headteacher responsibilities

- To ensure this policy is reviewed annually or earlier if there are any changes in circumstances.
- To ensure that employee responsibilities regarding health and safety are included in their job descriptions and that it is adequately received and understood.
- To include health and safety issues in the school improvement plan, if necessary.
- To carry out regular health and safety inspections (at least three times a year) and take remedial action as appropriate.
- To undertake risk assessments, record significant findings, and review annually or sooner if there is a change in circumstance.
- To receive and deal promptly with raised issues or complaints about unsafe premises, equipment, or work practices.
- To liaise with KCC property and infrastructure support and/or the building maintenance consultants and/or with contractors to resolve property maintenance issues.
- To ensure that the requirements of any enforcement officer (e.g., HSE Inspector, Environmental Health Officer, Fire Liaison Officer, or Environment Agency Inspector) are properly addressed.
- To ensure that emergency evacuation procedures are in place and tested to ensure validity.
- To ensure that adequate first aid provision is available and kept up to date at all times.
- To report health and safety issues to the governing body on a regular basis. This is a rolling agenda item of all governors meetings.
- To monitor and review all health and safety policies and procedures.
- Seek advice from other organisations or professionals, such as the Health and Safety Executive, safety advisers etc. as and when necessary.

***N.B: Tasks can be delegated to other members of staff but ultimately the responsibility remains with the Headteacher.***

### B3: Governors' responsibilities

- Responsibility for the health and safety of pupils lies with the governing body of the school, either as the employer of school staff or because it controls school premises (or both).
- The governing body will promote a strategic overview for health and safety.
- The governing body will take all reasonable measures to ensure that the premises and equipment on site are safe and do not put the health or safety of staff, pupils, or visitors at risk while they are on the premises.

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- The governing body of a community, voluntary controlled school must comply with any directions given by the LA concerning the health and safety of persons in school, or on school activities elsewhere.
- The governing body will make adequate provision for maintenance of the school premises and equipment, either within the KCC 'Class care' scheme or within the school's delegated budget.
- The governing body will support and monitor health and safety within the school.
- The governing body will review and monitor the effectiveness of this policy. The health and safety governor will conduct site walks with the Site Manager at least three times a year. The full governing body receive a detailed Health and Safety report from the Site Manager three times a year.
- The governing body have appointed a governor to co-ordinate health and safety from a strategic point of view. This Governor champions Health and Safety at board level and acts as a key link between the Governing Body and the Headteacher/Site Manager.

### **B4: Staff responsibilities**

- To read and fully co-operate with this policy.
- Must take reasonable care of their own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by their actions.
- Will co-operate with their employer on health and safety matters.
- Will not interfere with anything provided to safeguard their health and safety or that of others.
- Report practices, equipment or physical conditions that may be hazardous to their line manager and/or the appropriate member of staff.
- Have a duty to report all health and safety concerns to the Headteacher or their line manager.

### **B5: Site Manager and Caretaker responsibilities**

The Site Manager and Caretaker hold responsibility for the day-to-day maintenance and other buildings / grounds issues.

They will:

- Ensure that any work that has health and safety implications is prioritised.
- Report any concerns regarding unresolved hazards in school to the senior management team immediately.
- Ensure that all work under their control is undertaken in a safe manner.
- Carry out a daily check of the grounds and building to spot any disrepair or other hazards such as broken glass etc. in the play areas.
- Ensure that all cleaning staff are aware of safe working practices, especially regarding reporting of hazards, the use of hazardous substances and manual handling.
- Carry out a weekly test of the fire alarm.
- Ensure all contractors are 'inducted' and shown the relevant risk assessments (we have no asbestos on site) and are made aware of any fragile roofs or other hazards in the areas where they will be working.
- Fully co-operate with health and safety arrangements during larger building projects.

### **B6: Kent County Council Infrastructure**

They will ensure that property matters for which the local authority as the employer has statutory responsibilities, (e.g. regular maintenance and testing of fixed electrical wiring or fixed gas appliances) are properly dealt with (if necessary, by taking premises or fixed equipment out of use). The Site Manager is responsible for liaising with Infrastructure, and/or the building consultants and/or with contractors from KCC preferred contractors list, to resolve property maintenance issues.

## **B7: Safety Representatives**

Safety representatives of a recognised Trade Union have the following functions:

- Represent employees generally and when you consult them about specific matters that will affect the health, safety and welfare of the employees.
- Represent employees when Health and Safety Inspectors from HSE or Local Authorities consult them.
- Investigate accidents, near misses, and other potential hazards and dangerous occurrences in the workplace.
- Investigate complaints made by an employee they represent about their health, safety, or welfare in the workplace.
- Present the findings of investigations to the Headteacher.
- Inspect the workplace.
- With at least one other appointed representative, request in writing that you set up a health and safety committee and attend Health and Safety Committee and meetings as a representative of your employees.

Names of Trade Union Representatives:	Staff are members of a range of Trade Unions.
Contact details:	Contact details can be found for the various Trade Unions online.

## **B8: Consultation with employees**

It is a legal requirement to consult with employees on health and safety issues. Individual and group staff meetings are appropriate forums for communication on health and safety matters and concerns. At Harrietsham Church of England Primary School, Health and Safety and Safeguarding are standing items on all staff meeting agendas. Health and Safety is included in all induction training and reminders sent as necessary via email.

## **B9: Information, Instruction and Supervision**

Under health and safety law it is a legal requirement to display or provide a leaflet version of the Health and Safety Law poster.

- A copy of the Health and Safety Law Poster is located in the staffroom.
- Supervision of young workers/trainees will be arranged/undertaken/monitored by the Headteacher and Teacher Development Leader (and other delegated key members of staff).
- The Headteacher (and other delegated key members of staff) will supply adequate information, instruction and supervision for all staff, pupils and visitors to ensure their health and safety.

## **B10: Competency for health and safety tasks and training**

- The Headteacher will ensure that all staff undertake induction training.
- Training will be identified, arranged and monitored by the Headteacher and the governing body.
- Staff are also responsible for identifying their own personal training needs and feeding this back to their line manager.

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- Training records will be easily accessible for audit purposes and will be kept up to date. Governors will audit training records at least annually (e.g., First Aid, Fire Warden, COSHH).

### **B11: Monitoring**

- The Headteacher and Site Manager will check working conditions and ensure that safe working practices are being followed. Regular inspections will be undertaken of the school building and grounds, at least three times a year.
- Members of our Senior Leadership Team is responsible for investigating accidents although the accountability remains with the Headteacher.
- Our Business Leader is responsible for investigating work-related sickness and absences, although the accountability remains with the Headteacher.
- The Headteacher is responsible and accountable for acting on investigation findings in order to prevent any reoccurrences.

## **Section C – Arrangements**

### **C1: School activities**

- The Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher will ensure that risk assessments are undertaken.
- The significant findings of all risk assessments will be reported to the governing body and to all relevant staff, contractors, visitors and all of those who may be affected.
- Any actions that are required to remove or control risks will be approved by the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher or their delegated responsible person.
- The Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher or delegated responsible person, will check that the implemented actions remain effective, and that all risk assessments are reviewed on an annual basis or when the work activity changes, whichever is the soonest.

### **C2: Visitors**

- All visitors shall be directed by clear signage to the reception and must report to reception, where appropriate arrangements for the signing in and out and identity badges will be provided, noting registration numbers as appropriate and confirming any relevant and appropriate checks.
- All visitors shall be made aware of the school's fire arrangements in the event of a fire.
- All visitors shall be made aware of the school's emergency procedures, including evacuation points.

### **C3: Fire and emergency procedures**

- The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring the fire risk assessments are undertaken, controls are implemented and that it is reviewed annually and kept up to date.
- Emergency exits, assembly points and assembly point instructions are clearly identified by safety signs and notices.
- Instructions to employees are posted at strategic points around the building.

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- Emergency evacuation will be practiced at least three times a year and records will be retained.
- Regular testing of fire alarms will occur weekly and will be carried out by the Site Manager and/or caretaker.
- A record of these tests will be kept by the Site Manager and/or caretaker.

### **C4: Fire fighting**

Staff should only use fire extinguishers if trained in how to operate them safely. If trained, they should only use the extinguisher if they feel confident to do so and not put themselves or others at undue risk. There should always be a clear escape available. Ensure the alarm is raised before attempting to tackle a fire.

All chemicals will be stored in accordance with the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) assessment. List of hazardous substances will be provided to a fire officer in the event of a fire.

### **C5: Maintenance of fire equipment**

- The Headteacher and Site Manager will ensure regular maintenance (in line with British Standards and FSO requirements) of:
  - fire extinguishers
  - fire alarms
  - fire doors
  - fire safety signs and identification of escape routes
  - emergency lighting and other emergency equipment.

### **C6: Emergency Invacuation (Lockdown)**

- The Headteacher and Site Manager will ensure regular maintenance of:
  - external doors, including locks
  - external windows
  - fob entrance systems
  - external perimeter fencing and gates
  - emergency lighting and other emergency equipment.
- The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring the lockdown risk assessments are undertaken, controls are implemented and that it is reviewed annually and kept up to date.
- Emergency invacuation will be practiced at least once a year and records will be retained.
- A record of these tests will be kept by the Site Manager and/or caretaker.

### **C7: Bomb/suspect package alerts**

- Bomb alerts/ suspect packages will be dealt with in accordance with the school's emergency planning arrangements.
- The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring the bomb alert procedures are undertaken and implemented.

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- Guidance on bombs/suspicious devices or packages will be circulated to staff annually by the Site Manager.

### **C8: First aid arrangements**

- The Headteacher and Pastoral Leader will ensure that there are an appropriate number of designated and trained first aiders in school.
- The Lead First Aiders will ensure that there are an appropriate number of first aid boxes, with basic instructions and locations clearly marked. A first aid risk assessment will be carried out by the Headteacher to determine the above factors (this can be found within our First Aid Policy).
- The school will follow the procedure for completion of incident / accident records: HS157, HS160, F2508.
- All reportable incidents under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR) will be reported to the HSE by the school. Advice should be sought if any doubt whether an incident is reportable.
- Parents will be invited to complete the consent form for medical treatment in accordance with school policy and DFE guidance.

### **C9: Information Communication Technology**

- The Headteacher will ensure that suitable arrangements are in place for the safe use of Information Communication Technology.
- Information Communication Technology will be installed safely, with due consideration given to ventilation for server rooms and computer suites and to hazards such as asbestos and working at height.
- Where laptops are used, safe systems of work including charging and use of trolleys will be devised and implemented.
- Assessments for users of Display Screen Equipment (DSE) will be carried out in accordance with the Health and Safety (DSE) Regulations 1992 (as amended in 2002).
- The KCC guidance on interactive whiteboards will be followed.

### **C10: Legal requirements for premises**

- The school will comply with the requirements of the Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992 with regard to facilities for staff such as lighting, heating, ventilation, space, condition of floors and general welfare facilities.
- The school will comply with the arrangements of the Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999 with regard to school facilities such as washrooms for pupils and staff, medical accommodation and indoor temperatures.

### **C11: Safe handling and use of substances**

- The Headteacher and Site Manager are responsible for identifying all substances which need an assessment under the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2002.
- The Site Manager is responsible for undertaking COSHH assessments, monitored by the Business Leader.
- The Site Manager is responsible for ensuring that all relevant employees are informed about the

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presence of the COSHH assessments.

- The Site Manager is responsible for checking and ensuring they are satisfied that all new substances can be used safely before they are purchasing them.
- COSHH assessments will be reviewed on an annual basis or when the work activity changes, whichever is the soonest, by the Site Manager.

### **C12: Inspection of premises, plant and equipment**

- The Site Manager will arrange for formal inspections of the premises, plant and equipment to take place three times a year and draw up an effective maintenance and improvement programme.
- All identified maintenance will be implemented.
- Routine checks may be undertaken by a combination of class teachers, governors, site/caretaking staff and the Headteacher/Deputy Head using the example checklists.
- Access to storerooms; boiler rooms; tank and plant rooms should also be checked, including checking for inappropriate storage of ladders and other equipment, in particular in and around intake cupboards.
- Where damaged asbestos is encountered, or damage is suspected, procedures as laid down in the KCC asbestos policy will be followed.

### **C13: Asbestos management**

There is no asbestos at Harrietsham Church of England Primary School (certificated).

Property and Infrastructure Support will arrange for an asbestos management survey to be carried out every three years in line with KCC policy. The Headteacher will ensure that the KCC asbestos management policy is followed.

An asbestos docubox is not needed as there is no asbestos on site. Office staff will inform all contractors.

### **C14: Legionella management**

Property and Infrastructure Support will arrange for a water hygiene risk assessment to be carried out every two years in line with statutory requirements. Such assessments will identify if there are areas where conditions exist which could support legionella bacteria growth and pose a risk to building occupants. The survey will also list any works required and include details of future monitoring requirements that the school is responsible for. Therefore, all identified remedial works will be incorporated into the school's maintenance programme.

Monitoring of the water system is also a statutory requirement, and the school will ensure this is undertaken. This will include taking temperature readings, recording these in the logbook and de-scaling spray outlets as necessary (Envirocure monthly – see log).

### **C15: Radon management**

The Headteacher has a duty to safeguard the health & safety of themselves, staff and pupils so far as reasonably practicable. Monitoring of radon will be carried out in accordance with KCC and Health Protection Agency guidance by the Site Manager. The school will take actions advisable for the **radon risk level** of the school site and monitoring will be completed as required for that level.

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**C16: List of risk assessments, policies and procedures to complement this policy:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Asbestos management</li><li>• Bomb alerts guidance</li><li>• Control of chemicals hazardous to health (COSHH) procedures</li><li>• Display screen equipment (DSE) risk assessments</li><li>• Drugs and alcohol guidance</li><li>• Electricity at work including portable appliance testing (PAT testing)</li><li>• Emergency planning procedures</li><li>• Fire procedures – including responsibilities of the fire wardens</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First aid requirements and procedures</li><li>• Infection control procedures</li><li>• Legionella risk assessments</li><li>• Lone working policy</li><li>• Managing contractors procedures</li><li>• Manual handling training</li><li>• Off-site visits procedures and risk assessments (Evolve)</li><li>• Pedestrian and people movement procedures</li><li>• Playground supervision levels, procedures, training and play risk assessment</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Curriculum risk assessments</li><li>• School events risk assessments</li><li>• School facilities checks</li><li>• Visitor and volunteer policies and procedures</li><li>• Slips, trips and falls procedures</li><li>• Stress management procedures</li><li>• Violence and aggression procedures</li><li>• Working at height policy</li></ul>
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## Useful contacts

### **Kent County Council Health and Safety Unit**

Email: [healthandsafety@kent.gov.uk](mailto:healthandsafety@kent.gov.uk)  
Health and Safety Advice Line: Tel: 03000 418456  
Location: Room 1.04 Sessions House, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ

### **Outdoor Education Unit**

Tel: 03000 410901  
Email: [Outdoor.Education@theeducationpeople.org](mailto:Outdoor.Education@theeducationpeople.org)  
Location: The Swattenden Outdoor Centre, Swattenden Lane, Cranbrook, TN17 3PS

### **Insurance and Risk Management**

Lee Manser - Insurance Manager  
Tel: 03000416428  
Email: [lee.manser@kent.gov.uk](mailto:lee.manser@kent.gov.uk)  
Location: Room 2.53 Sessions House. Maidstone. ME14 1XQ

### **Staff Care Services**

Occupational Health, Mediation Services, and Support Line.  
Tel: 03000 411411  
Email: [occupational.health@kent.gov.uk](mailto:occupational.health@kent.gov.uk)  
Location: Park House, 110-112 Mill Street, East Malling, ME19 6BU

### **Classcare**

Email: [classcare.enquiries@kent.gov.uk](mailto:classcare.enquiries@kent.gov.uk)  
Location: Room 1.44, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ

### **Health and Safety Executive**

Location: International House, Dover Place, Ashford, TN24 1HU

### **Kent Fire & Rescue Service**

Location: The Godlands, Straw Mill Hill, Tovil, Maidstone, ME15 6XB  
Tel: 01622 692 121

### **RIDDOR Incident Contact Centre**

Website: [www.riddor.gov.uk](http://www.riddor.gov.uk)  
Tel: 0845 345 0055 (For reporting fatal/ specified, and major incidents only)  
Online reporting: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/report.htm>

### **Employment Medical Advisory Service (EMAS)**

The Executive's Employment Medical Advisory Service (EMAS).  
Tel: 02089 958503  
Location: PO Box 3087, London W4 4ZP

### **Association for Physical Education**

Tel: 01905 855584  
Email: [enquiries@afpe.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@afpe.org.uk)  
Website: <http://www.afpe.org.uk/>  
Location: 117 Bredon, University of Worcester, Henwick Grove, Worcester. WR2 6AJ

### **Sustainability & Climate Change Team**

Deborah Kapaj – Sustainable Estates Programme Manager  
Tel: 03000 410237  
Location: 2nd Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone. ME14 1XX