



Marsh Hill Nursery School Health & Safety Policy & Procedures

Issue 13

2025 – 2026

Statement of Local Health and Safety Intent

Marsh Hill Nursery School

We will meet all the requirements set out in the corporate health and safety policy and actively promote the safety and health of our Nursery School staff and pupils as an equal objective to our other Nursery School objectives.

As a Nursery School within the children's services directorate of Birmingham City Council, we will adopt a planned and systematic approach to the local implementation of the corporate health and safety management standards through this statement of intent and we will:

- ❖ Plan for health and safety within our Nursery School improvement planning activity
- ❖ Ensure relevant safety actions are included during the staff appraisal process
- ❖ Develop and maintain local arrangements and procedures that interpret and deliver the modular safety management standards (SMS) that apply to this Nursery School.
- ❖ Review with the governing body all progress against our plans and take appropriate action
- ❖ Provide an environment in which Nursery school staff can carry out their tasks without fear of intimidation, harassment, violence or the negative aspects of stress.
- ❖ Assess and control risks to all Nursery school staff
- ❖ Monitor accident trends throughout the Nursery School to further inform the health and safety aspects of the Nursery School improvement plan
- ❖ Monitor our performance against plans
- ❖ The school will expect employees to show a personal concern for their own, pupil and others safety, and the safety of equipment, by exercising due care and attention and observing authorised methods and codes of practice, including those inherent in professional or trade training.
- ❖ A copy of this statement will be given to all staff members or placed prominently in an area accessible to all.

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

HEAD TEACHER

Date:

Date:



Marsh Hill Nursery School Health and Safety Policy

This document details the organisation and arrangements required to maintain and continuously improve our Nursery School's health and safety management system.

The contents include a list of our local procedures for this Nursery School and the document control system we use.

The Aim of the Policy is to:

- Ensure that all reasonably practicable steps are taken to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all persons using the premises.
- Ensure that all reasonably practicable steps are taken to ensure the health and safety of staff, children and other supervising adults participating in off-site visits.
- Establish and maintain safe working procedures amongst staff and children.
- Make arrangements for ensuring safety and absence of risks to health in connection with the use, handling, storage and transport of articles and substances.
- Develop safety awareness amongst staff, children and other supervising adults.
- Formulate and implement effective procedures for use in the event of fire and other emergencies.

To meet these responsibilities the Governors will pay particular attention to:

- The safety of plant equipment, buildings and safe systems of work.
- Safe arrangements for the use, handling, storage and transport of articles and substances.
- Appropriate information, instruction, training and supervision to assist all staff, children and visitors to avoid hazards and to contribute positively to their own health and safety whilst on Nursery School premises.
- A safe workplace and safe access and egress.
- A healthy working environment.
- Procedures for fire evacuation, first aid cover and other emergency situations.

The responsibilities and duties for the management of health and safety within the scope of this policy are allocated as follows:

Head Teacher

- Policies and procedures with regard to health, safety and welfare matters within the Nursery School are established in writing, and approved by the Governing Body, and that the policies and procedures are known, understood and followed by all members of staff, including temporary/supply staff.
- Any health and safety matters raised, and guidance from the LA, are brought to the attention of the Governing Body.
- Regular reviews of the safe performance of all departments of the Nursery School are undertaken with appropriate action when necessary and are reported to the Governing Body.
- Accidents, incidents and dangerous occurrences are reported, investigated, and, where appropriate, preventive measures are taken. Also reports and returns are submitted to the LA and in accordance with the published procedures.
- Adequate first aid provision is made for staff and children and other persons, whilst on Nursery School premises and when working away from the Nursery School, in accordance with LA guidance.
- Training needs are identified and arrangements are made for those needs to be met.

- Necessary arrangements are made to ensure that Union Safety Representatives can effectively carry out their functions, and that consideration is given to reports on inspections carried out by Safety Representatives.
- All parts of the premises, plant and equipment for which the Governors have responsibility for purchase and/or repair, are regularly inspected and maintained in safe working order.
- Goods purchased comply with necessary safety standards and that all purchased equipment is safely installed.
- Any unsafe items which are the LA's responsibility are reported to Birmingham City Council Education Safety Services and any item which constitutes a health and safety hazard is taken out of use.
- Staff and volunteer helpers organising and taking part in visits, journeys and holiday excursions have the necessary knowledge, experience and skills so that they will be aware of, and have made arrangements to deal with, any risks involved.
- Working arrangements are agreed with contractors working on the premises and are closely monitored to ensure that the working practices do not endanger the health and/or safety of employees, children or other persons working on the premises.
- Awareness and co-operation amongst staff with regard to health and safety matters is actively encouraged.

Governors

- The LA's Health & Safety Policy and Codes of Practice are observed and acted upon where necessary.
- A Nursery School safety policy is produced and that the policy is regularly reviewed.
- A Health and Safety Committee will be established if requested by at least two persons and health and safety is included in the terms of reference of an existing committee.
- The safety policies will be brought to the notice of all employees.
- Their health and safety obligations are properly considered and provision made for meeting those obligations.
- The Nursery School's staffing structure appropriately reflects the responsibilities for carrying out the arrangements for health and safety.
- Health and safety issues concerning the Nursery School are identified and appropriate action taken.
- Regular safety reports are provided by the head teacher so that safety arrangements can be monitored and evaluated.
- Appropriate facilities for accredited Union Safety Representatives are provided to enable them to fulfil their duties.
- All reasonable facilities and information are provided to Birmingham City Council Education Safety Services, Inspectors of the Health and Safety Executive and any other health and safety official.

Staff holding Posts of Responsibility

Staff holding posts of special responsibility, i.e., Deputy Head Teacher, Teachers Nursery Nurse, and Administration Officer, are responsible to the Head Teacher for the implementation of the health & safety policy within their area of work. To fulfil their responsibilities, they will assist the Head Teacher:

- In the monitoring of health and safety by inspecting their area on a regular basis to ensure that safety measures are being maintained and safety instruction and safe working practices are being followed by staff and pupils, and for making any necessary changes in practices and procedures.

- By informing their staff of any hazards to health and safety they are likely to meet in the course of their work and ensure that they have the necessary information, instruction and training to carry out their duties without risk to health or safety.
- By ensuring that staff and pupils are aware of emergency procedures, which should be regularly reviewed.
- By ensuring that adequate supervision is maintained at all times.
- By ensuring that all equipment is regularly inspected and maintained in safe working order and that any defective equipment is removed from use immediately.
- First aid and medication procedures are followed
- Fire arrangements in place

Minster Cleaners will assist the Head Teacher to ensure that health and safety implications are considered in connection with the security and cleaning of the building.

Nursery Staff

Staff timetabled to be in charge of groups have the following responsibility to assist the Head Teacher:

- To follow safe working procedures personally.
- To ensure the safety of children in classrooms and other areas of the Nursery School whilst in their charge.
- To be aware of and to adopt safety measures within their own teaching areas.
- To request special safe working procedures, protective clothing, guards, etc. where necessary and ensure they are used.
- To make recommendations to the Head Teacher regarding the safety of equipment or tools, in particular any equipment or machinery that is dangerous
- To be aware of emergency procedures in respect of fire, first aid, accident etc. and to carry them out.

Educational Visits Coordinator (EVC)

Follow Birmingham City Council Education Safety Services – Off-Site Visit guidance where full responsibilities are outlined

- Ensure that staff involved in educational visits are aware of their responsibilities regarding the off-site visits policy and have ready access to it
- Authorise all off site visits
- Inform the head and governing body of all non-routine visits.

Employees General Responsibilities

All employees have a general duty under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 to:

- Take reasonable care of their own safety and that of other persons.
- Co-operate with the employer on health and safety matters to enable the employer to carry out their own responsibilities successfully.
- To use correctly any equipment provided for his/her safety.
- Report any defective equipment to his/her supervisor or other appropriate person, i.e., safety representative.
- Report accidents or dangerous occurrences at the earliest possible opportunity.
- Be familiar with and observe at all times all safety policies and procedures.
- Take reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of all persons in their charge

Arrangements for Health and Safety (See local arrangements section)

The attention of staff is drawn to the Guidance and Codes of Practice, and various circulars/memoranda issued by the Local Authority. These should be read in conjunction with the instructions and information contained in this Safety Policy.

Document Control

We will develop and maintain local documentation. Changes including re issues and deletions to local Nursery School documentation will be authorised by the Head Teacher.

Co-operation

- Local systems and documentation will be implemented following consultation through our Nursery School's health and safety governance meetings.

Communication

- Local systems and documentation will be held electronically and on hard copy and made accessible to staff members.

Competence

- The Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher will provide health and safety guidance to cover the areas of induction, identification of health and safety training needs and the provision and delivery of health and safety training.
- Nursery School staff members will continually develop their own competence through CPD activities including health and safety training on induction, refresher training and specific training where necessary, e.g. risk assessment techniques.

Planning & Prioritising (Setting Standards)

Nursery School Health & Safety Plans

- Nursery School health and safety planning will be part of our Nursery School improvement planning process.
- Planning will be carried out at regular intervals and will involve objective setting, identification of expected outcomes and allocation of resources.

Risk assessments

- Job and specific risk assessments will be carried out by staff and Elite Safety in Education in accordance with the relevant local arrangements, e.g. manual handling, fire, hazardous substances, display screen equipment etc.
- The risk assessments are held electronically on the Elite Safety H&S Portal and on the school shared drive.

Local Arrangements

- We will develop and maintain a range of local arrangements to achieve specific actions required for health and safety in the Nursery School. (see local arrangements section)

Measuring H&S Performance

Active Monitoring

Our Nursery School management team will oversee active monitoring to include workplace inspections in accordance with local arrangements.

Reactive Monitoring

The Nursery School management team will oversee reactive monitoring to include accidents, near misses and hazard reports in accordance with our local arrangement and will nominate someone to report trends etc. to our Governing Body.



Reviewing Health & Safety Performance

- Performance indicators used for the review of health and safety performance will include identification of areas where risk controls are inadequate or absent, the extent of achievement of specific health and safety objectives and an analysis of accident and ill-health data.
- The Nursery School health & safety performance will be reviewed by the Nursery School management team quarterly and reported to Nursery School Governors.

Auditing/Inspecting Health & Safety Performance

- Health and safety auditing/inspecting will be carried out on a regular basis by the Governors and senior management.

Local Arrangements

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Accident Reporting Procedures

In accordance with the LA's/Governors accident/incident reporting procedure employees must report accidents, violent incidents, dangerous occurrences, and near misses on the relevant forms.

Copies of these forms are available in the Nursery School office.

- A local minor incident form is located in each classroom and is used to record all minor incidents to pupils. The Parents/Guardians would be required to sign the form to acknowledge treatment given. (These forms will be kept for a minimum of 5 years) any more significant incidents must also be reported to LA/Governors.
- Where a child has received a head bump a "bumped head" note will be given to the parent/guardian collecting the child.
- The LA accident report forms for more serious incidents will be downloaded from the E-Briefing Site.
- The Nursery will be responsible for deciding if the incident is reportable to Birmingham City Council Education Safety Services.
- Nursery School accident reports will be monitored for trends and a report made to the Governors, as necessary.
- The Head Teacher, or Deputy Head Teacher, will investigate accidents and take remedial steps to avoid similar instances recurring. Faulty equipment, systems of work etc. must be reported and attended to as soon as possible.

Reporting to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE)

Incidents involving a fatality or major injury will be reported immediately to Birmingham City Council Education Safety Services who will inform the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) on 0845 300 9923 or on-line at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/>.

- Employee absence, as the result of a work related accident, for periods of 7 days or more (including W/E's and holidays) must be reported to RIDDOR www.hse.gov.uk/riddor
- Incidents resulting in a pupil or other non-employee being taken to hospital and the accident arising as the result of a curriculum activity, the condition of the premises / equipment, lack of supervision, etc., must be reported to the HSE within 15 days of the incident occurring
- The school will still be required to keep a record of all over three day injuries – if the school keeps an accident book/form, then this record will be enough.

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Asbestos

The asbestos survey is held in the school reception office and will be made available to all staff and visiting contractors prior to **any** work commencing on the fabric of the building or fixed equipment.

Any works required to be carried out on ACMs will go through the clerk of works/architect.

The Nursery School shall ensure:

- The asbestos survey is maintained and that any changes are acted upon.
- All work on the fabric of the building or fixed equipment is not undertaken unless it is sure there is no asbestos containing materials present and those undertaking the work have signed the asbestos survey.
- An annual visual inspection of asbestos containing materials on site is conducted and recorded in the asbestos management plan.

Please note that even drilling a hole or pushing a drawing pin into asbestos containing materials may result in the release of fibres into the air.

Under no circumstances must staff drill or affix anything to walls without first obtaining approval from the Head Teacher.

Refurbishment & Demolition Surveys.

This type of survey will be required when a building (or part of it) is to be upgraded, refurbished or demolished and is required prior to any work commencing. This survey is used to locate and describe, as far as is reasonably practicable.

- All ACMs in the area that the refurbishment will take place
- For the whole building if demolition is planned.

The survey will be fully intrusive and involve destructive inspection, as necessary, to gain access to all areas, including those that may be difficult to reach.

During this type of survey consideration must be given to the risk of spread of debris including asbestos during aggressive inspection techniques such as:

- Lifting carpets and tiles,
- Breaking through walls, ceilings, cladding and partitions
- Opening up floors and void.

Refurbishment and demolition surveys should only be conducted in unoccupied areas to minimise the risk to pupils, staff and any third parties on the premises. Ideally the building should not be in service and all furnishings should be removed. This would only apply to working areas within a building for small refurbishment projects.

Release of Asbestos Containing Materials

In the event of accidental release of known or suspected asbestos fibres, the area must be evacuated immediately and if possible sealed to prevent unauthorised access. A sign should be displayed to inform persons to stay out of the area

Any damage to materials known or suspected to contain asbestos should be reported to the Head Teacher who will contact the safety advisor at Birmingham City Council Education Safety Services.

Any contractor who is suspected to be carrying out unauthorised work on the fabric of the building should be reported to the Head Teacher.

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Contractors

All contractors used by the Nursery School shall ensure compliance with relevant health and safety legislation, guidance and good practice.

All contractors must report to the Nursery School office where they will be asked to sign the visitors' book. Contractors will be issued with verbal guidance on fire procedures, local management arrangements and vehicle movement restrictions.

The Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher are responsible for monitoring areas where the contractor's work may directly affect staff and children and for keeping records of all contractor work carried out.

Nursery School Managed Projects

To ensure contractor competency the Nursery School uses Birmingham City Council Education Safety Services registered contractors. These contractors have satisfied the council that they understand and abide by health and safety regulations. Where non registered contractors are used, the Head Teacher will undertake appropriate competency checks prior to engaging a contractor.

Contractors will be asked to provide risk assessments, method statements specific to the site and works to be undertaken and a copy of their liability insurance. The Nursery School, contractor(s) and any subcontractor(s) involved will agree the risk assessment and safe systems of work to be used prior to works commencing on site.

Contractors job registration forms will be used when contractors have been sought independently.

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Control of Substances Hazardous to Health

Every attempt will be made to avoid, or choose the least harmful of, substances which fall under the “Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002” (the COSHH Regulations).

The Head Teacher will ensure Minster Cleaning are adhering to their contract by:

- Holding an inventory of all hazardous substances used on site and is compiled and regularly reviewed.
- Material safety data sheets are obtained from the relevant supplier for all such materials.
- Risk assessments are conducted for the use of hazardous substances
- All chemicals are appropriately and securely stored out of the reach of children.
- All chemicals are kept in their original packaging and labelled (no decanting into unmarked containers.)
- Suitable personal protective equipment (PPE) has been identified and available for use.

PPE is to be provided free of charge where the need is identified as part of the risk assessment.

Guidelines:

- Teachers should not keep their own small stocks of hazardous substances e.g. cleaning solutions. Staff room cleaning materials should be kept securely in the appropriate staffroom cupboard.
- Chemicals and cleaning chemicals should ideally be stored in their own container and clearly labelled with warnings showing clearly on the container.
- Never use food or drink containers to store chemicals.
- Keep only small quantities of the chemicals.
- Any spillages should be cleaned up at once.
- Teach pupils to recognise the red and black warning symbols (orange for older products), which they may come across on household containers, such as bleach, disinfectants, lavatory cleaners, oven cleaners, paint stripper's etc., and warn of the dangers.
- Ensure protective clothing is available when using chemicals.
- COSHH assessments must have been carried out before using chemicals and the user informed of the dangers and control measures to be in place for that chemical. There should also be suitable first aid arrangements available for treating chemical splashes.

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Display Screen Equipment (DSE)

All staff who habitually use computers as a significant part of their normal work (significant is taken to be continuous / near continuous spells of an hour at a time) e.g. admin staff, office manager and Head Teacher etc. shall carry out a self-DSE assessment.

All workstations, chairs, and associated equipment shall comply with the requirements of the Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992 and current British Standards. School office staff will be responsible for checking this when ordering.

A designated person is responsible for coordinating display screen equipment assessments.

Where the results of an assessment indicate a risk to the user of such equipment, all reasonable steps are undertaken by the school to eliminate these risks or otherwise reduce them to avoid the adverse health effects.

Those staff identified as DSE users shall be entitled to a free eyesight test for DSE use every 2 years by a qualified optician.

Where necessary a contribution is made towards the cost of lenses. Details of this can be obtained from the Head Teacher.

Suitable training and information is given to users of display screen equipment to recognise the hazards associated with non-interrupted use of such equipment and the appropriate precautions to be taken.

Pupil Workstations

Best practice guidelines will be adopted when setting up pupil workstations. Pupils use display screen equipment for short durations.

- Staff are responsible for connecting and disconnecting computers/iPads etc.
- Food and drink should not be consumed by pupils near the computers.
- Pupils are regularly reminded by staff of the importance of not spending too many hours in front of a monitor.
- Any problems with the equipment should be reported to the ICT Network Manager.

SEN Pupils and Computers:

Some SEN Pupils may be provided with individual equipment. Teaching staff should liaise with the SEN department and ascertain the arrangements that have been set up with the pupil for printing etc. Where a pupil has physical disabilities, staff must be aware of any implications for computer work, before that work arises, to avoid any embarrassment for the pupil.

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Fire Evacuation & other Emergency Procedures

The Head Teacher is responsible for ensuring the fire risk assessment is undertaken and implemented.

The fire risk assessment is located in the fire folder and reviewed every 2 years by a competent fire officer and reviewed annually by the Head Teacher.

Fire Instructions

These documents are made available to all staff and included in the Nursery School's induction process.

An outline of evacuation procedures are made available to all contractors/visitors and are posted throughout the site.

Emergency exits, fire alarm call points, assembly points etc. are clearly identified by safety signs and notices.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Fire and Evacuation

Fire and emergency evacuation procedures are detailed below.

These procedures will be reviewed at least annually.

Emergency contact and key holder details are maintained by ADT.

Fire Drills

Fire drills will be undertaken termly, and a record kept in the fire log book.

Fire Fighting

The safe evacuation of persons is an absolute priority. Staff may only attempt to deal with small fires, **if it is safe to do so without putting themselves at risk**, using portable fire fighting equipment.

Ensure the alarm is raised BEFORE attempting to tackle a fire.

Staff should be made aware of the type and location of portable fire fighting equipment and receive basic instruction in its correct use.

Details of Service Isolation Points

Water: Outside Nursery

Electricity: Main Corridor (between class 1 & 2)

Gas: Next to Boiler Room Door

Details of chemicals and flammable substances on site.

An inventory of chemicals used by Minster Cleaners will be kept by them in the locked cleaning room, for consultation.

Nursery substances used by staff will be held in the risk assessment folder.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

FIRE EVACUATION

IF YOU FIND A FIRE OR ONE IS REPORTED TO YOU:

- Staff discovering a fire or other emergency for which the buildings should be evacuated, should activate the alarm using the nearest available break glass call point. They will make their way to the nearest evacuation point.

Fire Fighting

- The safe evacuation of persons is an absolute priority. Staff may only attempt to deal with small fires, if it is safe to do so without putting themselves at risk, using portable fire fighting equipment.
- Ensure the alarm is raised BEFORE attempting to tackle a fire.

On Hearing the Fire Alarm:

- All staff, pupils, occupants of the building must respond to alarm activations
- The fire alarm is a continuous sound
- The Nursery School will evacuate the building
- The Head Teacher or a member of staff will be responsible for informing the emergency services.
- Staff will supervise/affect the evacuation of pupils/visitors to the designated assembly point
- Staff not with pupils, visitors and contractors must leave the building by the nearest exit and report directly to a senior member of staff at the assembly point.

Assembly Point

- Pupils should leave with the nursery staff in charge of the group. Pupils should then leave by the nearest available escape route. The last person to leave the classroom must close the door. Pupils should make their way to the assembly point.

A Calm orderly exit is essential

Walk quickly – DO NOT RUN or stop to collect belongings

- On arrival at the assembly area children must stand in their groups while staff check their registers. Registers, visitors' book etc. will be taken out to the assembly point by the administration staff
- The result of this check must be reported to the Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher/Fire Marshall as soon as it is completed.
- The Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher/Fire Marshall will liaise with the fire brigade on their arrival.
- The building must not be re-entered until staff are notified it is safe to do so by the fire brigade/Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher/Fire Marshall.
- If the building cannot be re-entered the staff must escort the children to the public park next to the Nursery where the registers will be called again to ensure all staff and pupils are accounted for.
- The Head Teacher will notify the LA as soon as possible of a fire incident.

In the event of a bomb threat follow the evacuation procedures as above.

GENERAL EVACUATION FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Mobility Impairment

Those people who require only limited assistance should evacuate the building using the nearest exit. If they have to move at a slower pace they should allow other persons to exit the building before them and then continue their evacuation to a place of safety. A responsible member of staff will be nominated to escort those who need assistance from the building.

Visual Disability

People with a visual disability will usually require the assistance of one person, on steps, the helper should descend first with the person's hand on their shoulder, on the level surfaces they should take the helper's arm and follow them.

Hearing Disability

People with a hearing disability should be escorted out of the building by staff. In the event of staff with a hearing impairment joining, then they may require additional means of being warned in the event of an alarm e.g. pager that vibrates when alarm is activated, flashing beacon linked to alarm etc.

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Inspection/Maintenance of Emergency Equipment**Testing of the Fire Alarm System**

Fire alarm call points will be tested weekly by the fire Marshall supported by the Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher and a record kept in the fire log book. This test will occur once a week.

Any defects on the system will be reported immediately to the alarm contractor/electrical engineer.

A fire alarm maintenance contract is in place and the system is tested six monthly.

Inspection of Fire Fighting Equipment

An approved competent contractor undertakes an annual maintenance service of all fire fighting equipment.

Weekly checks are carried out by the fire Marshall to ensure that all fire fighting equipment is available for use and operational and for any evidence of tampering.

Defective equipment or extinguishers that need recharging should be taken out of service and reported direct to the approved contractor.

Emergency Lighting

These systems will be checked for operation monthly in house by the fire Marshall and supported by the Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher and annually by an approved competent contractor.

Test records are located in the site's fire log book.

Green Door Release Boxes

These will be tested regularly and recorded.

Emergency Red Pull Cords

These will be tested regularly and recorded.

Means of Escape

Daily checks for any obstructions on exit routes are carried out and all final exit doors are operational and available for use.

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First Aid & Medication

First aid boxes are located at the following points:

Classrooms, Staff room, Children's toilets

Bum bags for off-site visits

The nominated first aider will be responsible for regularly checking that the contents of first aid boxes are complete and replenished as necessary. A check list of the first aid provisions is carried out monthly.

First Aiders:

The Nursery School has sufficient numbers of first aiders (includes Initial First Aid at Work, & Paediatric.)

A list of first aiders is displayed in the main reception area.

The EYFS Framework requires a list of staff first aiders to be displayed or staff Paediatric certificates displayed and made available to parents.

The Head Teacher will ensure that first aiders have a current certificate and that new persons are trained should first aiders leave.

Mental Health First Aid

The school recognises that good mental health and wellbeing helps pupils to develop, attend school, engage in learning and fulfil their potential.

We provide wellbeing by ensuring there is a safe, calm and supportive learning environment, and targeting support for pupils who need help.

Button Batteries:

Please be aware small batteries are dangerous if swallowed and must be kept and stored out of reach of young children.

When opening a pack which includes multiple button batteries, make sure that children cannot access the batteries which remain in the open packs.

Do not dispose of a battery in the classroom waste bin.

What to do if a child ingests a button battery:

- CALL 999 In the event of battery ingestion, seek immediate medical attention
- Do not let the child eat or drink until an X-ray can determine if a battery is present.
- Take the battery packaging or the device containing the battery to the hospital so as the doctor can identify the battery type and chemistry.

Transport to Hospital:

If the first aider or Head Teacher considers it necessary, the injured person will be sent directly to hospital (normally by ambulance). Parents and/or guardians will also be informed. No casualty should be allowed to travel to hospital unaccompanied and an accompanying adult will be designated in situations where the parents cannot be contacted.

Administration of Medicines

All medication will be administered to pupils in accordance with the DfE document

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/484418/supporting-pupils-at-school-with-medical-conditions.pdf

It is the policy of the Nursery School to follow the advice of the Local Authority on the administering of medicines in Nursery School.

Therefore, we would not agree to administer antibiotic medicines or cough medicines to children but would suggest some alternatives to parents/guardians.

- The child remains at home until the course of treatment is complete
- To administer medicines before or after the nursery session
- In some circumstances a parent/guardian may make special arrangements with us, to enable them to visit the nursery at a specified time, to administer the medicines to their child.

Exemptions will be made for pupils suffering from asthma, epilepsy etc.

Asthma inhalers will be kept in the staff room with name and picture clearly displayed.

Information regarding the pupil's medical needs will be kept with the register in the class information file.

Training is in place for staff who administer/apply medicines.

Special arrangements may be needed when children are attending educational visits with the nursery.

Parents/guardians are always welcome to discuss such matters with any member of staff, and each case will be considered on the individual circumstances.

Health Care Plans

Health care plans are in place for those children with complex medical needs e.g. chronic or on-going medical conditions (e.g. diabetes, epilepsy, anaphylaxis etc.)

Staff undergo specific training related to health conditions of children and administration of medicines (e.g. diabetes, epilepsy, anaphylaxis etc.) by a health professional as appropriate.

These plans are reviewed as and when informed by parents/ guardians and written precautions/procedures made available to staff.

Concussion

No-one should return to competition, training or Physical Education (PE) lessons within 24 hours of a suspected concussion. Anyone with a suspected concussion should NOT drive a motor vehicle (e.g. car or motorcycle), ride a bicycle, operate machinery, or drink alcohol within 24 hours of a suspected concussion. Follow Guidance from UK Government "if in doubt sit them out" UK Concussion Guidelines for non-elite (grassroots) sport.

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Food Hygiene

The nursery will ensure food hygiene procedures and guidelines are followed and we will ensure the following:

Storage

- Food should be stored appropriately, either in cupboards or refrigerators according to the labels on the food.
- Food should be wrapped and kept according to the sell-by date.
- Food should not be left out in nursery school unless it is in use of for a display (it must not be allowed to grow mould unless in a closed container).

Preparation

- Wash hands beforehand.
- Don't lick fingers while preparing food.
- Ensure that equipment is clean and sterilised before use.
- Cooked foods must be kept separate from raw foods.

Cooking/preparing food

- Staff must ensure all food cooked is cooked thoroughly at all times.
- The correct temperature must be used for cooking.
- Correct health and safety procedures and correct equipment must be used when handling hot food.
- Cool foods quickly unless the recipe says otherwise.
- Low risk food only is cooked/prepared in nursery
- Blue gloves to be worn when preparing/cutting up food (especially if there is cooked and uncooked food present)

Cleaning up

- Washing up must be carried out safely (no sharp knives to be placed in the sinks)
- All food rubbish must be put in black plastic sacks and tied up.
- Microwave must be cleaned after use.
- Preparation food areas should be sterilised before and after use.
- The toaster must be emptied of crumbs regularly

Eating the food or transporting it elsewhere

- Food should be put in a clean container with a lid.
- Food should not be left out in nursery school uncovered.
- Parents must inform the teacher if their child/children are intolerant or allergic to certain foods or ingredients.

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Health & Safety Information & Training

Consultation

The Head Teacher and the Deputy Head Teacher will discuss on a regular basis any issues affecting the Nursery School. The Head Teacher and the Deputy Head Teacher meets with the Governors on a termly basis and will forward the concerns to the Governors for discussion/action.

The Health and Safety Law poster is displayed in the main reception office

Elite Safety in Education and Birmingham City Council Education Safety Services provide competent health and safety advice for Marsh Hill Nursery School.

Health and Safety Training

Health and safety induction training will be provided and documented for all new employees by the Head Teacher or the Deputy Head Teacher.

The Head Teacher is responsible for ensuring that all staff are provided with adequate information, instruction and training and identifying the health and safety training needs of staff.

All employees will be provided with:

- Induction training in the requirements of this policy.
- Update training in response to any significant change.
- Training in specific skills needed for certain activities, (e.g. use of hazardous substances, work at height etc.)
- Refresher training where required.

Training records are held by the Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher and will be responsible for co-ordinating health and safety training needs and for including details in the training and development plan. This includes a system for ensuring that refresher training (for example in first aid) is undertaken within the prescribed time limits. The Head Teacher will be responsible for assessing the effectiveness of training received.

Each member of staff is also responsible for drawing the Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teachers attention to their own personal needs for training and for not undertaking duties unless they are confident that they have the necessary competence.

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Health & Safety Monitoring and Inspection

A general inspection of the site will be conducted termly and be undertaken/co-ordinated by the Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher and Elite Safety in Education.

A named H&S Governor will be involved/undertake an inspection on an annual basis and report back to both the full Governing Body meetings. This Governor monitoring will also cover management systems in addition to inspecting the premises.

Inspections will be conducted jointly with the Nursery School's health and safety representative(s) if/when applicable.

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Infection Control

Introduction

This policy has been written following guidance from UK Health Security Agency guidance on infection control and winter readiness.

Aim and Objectives

This policy aims to provide the school community with guidance when preparing for, and in the event of an outbreak of an infection such as pandemic influenza or any contagious illness.

Principles

The school recognises that infections such as influenza pandemics are not new. No-one knows exactly when the school will be faced with having to deal with a potentially contagious illness amongst its community.

We recognise the need to be prepared. Infections are likely to spread particularly rapidly in schools and as children may have no residual immunity, they could be amongst the groups worst affected. We recognise that closing the school may be necessary in exceptional circumstances in order to control an infection. However we will strive to remain open unless advised otherwise. Good pastoral care includes promoting healthy living and good hand hygiene. School staff will give pupils positive messages about health and well-being through lessons and through conversations with pupils.

Planning and Preparing

In the event of the school becoming aware that a pupil or member of staff has an infectious illness we would direct their parents to report to their GP and inform UK Health Security Agency. During an outbreak of an infectious illness such as pandemic influenza the school will seek to operate as normally as possible but will plan for higher levels of staff absence.

The decision on whether school should remain open or close will be based on medical evidence.

This will be discussed with the Health Protection Agency and the Government.

It is likely that school will remain open but we recognise the fact that both the illness itself and the caring responsibilities of staff will impact staff absence levels.

The school will close if we cannot provide adequate supervision for the children.

Infection Control

Infections are usually spread from person to person by close contact, for example

Infected people can pass a virus to others through large droplets when coughing, sneezing.

Through direct contact with an infected person: for example if you shake or hold their hand and then touch your own mouth, eyes, nose without first washing your hands. Or even talking at a close distance.

Viruses can also survive longer on hard and soft surfaces.

Staff and children are given the following advice about how to reduce the risk of passing on infections to others:

- Wash hands regularly, particularly after coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose.
- Minimise contact between your hands and mouth/nose
- Cover your nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing or in crook of elbow.
- Do not attend school if you have an infectious illness.



These messages are promoted through posters around the school, in assemblies and through Personal and Social Education lessons.

HAND WASHING IS THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF INFECTION CONTROL IN SCHOOLS

Minimise Sources of Contamination

- We will ensure staff have received training or competent in food handling.
- We store food that requires refrigeration, covered and dated within a refrigerator at a temperature of 5°C or below
- We wash hands before and handling foods
- Food is brought from reputable sources and used by recommended date.

To Control the Spread of Infection

- We ensure good handwashing procedures (toilet, handling animals, soil food)
- Children encouraged to wipe and blow their own noses and dispose of soiled tissues in waste bins.
- We wear protective clothing when dealing with accidents and incidents.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Disposable non-powdered vinyl or latex-free CE-marked gloves, face coverings (if advised) and disposable plastic aprons are worn where there is a risk of splashing or contamination with blood/body fluids (for example, nappy or pad changing) by all staff.

Cleaning of The Environment

Cleaning throughout the school is frequent and thorough including the cleaning of all toys and equipment in class. Cleaning of the environment, cleaning equipment such as buckets are colour coded and cleaned and replaced as needed. Cleaning contracts are monitored regularly and ensure cleaners have access to PPE.

Cleaning of Blood and Body Fluid Spillages

All spillages of blood, faeces, saliva, vomit, nasal and eye discharges are cleaned up immediately (with staff wearing PPE). When spillages occur, they are cleaned using a product that combines both a detergent and a disinfectant to be effective against bacteria and viruses and suitable for the surfaces used on. Mops are never used for cleaning up blood and body fluid spillages – disposable paper towels are used and waste is disposed in secure bins along with nappies.

Vulnerable Children

Some medical conditions make children vulnerable to infections that would rarely be serious in most children, these include those being treated for leukaemia or other cancers, on high doses of steroids and with conditions that seriously reduce immunity.

The school will have been made aware of such children.

These children are particularly vulnerable to chickenpox, measles or parvovirus B19 and, if exposed to either of these, the school will contact the parent/carer and inform them promptly and further medical advice sought. It may be advisable for these children to have additional immunisations, for example pneumococcal and influenza.

Female Staff – Pregnancy

If a pregnant woman develops a rash or is in direct contact with someone with a potentially infectious rash, this should be investigated according to UKHSA guidelines by a doctor. The greatest risk to pregnant women from such infections comes from their own child/children, rather than the workplace. Some specific risks are:

Chicken Pox can affect the pregnancy if a woman has not already had the infection.

Report exposure to midwife and GP at any stage of exposure.



The GP and antenatal carer will arrange a blood test to check for immunity. 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.

Rubella If a pregnant woman comes into contact with Rubella she should inform her GP and antenatal carer immediately to ensure investigation. The infection may affect the developing baby if the woman is not immune and is exposed in early pregnancy. Measles during pregnancy can result in early delivery or even loss of the baby. If a pregnant woman is exposed she should immediately inform whoever is giving antenatal care to ensure investigation.

Slapped Cheek Disease (parvovirus B19) can occasionally affect an unborn child. If exposed early in pregnancy (before 20 weeks), inform whoever is giving antenatal care as this must be investigated promptly.

This advice also applies to pregnant students.

In school we follow the guidelines set by the Health Protection Agency, regarding the recommended period of time that pupils should be absent from school.

Detailed information about many conditions is available at: [UK Health Security Agency](https://www.ukhsa.gov.uk)

It is important to note that the school are unable to authorise absence on medical grounds or illness for conditions where the guidelines state that no period of absence is recommended, e.g. head lice.

Meningitis

Meningitis most commonly affects babies, young children and teenagers, but can also be harmful to older people and adults with lower immunity. It can be very serious, even fatal, if it is not treated quickly, as it infects the protective membranes surrounding the brain and spinal cord. It can cause blood poisoning and permanent brain and nerve damage.

Symptoms may include a high temperature, vomiting, headaches, a rash that does not fade when rubbed over with a glass, stiff neck, an aversion to bright lights, drowsiness and fits. These symptoms may occur in any sequence and sometimes not all of them will be experienced at all.

Bacterial and virus meningitis are contagious and can be spread through sneezing, coughing, kissing, sharing cutlery and utensils, and spending considerable time with an infected person, so schools are one of the prime locations where the infection can spread. It can be caught from people who carry the virus or bacteria but are not ill themselves.

Vaccinations are available for several types of meningitis but practicing good personal hygiene (washing hands and coughing/sneezing into tissues etc), and not sharing drinks and cutlery will also help reduce the risk of contagion.

Coronavirus Disease – COVID-19

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus.

Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Older people and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness.

The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is to be well informed about the COVID-19 virus, the disease it causes and how it spreads.

Protect yourself and others from infection by washing your hands or using an alcohol-based rub frequently and not touching your face.

The COVID-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes, so it's important that you also practice respiratory etiquette (for example, by coughing into a flexed elbow).

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Legionella

The Nursery School complies with advice on the potential risks from legionella as identified in guidance from the HSE.

A legionella water risk assessment of the Nursery School has been completed by IWS Ltd

IWS Ltd will be responsible for ensuring that operational controls are being conducted and recorded in the water risk assessment file.

This will include:

- Conducting necessary monthly water temperature checks
- Disinfecting water tanks or other areas where water droplets are formed
- Servicing of Thermostatic Mixing Valves (TMVs).

The Nursery will flush all little used outlets and record the findings in the water risk assessment file.

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Lone Working

Lone working can be defined as a wide variety of situations including:

- Travelling alone - on foot, by car or public transport
- Peripatetic (mobile) working - visiting people in their homes, visiting business premises, attending meetings or even work on the highway
- Use of interview rooms - effectively, working alone.
- Arriving at or leaving premises - the first person in/last out is in effect working alone
- Out of hours activities - cleaning, maintenance, etc.

Lone working is undesirable but in some circumstances it cannot reasonably be avoided.

Suitable risk assessments of working practices will be carried out to determine the level of risk for each member of staff lone working.

Definition of Lone Working

Where staff are engaged in work (either outdoors or indoors) where there are no other people who could reasonably be expected to come to their immediate aid in the event of an incident or emergency.

It is the responsibility of the Head Teacher to ensure members of staff are aware of the risks of Lone Working.

Hazards identified will be evaluated by the Head Teacher for the likelihood of the hazard causing harm. Measures will be introduced if the assessment shows that existing precautions are inadequate to eliminate or adequately control the hazard. The risk assessment will be subject to review to ensure it is relevant and current to the workings of the school.

Controls

Staff should seek the permission of the Head Teacher to work alone in the building outside of normal school hours.

The experience and training of all staff and the activities to be undertaken will be taken into consideration before allowing lone working. Lone workers must be considered capable of responding correctly in an emergency situation.

Whenever possible it is recommended that staff work with a colleague.

A staff member must seek permission to work alone and contact the Head Teacher by e.g. text message, the staff member must receive a response before lone working. If a reply is not received from the Head Teacher, the member of staff must ideally contact another member of staff or a family member as the default position.

Good practice would be to liaise with other staff during school holidays, but in the absence of doing so, the member of staff should ensure a family member is aware s/he will be working alone on the school premises. At weekends and during school holidays, it is the staff member's personal responsibility to ensure someone is aware. If exceptions to this are identified, then the policy will be reviewed. The staff attendance log in must be maintained.

Staff should not enter the school premises if there are signs of intruders but are advised to immediately call the police.

Staff should lock the outer doors when lone working and ensure that areas of the school not in use are kept secure. Staff must not place themselves in danger by challenging intruders or vandals but should call the police for assistance.

Staff should not work alone if they have medical conditions that might cause incapacity or unconsciousness.

All lone working staff should establish their own checking in and out system with either family, friends or work colleagues. It is advised that lone workers provide a relative or friend with a telephone contact number (Head Teacher or SLTs mobile phone numbers) to call if the lone worker fails to return home at the expected time.

It is not normally practicable for the Head Teacher to periodically visit and visually monitor people working alone.

Staff will receive information and/or training to help ensure they understand the risks associated with lone working and to minimise these risks. All lone workers, in an otherwise unoccupied building, should follow the school's Fire and Emergency Procedures. Staff have a responsibility for making themselves familiar with and following the school's safety procedures and location of safety equipment.

Contractors should have access to their own first aid kit suitable for treating minor injuries.

If staff rely on mobile phones they must ensure that their network has good reception within school. Although phones can give extra reassurance, they do not provide complete protection and staff should still be alert for their own personal safety at all times.

In the situation where two or more people are working in isolated areas of an otherwise unoccupied building, personnel should keep each other informed about their movements.

Lone workers should not undertake activities that involve the handling of money, working at height, any task that has been identified as medium or high risk or which are potentially hazardous given their own level of experience and the nature of the task.

All school personnel are reminded about the importance of maintaining a healthy work/life balance.

It is the responsibility of all school personnel and contractors to adhere to the lone working procedures and to report any difficulties, failure of equipment or general concerns on health and safety to the Head Teacher. If members of staff fail to follow procedures designed to protect their safety, this could result in a disciplinary matter as they will have contributed to their injury and any compensation claims for damages or unfair dismissal may be reduced accordingly.

The School respects the right of the employee, under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, to refuse to carry out work where there is a serious and imminent risk of danger. They also can advise others to do the same without being dismissed as a result. Staff should be proactive in bringing to the attention of Head Teacher any aspect of work related risks.

The Head Teacher will regularly monitor the implementation of these procedures. Following any incident an investigation will be carried out and its findings used to inform change to procedures and working practices.

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Moving & Handling

Generic risk assessments for regular manual handling operations are undertaken and staff provided with information on safe moving and handling techniques.

Staff should ensure they are not lifting heavy items unless they have received training and/or equipment in order to do so safely.

All manual handling activities which present a significant risk to the health and safety of staff, will be reported to the Head Teacher and where such activities cannot be avoided, a risk assessment will be conducted to ensure such risks are adequately controlled. A copy of this assessment will be provided to employees who must follow the instruction given when carrying out the task.

Paediatric Moving and Handling

All staff who move and handle children have received appropriate training (both in general moving and handling people techniques and specific training on any lifting equipment, hoists, slings etc. they are required to use.)

All moving and handling of children has been risk assessed and recorded by a competent member of staff.

Equipment for moving and handling people is subject to inspection on a 6 monthly basis by a competent contractor. (Not including changing beds which will be subject to an annual inspection).

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Off-Site Visits

Introduction

Educational visits are activities arranged by or on behalf of the Nursery School, and which take place outside the Nursery School grounds. The Governors and nursery staff believe that off-site activities can supplement and enrich the curriculum of the Nursery School by providing experiences which would otherwise be impossible. All off-site activities must serve an educational purpose, enhancing and enriching our children's learning experiences.

In this policy we seek to establish a clear and coherent structure for the planning and evaluation of our off-site visits, and to ensure that any risks are managed and kept to a minimum, for the safety and health of all children at all times. Within these limits we seek to make our visits available to all children, and wherever possible to make them accessible to those with disabilities. The visits usually take place within the Nursery School day.

Aims

The aims of our off-site visits are to:

- Enhance curricular and recreational opportunities for our children.
- Provide a wider range of experiences for our children than could be provided on the Nursery School site alone.
- Promote the independence of our children as learners and enable them to grow and develop in new learning environments.

How Visits may be Authorised

The Head Teacher will appoint a group leader(s) to be responsible for running the activity. This will normally be the Educational Visits Co-ordinator.

The Nursery School's educational visits co-ordinator will be involved in the planning and management of off-site visits.

S/he will:

- Ensure that risk assessments are completed.
- Support the Head Teacher and governing body in their decisions on approval.
- Assign competent staff to lead and help with trips.
- Organise related staff training if required.
- Verify that all accompanying adults, including private car drivers, have had satisfactory security checks, and use recommended coach companies.
- Make sure that all necessary permissions and medical forms are obtained.
- Keep records of visits and ensure there are regular generic assessments of the risks (for example road-crossing) where there are frequent visits to local venues (for example a swimming facility).

Appropriate child car seats must be used if a private car is being used on a regular basis and not in an emergency situation.

Booster seats purchased prior to February 2017 (without back supports) can still be used and there is no requirement to replace these unless general wear and tear or they have been involved in an accident. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-child-car-seat-rules-no-change-for-existing-booster-seats>

Staff arranging or otherwise involved in off-site activities must familiarise themselves with the regulations, advice and procedures published by Birmingham City Council Education Safety Services. All off-site activities must take place in accordance with the guidance given.

Where staff are proposing to arrange an off-site activity, they must seek and obtain the approval of the Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher before any commitment is made on behalf of the Nursery School. A comprehensive visit plan should be provided by the member of staff to allow for an informed decision to be made.

It is our policy that all children should be able to participate in educational visits. Where a child with a disability is eligible for a trip, we will make every effort to ensure that s/he is included. We may seek guidance from parents to help us adapt our programme, and we will make any reasonable adjustments to our itinerary to include a child with disabilities. Any such adjustments will be included in the risk assessment.

Risk Assessment

A comprehensive risk assessment is carried out by the group leader before the proposed visit. It will assess the risks which might be encountered on the visit and will indicate measures to prevent or reduce them. The risk assessment should be based on the following considerations:

- What are the hazards?
- Who might be affected by them?
- What safety measures are needed to reduce risks to an acceptable level?
- Can the group leader put the safety measures in place?
- What steps will be taken in an emergency?

Staff planning an off-site activity should make a preliminary visit to the venue, in order to carry out an on-site risk assessment. It is important to take into account the probable weather conditions at the time of year proposed for the trip, and the party leader should take careful account of the facilities available, with due regard to the proposed size of the group. They should also assess the site's suitability with regard to the age and any particular needs of the children. They will also consider the venue's own approach to security and to health and safety. Venues providing instructor-led activities will have their own risk assessments for particular sessions, and these assessments may be adopted if it is impractical for the group leader to experience the activity beforehand, or if s/he lacks the skills required to make informed judgements about the risks it may involve. The Head Teacher/governing body will not give its approval for the visit unless it is satisfied with the venue, its instructors and their risk assessment procedures.

It is important to assess and record any health, safety or security issues that are identified during the preliminary visit. Any such issues will be taken into account when the final decision is taken on whether the visit should proceed, and the visit plan must state both the extent of any risks involved, and the measures that will be taken to reduce or eliminate them. The cost of these preliminary visits will be borne by the Nursery School and should be built into the overall financial arrangements for the visit itself.

Staff arranging or otherwise involved in off-site activities must familiarise themselves with the regulations, advice and procedures published by LA. All off-site activities must take place in accordance with the guidance given.

An activity should normally have sufficient adults taking part to provide the following minimum ratios: Guidelines only.

The Nursery School will use a ratio of 1- 4 unless the activity warrants closer supervision.

Without special safeguards or control measures, these ratios will **not** be adequate to meet the needs of most residential or more complex visits.

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework sets out legal minimum ratios for all providers working with children aged up to five. The appropriate ratio during an outing is always likely to be higher than the legal minimum: as with other age groups, this should be determined by risk assessment, which should be reviewed before each outing. It is not unusual for a ratio of 1:1 to be necessary.

In some cases, there may be only one leader on a visit, or on a particular activity during a visit. If this is the case, young people (or any adult helpers) should be competent to manage in the event of the leader being taken ill or injured and should, as a minimum, know what to do to contact the establishment and get support.

A useful framework for assessing requirements for ratios and effective supervision is

SAGED:

- **Staffing requirements** – Trained? Experienced? Competent? Ratios?
- **Activity characteristics** – Specialist? Insurance Issues? Licensable?
- **Group characteristics** – Prior Experience? Ability? Behaviour? Special and Medical Needs?
- **Environmental conditions** – Like Last Time? Impact of Weather? Water Levels?
- **Distance from support mechanisms in place at the home base** – Transport? Residential?

Any trip will require a minimum of two adults. However, these are minimum requirements, and may not provide adequate supervision in all cases.

A risk assessment must also cover transport to and from the venue.

A copy of the completed risk assessment will be given to the Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher, and all adults supervising the trip.

Transport

The costing of off-site activities should include any of the following that apply:

- Transport.
- Entrance fees.
- Insurance.
- Provision of any special resources or equipment.
- Costs related to adult helpers.
- Any refreshments the Nursery School has opted to pay for.

Transport arrangements will allow a seat for each member of the party. It is our policy only to use coaches fitted with seat or lap belts, and to insist that they be worn by all those participating in the visit.

Communication with Parents

Funding for off-site activities is provided mainly by the school budget/school funds and voluntary parental contributions. This must be made clear to parents in all correspondence about an educational visit at the planning stage.

No child may be excluded from an activity because of the unwillingness or inability of the parent to make a contribution. Parents will be informed of this principle through letters sent home about intended visits.

Parents of children taking part in an off-site activity should be provided with all appropriate information about the intended visit. Parents must give their permission in writing before a child can be involved in any off-site activities.

The timetable for the payment of contributions should allow for the Head Teacher making a decision about the financial viability of the activity in reasonable time.

Further Health and Safety Considerations

All adults accompanying a party must be made aware, by the party leader, of the emergency procedures which will apply. A designated person will be provided with the school mobile phone.

In an emergency situation the designated person will call the Central Office and inform them of the major incident.

The safety of the party, and especially the children, is of paramount importance. During the activity the group leader must take whatever steps are necessary to ensure the safety of everyone. This involves taking note of any information provided by medical questionnaire returns and ensuring that children are both safe and well looked after at all times.

Prior to an activity, if it is felt that the behaviour of an individual child is likely to compromise the safety of others or the good name of the Nursery School, the group leader should discuss with the Head Teacher the possibility of excluding that child from the activity.

More detailed guidance on procedures and requirements can be obtained from Birmingham City Council Education Safety Services (Health & Safety)

Group Leaders' Planning

Group leaders must read thoroughly the appropriate guidance for off-site activities: www.oeap.info/ or <http://oeapng.info/>

They must consult Birmingham City Council Education Safety Services documentation detailing procedures and requirements, including guidance on Emergency Planning and must have a visit plan.

Visit Plan

The visit plan for intended educational visits must include the following:

- Risk assessment;
- Report on preliminary visit;
- Applications for approval of visit;
- General information;
- Names, ages, contact details, permission forms, medical records and other relevant details of all those going on the visit;
- Travel schedule;
- Accommodation plan (if applicable);
- Full plan of activities;
- Intended arrangements for supervision;
- Insurance arrangements for all members of the group;
- Emergency contacts and procedures;
- General communications information;
- Guidance for group leaders;
- Guidance for the emergency contact and Head Teacher;
- Medical questionnaire returns & first aid boxes.

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Paddling Pool

Use of the Paddling pool

The duty of care is the responsibility of the teacher or nursery staff whenever the paddling pool is in use.

The following recommendations must be observed:

Safety

- There must be at least one qualified member of staff actively supervising at all times.
- The staff must be able to see all the children and be close enough to act in an emergency.
- The staff responsible must know the emergency procedure, be able to act in an emergency and be competent in resuscitation.
- Children must enter and leave the pool one at a time, supervised by a member of staff
- Children must not jump into or out of the pool.
- Jewellery is not allowed to be worn in the pool.
- No hot beverages are allowed by the pool.
- No eating whilst in the pool

These instructions must be known by all staff including helpers, supply staff etc.

Hygiene

- Children should use the toilet before using the pool
- Children using the pool must wear swimwear
- Children with colds, open wounds, sores should be excluded from the water.
- If any excrement or vomit is in the water the children must be removed immediately and the pool must be emptied and cleaned before next use.

The Environment

- Precautions should be taken to prevent the surrounding floor area becoming slippery
- The only substance to be added to the water must be “bubble” making substances.
- Disinfection or bleach must not be added to the water as this can cause skin irritation to the skin.

Medical Considerations

- Nursery School medical records should be checked carefully so that children’s medical conditions can be identified. Special arrangements may be required in certain cases.

Emergency Procedures

In the case of an emergency, the following procedures must be followed:

- Call for help from a colleague
- Prioritise the emergency and deal with it appropriately
- Evacuate the pool as quickly and safely as possible
- Ensure the children are safe and well
- Empty the pool and if necessary, clean the pool before it is next used.

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Premises & Work Equipment

Statutory Inspections

Regular inspection and testing of Nursery School equipment is conducted by appropriate contractors according to timescales specified by regulations/guidance available. Records of such monitoring will be kept in the main reception office.

All staff are required to report to the Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher of any problems found with plant/equipment. Defective equipment will be clearly marked and taken out of service by storing in a secure location pending repair/disposal.

Gas Safety

All gas appliances will be inspected and tested on an annual basis by a “Gas Safe” registered contractor.

Electrical Safety

All staff should monitor the condition of plugs, cables and electrical equipment and conduct a quick visual inspection prior to use.

All portable items of electrical equipment will be subject to PAT (portable appliance testing) annually, by a competent contractor.

Personal items of equipment (electrical or mechanical) should not be brought into the Nursery School without prior authorisation and will be subjected to the same tests as Nursery School equipment.

Major fixed wiring circuits will be checked at least once every five years.

Smoking

The site is kept as a non-smoking site this also includes the use of all forms of electronic cigarettes.

Air Conditioning Units (if applicable)

All Air Conditioning Units will be inspected and tested by an approved contractor following guidance from the manufacturer/supplier

External Play Equipment

The external play equipment will only be used when supervised. The equipment must be deemed appropriate for the age of the children. Equipment will be checked daily before use for any apparent defects. Elite Safety in Education as Operational Inspectors of Play will conduct a termly formal inspection of the equipment. Outdoor fixed play equipment is subject to an annual inspection by an Annual Registered Inspector of Play. (RP11).

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General Risk Assessments

The Nursery School risk assessments (for all activities, premises and one off activities) will be co-ordinated by nursery staff, Elite Safety in Education and approved by the Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher.

The risk assessments are held electronically on Elite Safety H&S Portal and on the school shared drive.

Risk assessments will be reviewed on an annual basis or when the work activity changes, whichever is the sooner. Staff are made aware of any changes to risk assessments relating to their work.

Individual Risk Assessments

Specific risk assessments relating to individuals, e.g. staff member or young person/child are held on that person's file and will be undertaken by the Head Teacher or Deputy Head Teacher.

It is the responsibility of the staff to inform the Head Teacher of any medical condition (including pregnancy) which may impact upon their work.

Such risk assessments will be reviewed on a regular basis.

New and Expectant Mothers

This covers new or expectant mothers who are employees who are pregnant or who have given birth within the previous six months or who are breast feeding. Pregnancy places extra strain on new or expectant mothers and closer attention needs to be given to their health and safety at work. It is both a moral duty and a legislative requirement under the Managements of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 Regulation 16 relating to risk assessment for new and expectant mothers, that employers take particular account of the risks to expectant mothers at work.

Curriculum Activities

Risk assessments for curriculum activities will be carried out by nursery staff using the relevant codes of practice and model risk assessments developed by National Bodies.

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Security/Safety of Children

Security

Safety of our children, staff and visitors to the Nursery School is of paramount concern to our whole Nursery School community. The Governors and Head Teacher have endeavoured to make the Nursery School as safe as possible.

Entry to Nursery School for Visitors/Staff

The main reception area is clearly marked and directs the visitors to the front entrance of the Nursery School. Visitors have to use the intercom system to gain access into the reception area. Visitors are able to wait in the foyer but prevented from going further into the Nursery School by a swipe system on the door. This door must not be propped open.

Visitors who are admitted into the Nursery School are asked to sign the visitors' book and given a visitors pass. The weekly plan/diary is used to inform the office staff of planned visitors.

Nursery School Building Security of External Doors

The main doors are accessed by a swipe system. The outside door can be released by the nursery office.

Security of the Nursery

Telephones are available throughout the school.

The main entrance door between the classroom and office is always kept shut and the use of an intercom system is in place. Nursery children are supervised at all times including outside activities.

Supervision of Children

Children should not arrive before 8:30 am (morning session) and 12:20pm (afternoon session) at which point parents remain responsible for their children until they are handed over to a member of staff at the start of the nursery session.

Child Supervision

The Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher with the class teacher remains on the premises until the last child is collected.

Security of the Nursery building is reviewed in staff meetings and matters may be referred to the Governors for consideration as necessary.

Alarm System

The Nursery alarm is always set each day.

Care of ICT Equipment

As far as possible all of the equipment is secured. Expensive portable equipment is locked away.

Security of Data

The Governors recognise their responsibility to ensure that measures are taken to ensure no breach of security.

"Appropriate technical and organisational measures shall be taken against unauthorised or unlawful processing of personal data and against loss or destruction of, or damage to, personal data."

Curriculum Networked Computers:

- Accessed by personal passwords
- Senior staff only have access to management files
- Files are backed up by Service Birmingham.

Office Computers:

- Accessed only via individual passwords for Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher and office staff
- Accounts/Budget files are accessed by a password
- Access to the Nursery School office is prohibited except for staff requiring access for a specific purpose

Other Data Protection Issues:

- Printed material is disposed of by shredding
- Parents are informed of data kept in Nursery and its use through the Fair Processing Notice
- Personal data is not disclosed over the telephone
- Service Birmingham updates anti-virus software regularly.

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Stress/Wellbeing

The Nursery School and Governing Body are committed to promoting high levels of health and wellbeing and recognise the importance of identifying and reducing workplace stressors through risk assessment, in line with the HSE management standards.

The Nursery School will use the HSE stress management tool questionnaire and analyse the results.

- The Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher operates an open door policy (work and home life issues)
- Performance Management Reviews are conducted annually
- Regular planning meetings to discuss any issues or concerns are held on a regular basis.
- New members of staff are supported by a range of people
- Staff will be supported through Occupational Health as and when required
- All staff are aware of the employee assistance programme
- Staff wellbeing is included in the Nursery Schools staff absence policy
- Return to work interviews.

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Sun Protection

Skin cancer is one of the most common cancers in the UK and the number of cases is rising at an alarming rate. The good news is that the majority of these cases could be prevented. Most skin cancers are caused by UV radiation from the sun. If we protect ourselves from the sun then we can reduce our risk. This is particularly important for children and young people whose skin is more delicate and easily damaged.

Sunburn in childhood can double the risk of skin cancer.

Marsh Hill Nursery has used the guidance promoted through Cancer Research in order to draw up this policy.

The five key messages to reduce the risk of skin cancer are:

- Spend time in the shade between 11 and 3
- Make sure you never burn
- Aim to cover up with a t-shirt, hat and sunglasses
- Remember children burn more easily
- Use factor 15+ sunscreen

At Marsh Hill Nursery School we want staff and children to enjoy the sun safely. We shall work with staff, children and parents to achieve this through:

Education:

- All children will have at least one sun awareness lesson per year.
- We will talk about how to be sun smart at appropriate times of the year.
- Parents and guardians will be sent a letter explaining what the Nursery School is doing about sun protection and how they can help at the beginning of the summer term.

Shade:

- The outdoor play area has large canopies erected outside for continuous shade.
- Trees provide additional shaded areas
- Children have access to water at all times

Clothing:

- The Nursery provide sun hats for the pupils.

Sunscreen:

- Parents are asked to apply sunscreen before Nursery School
- Sunscreen use will be encouraged on Nursery School trips.

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Vehicles on Site

There is no vehicle access to the Nursery site.

Staff have to make their own arrangements for parking near to the Nursery.

Deliveries

Where possible deliveries should be made before Nursery starts or during school hours when Nursery has commenced.

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Violence

Marsh Hill Nursery will not tolerate violent behaviour from parents, visitors or others who enter the school.

The nursery school has a responsibility to protect, so far as is reasonably practicable, the safety of all employees who work for the nursery school.

Prevention:

To reduce the risk of violence staff should consider the following guidance:

- Consider the working environment e.g. exits, space available
- Do not meet parents when colleagues are not in the near vicinity
- There may be individuals who have a reputation for aggression. This information should be shared confidentially within the nursery school. Consult with governors if this is the case.
- Always have another member of staff present.
- If there is a confrontation try to calm the situation. Staff should be aware of their stance and tone of voice etc.

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Volunteers in School

Introduction

At Marsh Hill Nursery School, we define a volunteer as: any adult who agrees to undertake, without pay, designated tasks which support the work of the school. This can include working alongside teaching and teaching support staff in the classroom or working in a support capacity within another area of school to. A volunteer should not be viewed as a substitute for a paid member of staff, but an additional supplement to school's resources.

Marsh Hill Nursery School values volunteers and the contribution that they make to the sustained success of the school. We hope that the association will be a mutually beneficial partnership between the school and the volunteer; that the benefits to be gained by the school in terms of community participation will be mirrored by the development gained by the volunteer from their experiences in school.

Safeguarding

Marsh Hill Nursery School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

All adults who volunteer for working at Marsh Hill Nursery School will require an Enhanced Disclosure & Barring Check prior to starting their placement in school. This must be confirmed with the Head Teacher and recorded on the central record.

Providers must understand the legal obligations upon the Governors and Head Teacher are the ones who decide on who may come into the school as speakers and service providers.

There are some exceptions:

Law enforcement officers in certain circumstances;

HM Chief Inspector of Schools (Section 4 of Part 1 of Chapter 1 of the Education Act 2005);

LA Authority

Standards and Framework Act 1998).

It is the responsibility of the school to ensure that its safeguarding policy is adhered to at all times.

Organisation

- Volunteers will not be asked to undertake certain duties:
- Those which would normally fall within a Teacher's responsibility under *loco parentis*
- Covering for staff absence within the classroom;
- Unsupervised 1:1 work with children;
- Those which would normally be undertaken by a contractor engaged by school or the Local Authority (LA);
- Those requiring full financial or budgetary responsibilities;
- Any administrative tasks involving highly confidential or sensitive information.

Volunteers will be allocated a supervising member of the school's staff, although they may be working with other staff on a day-to-day basis. The line manager will be responsible for induction of the volunteer and will be the point of contact for any queries or problems. The deployment of volunteers should not involve any substantial addition to the workload of staff; however, it is hoped that every effort will be made to ensure that the volunteer is adequately inducted and is given every assistance to perform the duties required of them.

Volunteers will be given a schedule of the tasks and scope of the role that is expected of them, these to be agreed with the supervising person in view of any skills, experience, and training and development needs of the volunteer and organisational needs.

A Volunteer Registration Form should be completed for, and signed by, all official volunteers in school. It should be noted that volunteers' work in school is, of necessity, of a voluntary nature and may be terminated at any time by the volunteer or the school.

School Information and Regulations

Volunteers will be provided with relevant information. Particular attention is drawn to health and safety issues. The same legislation and responsibilities on health and safety applies to volunteers as paid staff within the school.

The school holds Employers' Liability and Public Liability Insurance and this insurance covers volunteers in school.

Expenses

Although there is no obligation to make financial reimbursements to volunteers, the school will, under normal circumstances reimburse 'out-of-pocket' expenses (e.g., excess travel costs connected with the tasks undertaken for school etc.). Travel expenses will be reimbursed at the current agreed rate; any other expenses (e.g., resources or equipment purchased for school use) will be reimbursed at the cost paid. All financial claims made should be agreed with the Head Teacher prior to expenditure.

Induction and Training

Volunteers who work in school will be given an induction process which aims to enable them to become familiar with the school, staff and their roles, how their role fits into this, principles and procedures unique to the school and an outline of our expectations of the volunteer's role and tasks involved. A Health and Safety Induction and safeguarding training will take place on the first day in school, if not before. If the volunteer is undertaking formal training, (e.g. NVQ or other work-based qualification) the school will endeavour to support this by allowing opportunities and practical advice for them. If training is a requirement of the expected role within school, such opportunities should be provided for the volunteer.

Complaints and Grievances

It is acknowledged that problems and conflicts could arise when the person is a volunteer as much as for a paid member of staff. Initial issues should be raised with the supervising person and it is to be hoped that the issues may be resolved through these channels. In the event that this is not possible, the Head Teacher will investigate the matter with a view to resolution. Failure to resolve at this level will necessitate Governing Body involvement.

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Work Experience

The Nursery School retains a duty of care for all students undertaking work experience in the Nursery School

- All students are briefed before working in the Nursery School regarding nursery arrangements and health and safety responsibilities.
- Where work placements form part of the vocational qualification offered by a FE college then the college is responsible for ensuring equivalent placement checks are conducted.
- Arrangements will be in place for the organisers to visit/monitor students during the placement.
- Emergency contact arrangements are in place (including out of Nursery School hours provision) in order that a member of Nursery School staff can contact students' parents/guardians should an incident occur.
- All incidents involving students on work placement activities will be reported to the placement organiser/students' parents at the earliest possible opportunity.

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Work at Height

Working at height can present a significant risk. Where such activities cannot be avoided a risk assessment will be conducted to ensure such risks are adequately controlled. A copy of this assessment will be provided to employees authorised to work at height.

When working at height (including accessing storage or putting up displays) appropriate stepladders are to be used. Staff must not climb onto chairs etc.

The Nursery Schools nominated person responsible for work at height will be the Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher.

The nominated person(s) shall ensure:

- All work at height is properly planned and organised.
- The use of access equipment is restricted to authorised users.
- All those involved in work at height are trained and competent to do so.
- The risks from working at height are assessed and appropriate equipment selected.
- A register of access equipment is maintained, and all equipment is regularly (i.e. termly) inspected and maintained.
- Any risks from fragile surfaces are properly controlled.

Staff will be trained to use the step ladders safely.

Contractors will not be permitted to use any of the Nursery School's work equipment.

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Amendments made to Policy: July 2015

Premises – Added no smoking including electronic cigarettes.

Inspection/Maintenance of Emergency Equipment – Added Green door release boxes and Emergency Red Pull Cords.

First Aid & Medication – Added new link to DFE Document.

Included: Volunteers Policy

Policy Reviewed: September 2016

Appendix 5 – Fire Evacuation and Other Emergency Arrangements: In the event of a bomb threat follow the evacuation procedures as above.

Appendix 13 – Lone Working: Amended.

Policy Reviewed: August 2017

Amendments made to:

Appendix 7 – First Aid

Appendix 15 – Offsite Visits

Policy Reviewed: August 2018

Amendments made to:

Appendix 7 – First Aid – Link Updated

Appendix 15 – Offsite Visits – Link Updated

Policy Reviewed: August 2019

Amendments made to:

Appendix 4 – Display Screen Equipment (DSE)

Appendix 8 – Flammable & Hazardous Substances

Appendix 15 – Off-Site Visits

Policy Reviewed: September 2020 (CE)

Statement of Intent – amended

Appendix 7: First Aid and Medication – Button Batteries added

Appendix 12: Infection Control – added

Appendix 13: Legionella – The Nursery will flush all little used outlets added

Appendix 19: Risk Assessments – New and Expectant Mothers added

Appendix 27: Work at Height - amended

Policy Reviewed: September 2021

Appendix 2 – Asbestos

Appendix 12 - Infection Control

Policy Amendment: November 2021

Appendix 5 – Fire Evacuation and Other Emergency Arrangements

Public House removed & public park inserted

Policy Reviewed: September 2022 RR

Appendix 4 - Control of Substances Hazardous to Health

Appendix 5 - Display Screen Equipment (DSE)

Appendix 12 - Infection Control

CYPF changed to Birmingham City Council Education Safety Services

Policy Reviewed: September 2023 LT

Appendix 8 – First Aid and Medication

Appendix 12 – Infection Control

Location of Risk Assessments Added

Policy Reviewed: September 2024 LT

Appendix 19 – Risk Assessments

Policy Reviewed: September 2025 LD



