

# JESSIE YOUNGHUSBAND SCHOOL



## Health and Safety Policy

Updated summer 2025  
Review summer 2027

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## **Statement of Intent**

The governing body acknowledges West Sussex County Council's (WSCC) Corporate Health and Safety Policy, acting as Local Education Authority and employer, and provides the following additional statement of intent to cover all school buildings, activities and undertakings for which it is responsible.

Under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, the governing body accepts that it has the responsibility to take all reasonably practicable steps to secure the health and safety of staff, pupils and others visiting and using the school premises.

The governing body believes that the prevention of accidents, injury or loss is essential to the efficient operation of the school and is part of the good education of its pupils. It will be the governors' policy to encourage, where practicable, the co-operation of all users of the establishment by monitoring, review, discussion and consultation to promote and develop measures which ensure health and safety at work.

Clare Few and Ian Lomax Co-Chairs of Governors

## **THE ORGANISATION FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### **Health and safety responsibilities**

The Governing Body has strategic responsibility for health and safety within all areas of the schools undertakings and is answerable to the LEA for its actions, on behalf of whom it makes decisions. The governing body is responsible for ensuring that advice from competent health and safety advisers is available on health and safety matters in order to comply with regulatory controls.

The Headteacher has responsibility for the day-to-day operation of health and safety and welfare policies and practices, as delegated by the governing body, within all areas of the school's undertakings. The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that advice from competent health and safety advisers is sought on health and safety matters in order to comply with regulatory controls.

Teachers are responsible for ensuring that safe working conditions are maintained for all pupils, employees, visitors, members of the public and, where applicable, contractors throughout their individual work areas, as delegated by the Headteacher or governing body and detailed in the organisation section of the policy. Teachers are responsible for ensuring that advice from competent curriculum and health & safety advisers is sought on health and safety matters in order to comply with regulatory controls.

Employees are responsible for their own health and safety, that of their colleagues and members of the public who may be affected by their work activities.

## **ARRANGEMENTS FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### **Accident and Incident Reporting**

All accidents and incidents, to staff, visitors and contractors are reported to WSCC using the online accident reporting system. Minor incidents to pupils are recorded locally major injuries and direct visits to hospital are also reported to WSCC using the online system.

**The Administration Officer is responsible for reporting accidents**

The Headteacher will monitor accidents and incidents in order to identify trends and report to the governing body.

### **Administering medicines**

The school's Managing Medicines Policy details the procedures followed by the school and is based on WSCC policy and procedures. A copy of the policy is available from the school office.

**The lead for the administration of medicines is the School Secretary**

### **Asbestos**

There is no asbestos on our site.

### **Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH)**

All hazardous substances stored and used within the school are to be risk assessed and the precautions identified by the risk assessment shall be communicated to staff and implemented. These assessments will be held in the school's COSHH risk assessment file and on our online portal which can be

accessed by all staff, along with the relevant data sheets and made available to all employees who are required to use these substances in their work.

**The Premises Officer is the designated person for ensuring that the COSHH risk assessment file is kept up-to-date and communicated to relevant staff.**

## **Contractors**

Maintenance and servicing contractors receive an induction to the school site (including asbestos), its facilities and emergency arrangements. Contractors undertaking large scale building work receive all of above and an induction pack which includes relevant school policies, procedures and risk assessments. The school adheres to WSCC self-managed process and uses only WSCC approved contractors. Contractors are monitored whilst on site although during school periods access arrangements will be negotiated to facilitate the completion of the work.

**The Premises Officer and the School Business Manager are responsible for the management of contractors**

## **Curriculum Safety**

The governors recognise that some curriculum areas represent an increase in risk; these subject areas hold subject specific health and safety arrangements, which are regularly reviewed and communicated to the relevant staff.

**The D&T subject leader is responsible for Design and Technology**

**The PE subject leader is responsible for Physical Education**

**The Science subject leader is responsible for Science**

## **Display Screen Equipment (DSE)**

Every DSE user will have a risk assessment completed to make sure they know how to adjust and set up the workstation correctly. **It is the responsibility of the School Business Manager to ensure assessments are completed by relevant staff.** The risk assessment can be carried out by the workstation user through the e-Learning programme and assessment checklist. This is available on Health and Safety A-Z pages of the WSSfS.

**DSE user risk assessments will be reviewed periodically by the School Business Manager at least annually,** or if there have been any significant changes to the workstation. A review of the original assessment must be undertaken as soon as practicable by the line manager when an employee complains of musculoskeletal or other health issues that could be attributed to, or aggravated by, working with DSE

## **Electricity**

All portable electrical equipment within the school is to be tested annually and records of these tests will be held at the school.

Private portable electrical equipment must not be brought into the establishment and used without the appropriate checks.

A 5-yearly check of the fixed electrical installation is completed and records kept. Electrical safety is managed by **the Premises Officer**.

### **Emergency Provision/Business Continuity**

The Emergency Plan details procedures and arrangements to be used in the event of an emergency. This includes liaison with WSCC and the emergency services, provision for the continuation of school business and arrangements to contact interested parties i.e. parents and the press. All staff are trained in the procedures contained within the emergency plan and are able to take the appropriate action if required.

**The emergency plan is regularly monitored and reviewed by the Headteacher.**

### **Fire Safety**

**Mark Wilkins** is the designated person for fire safety within the establishment. The designated person will ensure that:

- The school's fire risk assessment is kept up-to-date by annual review or in response to significant changes to premises or work arrangements.
- There is reasonable fire-fighting equipment in the school, it is maintained and maintenance records are kept.
- The fire safety equipment, e.g. fire alarm, emergency lighting, etc. is regularly checked, maintained and records are kept.
- There are no general fire hazards around the building, particularly near escape routes, escape routes are unobstructed and that there is access for fire fighters.
- Staff and pupils are practised in evacuating the premises by performing termly drills, monitoring their effectiveness and keeping records.
- With the SBM, develop personal emergency evacuation plans (PEEP) for those staff and / or pupils who require additional assistance to evacuate the premises.

They will also ensure that the establishment has in place an up to date **Emergency Fire Evacuation Plan**, which details the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire. The plan must be prepared to ensure that people within

the establishment know the action to take if there is a fire, and to ensure the establishment can be safely evacuated.

Where necessary, the Emergency Fire Evacuation Plan will include the following features:

- Action on discovering a fire and calling the fire service (these notices will also be displayed throughout the establishment)
- The location of the assembly point for roll call
- Liaison with emergency services
- Identification of key escape routes
- The type and location of fire-fighting equipment provided
- Specific responsibilities in the event of fire (adequate number of fire wardens to assist with the evacuation)
- Training (in house fire safety awareness training is carried out annually for all staff).
- Any need to co-operate or co-ordinate with other responsible persons that will be operating within the premises.

### **First Aid**

Details of the school's first aid trained staff is displayed in the first aid room/area.

**The School Business Manager monitors first aid training to ensure certification remains in date.**

A first aid risk assessment has been completed and provision is in place, following the findings of the risk assessment. Suitable and appropriate first aid cover is provided at all times during the working day and after hours to cover breakfast and after school clubs and all staff members are aware of the arrangements in place.

**The Administration Officer is the designated person for ensuring the first aid kits are kept fully stocked** and items are within date, checks of first aid kits are recorded as completed.

### **Food Safety**

**The lead for Food Safety is the School Business Manager.** The Food Safety lead will ensure that, in liaison with Chartwell's staff and the Senior Mid-day Meals Supervisor, there are arrangements for safely and hygienically receiving food from suppliers and preparing it for serving to pupils. The kitchen, servery and dining area are to be cleaned daily and after each use by Chartwells.

A risk assessment is in place for lunchtime meals (hot and cold). Midday Meals Supervisors must cordoned off a spillage, cleared up immediately and the floor surface left clean and dry before being opened up to pupils again.

All incidents are to be reported to the Food Safety Lead.

### **Glazing**

The school holds an up to date Glazing Survey and regularly monitors glazing as part of the premises inspection.

**The Premises Officer is responsible for glazing management.**

### **Gas Safety**

The school ensures that the gas boilers and other gas appliances are serviced and maintained regularly.

**The Premises Officer is responsible for gas safety.**

### **Induction**

All new employees are informed of the school's health and safety arrangements and procedures using the induction checklist available within the Health and Safety A-Z on the WSSfS. Staff will also complete the eLearning 'Your Own and Others' and records will be kept.

**The School Business Manager is responsible for the induction of staff.**

### **Lone Working**

Lone working is discouraged, however where employees are required to work alone, the risks should be assessed and adequate controls put in place.

**The Headteacher is responsible for risk assessing and producing lone working procedures.**

### **Play equipment**

**Internal play and physical education (P.E.) equipment is serviced by Universal. An annual safety check on the outdoor equipment is undertaken by a suitably trained person from WSCC.** P.E. equipment is checked prior to every use by the teaching staff any defects are reported immediately to the Headteacher. **The Premises Officer regularly monitors external play equipment** and defects are reported immediately to the Headteacher. Faulty equipment is immediately decommissioned.

### **Premises Maintenance**

**The internal and external premises will be inspected at regular intervals by the Premises Officer,** the inspections are recorded and resulting issues reported to the Headteacher. The school is to be kept clean, tidy and free from hazardous obstacles. Staff must report any defective equipment, furniture or

premises issues to **the Premises Officer** using the defects log. **The Premises Officer** will sign and date completed actions in the log.

### **Monitoring, audit and review**

The Governing Body shall receive termly reports on Health and Safety and will regularly inspect and monitor the premises with the Health and safety Governor undertaking a termly review with the Premises Officer and Headteacher. Governors will also regularly review of procedures in the light of operational practice, new laws and new policy / directives of the Local Authority. The operational practice and procedure shall be constantly monitored by the Head / local safety officer. Governors will also monitor the outcome of the annual Health and safety audit and ensure that remedial actions are undertaken in a timely manner.

### **Moving and Handling of Customers and the Manual Handling of Inanimate Loads**

Manual handling is defined as the transporting or supporting of a load (including the lifting, putting down, pushing, pulling, carrying or moving thereof) by hand or bodily force. Consequently, the Manual Handling Operations Regulations apply to a wide range of operations; in this context it applies to both the moving of inanimate loads (manual handling) and the moving and handling of children where they are unable to do this unaided (moving and handling).

Where manual handling or moving and handling tasks are undertaken, the governing body will designate suitably competent staff to undertake risk assessments of the activities, and ensure staff working in these areas receive the necessary training and instruction.

**The School Business Manager is responsible for developing and reviewing moving and manual handling risk assessment.**

### **New and Expectant Mothers**

Any staff member who becomes pregnant is to inform the Headteacher of this and an appropriate risk assessment is to be undertaken following the guidance contained within the Health and Safety A-Z on the WSSfS. The school recognises the changing nature of pregnancy and will regularly review risk assessments to ensure that working at the school will not pose any risk to their health and safety and that of their unborn child.

### **Off-site activities**

All off site activities are risk assessed using the WSCC system. The schools systems are audited by WSCC Outdoor Education Advisor. **The Headteacher is**

**the schools Educational Visit Co-ordinator (EVC) (The Deputy Headteacher is the Deputy EVC)**

### **Risk Assessments**

Risk assessments are a legal requirement under health and safety law and the Headteacher will assess all risks arising out of the curriculum and associated work which the school undertakes. In accordance with corporate guidance risk assessments will be recorded in writing and reviewed annually or following a significant accident and or incident. All risk assessments are held in our online portal and can be easily accessed by all staff.

An annual review (or more frequently if the need arises) will be undertaken of all risk assessment documents by **the Headteacher in conjunction with the Premises Officer (premises related) and teaching staff (teaching and learning)**

### **Staff Welfare/Stress**

The governing body considers staff welfare of paramount importance, and seeks to promote a work/life balance amongst their staff. The Headteacher is constantly monitoring staff workload and every effort is made to make effective changes if staff are experiencing stress either at home or work. The school also utilizes the services of Health Assured and Occupational Health.

### **Training**

The school ensures that all staff are provided with adequate information, instruction and training to perform their roles. Training requirements are discussed during induction, professional development reviews and one to one supervision. **Training records are kept and reviewed by the School Business Manager.**

## **Water quality**

**The Premises Officer** is responsible for monitoring and recording water temperatures at the school to ensure water quality is maintained. A bi-annual water quality risk assessment is produced and reviewed by an approved Water Testing Company.

## **Working at height**

**Staff should avoid working at height where ever possible.** Only the 3 step step-ladder should be used when this is necessary to put up displays. Staff should work in pairs in these instances. Equipment available meets the current legislation requirements. Only **the Premises Officer** should use any other working at height equipment for access to any areas of the building including the roof. No such activities should be undertaken without informing the School Business Manager and only when at least one other member of staff is present. Ladders, step stools and other access equipment are kept on a ladder register and regularly inspected and maintained.

All ladders and working at height equipment should be checked on each occasion before being used by the member of staff undertaking the activity. **Any damage or concerns should be reported to the Premises Officer and the equipment should not be used until it has been thoroughly checked.** If the equipment is no longer safe for use it will be disposed of and replaced in liaison with the School Business Manager.