

Health & Safety Policy

This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for ensuring Health and Safety at Trinity Christian School.

Rationale

Trinity Christian School depends on God for its ultimate safety and security.

“The Lord will keep you from all harm – he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and for evermore.” (Psalm 121 v7)

However, God has entrusted those in leadership at the school with a duty of care to ensure that it operates in a manner that honours Him in all that it does. The school should, therefore, act in accordance with lawful authority (Romans 13 vs.1) for ‘they are God’s servant to do good for you’ (Romans 13 vs.4). The school’s health and safety policy therefore seeks to follow best practice (as defined by relevant authorities) as such behaviour both honours God and is for our good.

Guidance from the DfE (Dec 2012), Health & Safety Executive (April 2012), and Local Authority has been taken into consideration in formulating this policy.

Aims

Our aims for Health and Safety are to:

- Provide a safe and healthy environment for children, teaching and non-teaching staff and all other people who come onto the premises of our school.
- Ensure that all members of the school community understand their own responsibilities in maintaining a healthy and safe environment.

Principles

The establishment of a healthy and safe environment is an essential prerequisite for the work of the school. It is also a statutory requirement. It depends upon sound management, vigilant supervision and the co-operation of all personnel (children and adults).

Responsibilities

All members of the school community (teaching and non-teaching staff, parents, pupils and governors) work towards the school’s aims by:

- Being fully aware of their own responsibilities for maintaining a safe and healthy environment.
- Being familiar with all instructions and guidance of safety within the school.
- Using common sense at all times to take responsible care for their own safety and that of others.
- Reporting any unidentified hazards to the Headteacher without delay.

The Management Team (Governors, Headteacher and Site Manager) work towards the school's aims by:

- Recognising their corporate responsibility for ensuring that the Health and Safety Policy is implemented in the school.
- Ensuring that safe work practices and procedures are applied within the school.
- Making termly inspections to ensure that a safe and healthy environment is maintained.
- Establishing a system for the reporting, recording and investigation of accidents and ensuring that this is applied rigorously.
- Ensuring that all members of the school community are aware of their own responsibilities.
- Monitoring and reviewing this policy and ensuring that necessary revisions are undertaken.
- Ensuring that all staff are familiar with the Health and Safety policy of the school and any other relevant codes of practice and legislation.
- Facilitating relevant safety training for staff.
- Taking active steps to ensure that equipment, buildings and grounds are safe, secure and well maintained and that any damage is quickly rectified.
- Ensuring that there are arrangements for the speedy evacuation of the buildings in case of fire or other emergency and that fire-fighting equipment is available and maintained.

The Headteacher works towards the school's aims by:

- Taking responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the Health and Safety policy.

Teachers work towards the school's aims by:

- Promoting a spirit of safety consciousness amongst children, ensuring that they understand the need for codes of practice and are conscious of their responsibilities in taking reasonable care for their own safety and that of others.
- Being good role models – vigilant and careful.
- Taking quick, firm action to ensure that children are not allowed to jeopardise their own safety or that of others.
- Providing opportunities for children to discuss appropriate health and safety issues.
- To make sure risk assessment are carried out before any off-site visits.

Pupils work towards the school's aims by:

- Developing a growing understanding of health and safety issues.
- Contributing to the development of codes of practice.
- Conducting themselves in an orderly manner in line with these codes.
- Taking growing responsibility for maintaining a safe and healthy environment and for their own safe conduct within it.

Parents work towards the school's aims by:

- Ensuring that children attend school in good health.
- Providing prompt notes/phone calls to explain all absences.
- Providing support for the discipline within the school and for the teacher's role.

- Ensuring early contact with school to discuss matters concerning the health and safety of their children or of others.
- Allowing children to take increasing personal and social responsibility as they progress throughout the school.
- Accepting responsibility for the conduct of their children at all times.
- Ensuring that the school has up-to-date contact addresses and telephone numbers so that parents may be swiftly contacted in emergencies.

The Site Manager (or the Headteacher in the absence of such a person) is responsible to the Headteacher for:

- Ensuring, so far as is reasonably practical, the health and safety provisions and procedures affecting cleaning or ground maintenance are adhered to.
- Ensuring that cleaning materials and equipment liable to be a danger to pupils or staff, are correctly used and properly stored when not in use.
- Ensuring that all waste material from the school is disposed of appropriately.
- Maintaining a high standard of housekeeping.
- Reporting to the Headteacher any problem, or imminent danger associated with their responsibilities, as soon as it is practicable to do so.

Procedures

1. For ensuring involvement of all members of the school community we have:

- Meetings of representatives of teaching and non-teaching staff to review health and safety issues as required.

2. For providing children with opportunities to discuss health and safety issues we have:

- A programme of personal and social education designed to promote mutual respect, self-discipline and social responsibility.
- A programme of health education.

3. For accident prevention, reporting and investigation we have:

- Risk assessments formulated and regularly reviewed.
- Vigilance by all staff and children to recognise potential causes of accidents and to take action to prevent these where possible.
- Promptness in reporting potential hazards to the Headteacher and immediate response to such reports.
- Reporting all accidents to the Headteacher and a note made in the school accident book.
- Prompt investigation of all accidents by the Headteacher in order to establish cause and adopt remedial measures.
- Headteacher to advise governors of apparent risks or reported incidents and to make recommendations for addressing them.
- Termly report to governing body by governor responsible for health and safety on accidents, incidents and apparent risks to establish trends and monitor outcomes.

4. For First Aid provision we have:

- Recognised First Aiders in school.
- Provision of fully stocked first aid boxes in the school building.
- Notification to parents of any head injury or minor injuries on appropriate slip.
- Summoning of an ambulance where necessary by any responsible adult and arrange for someone to meet and guide the ambulance. If the school is unable to contact a parent (or an alternative nominated person) a member of staff will accompany a child to hospital.
- A list of first aiders is kept in staffing records, along with their training dates.

5. For fire precautions we have:

- A fire risk assessment and emergency procedure plan.
- A termly fire drill.
- Regular checks of equipment, procedures and exits by the Site Manager (Headteacher) and equipment monitored yearly by the governor responsible for health and safety and the landlord.
- All fire exits clearly signed.

6. For the use and control of substances hazardous to health we have:

- Storage of such substances clearly labelled, locked in a secure chemical store, which is not accessible to children.
- The issue use and care of personal protection equipment (e.g., rubber gloves) when necessary.
- COSHH data sheets are displayed for all chemical substances. These are displayed in the chemical store.

7. For electric safety we have:

- Careful siting of equipment to avoid trailing leads.
- Annual PAT testing electrical contractors on all portable electrical equipment.

8. For coping with special medical conditions we have:

- Information given to all teaching/non-teaching/supply staff about any special medical conditions of children in school and about what response may be required in an emergency.
- A requirement that all medicines brought to school must be clearly labelled with the child's name and appropriate dosage and frequency of dosage and lodged with the Headteacher.

9. For ensuring road safety we have:

- Green cross code training, including use of pedestrian crossings.

10. For ensuring personal hygiene we have:

- Encouragement of a high standard of personal hygiene. This involves teaching all children to wash their hands after using the toilet and the provision and maintenance of suitable facilities for this.

- A programme of health education as part of PSHE.

11. For ensuring playground safety we have:

- School rules about playground behaviour designed to maximise playground safety conscientious supervision of playgrounds.
- Regular inspection and maintenance of playground.

12. For ensuring safety during physical education we have:

- All PE equipment regularly checked.
- Asthma sufferers to take their inhalers with them.
- Close supervision and appropriate rules in place.

13. For safety on school trips, farm visits and outdoor pursuit activities:

- Risk assessment completed for each school trip – consider staff pupil ratio, issuing of first aid kit, wristbands, high visibility vests and mobile phone. Every group supported by a member of school staff.
- A school Off-Site Visit Policy.

Reviewed by governors: January 2021

Next review: January 2024