

Health and Safety Policy

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shape the direction

Respect Responsibility Resilience Kindness Fairness Empathy

Document Control	
Title	Health and Safety Policy
Date	September 2026
Date of next review	July 2027
Approval Level	Trust Board
Supersedes	Health and Safety Policy 2025-26
Amendments	2026: 3.2 – addition of the responsibility of the headteacher to ensure that a paediatric first aider is always present when pupils in EYFS are eating 3.3 – addition of competent persons 10 – some additions to manual handling 15.11 – infection control in EYFS 18.4 – clarity relating to reporting food poisoning, illness, injury and death 2025: 3.4 – clarity of responsibilities 5 – clarity on frequency of fire risk assessments 6 – clarity on who carries out COSHH risk assessments 6.3 – additional information regarding plans and signage of locations with asbestos 18.2 – clarity of who reports accidents to HSE 20 – review of the section about training
Related Policies/ Guidance	• First Aid Risk Assessment • Risk Assessments • Supporting pupils with Medical Conditions • Accessibility Plan • Lone Working Policy • Well Being Policy • Home Visits Guidelines • Health and Safety Provider's Hub for resources (schoolshub) • Lockdown Procedure https://www.manchester.gov.uk/schoolhub/site/scripts/login.php?target=%2Fschoolhub%2Fsite%2Findex.php
Author	Chief Operations Officer
Policy Category	Statutory Trust Wide +: this policy applies to all schools within the Trust, personalised by the individual school

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1. Aims

Our school aims to:

- Provide and maintain a safe and healthy environment
- Establish and maintain safe working procedures amongst staff, pupils and all visitors to the school site
- Have robust procedures in place in case of emergencies
- Ensure that the premises and equipment are maintained safely, and are regularly inspected

2. Legislation

This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education on [health and safety in schools](#), guidance from the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) on [incident reporting in schools](#), and the following legislation:

- [The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974](#), which sets out the general duties employers have towards employees and duties relating to lettings
- [The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992](#), which require employers to make an assessment of the risks to the health and safety of their employees
- [The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999](#), which require employers to carry out risk assessments, make arrangements to implement necessary measures, and arrange for appropriate information and training
- [The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002](#), which require employers to control substances that are hazardous to health
- [The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations \(RIDDOR\) 2013](#), which state that some accidents must be reported to the Health and Safety Executive and set out the timeframe for this and how long records of such accidents must be kept
- [The Health and Safety \(Display Screen Equipment\) Regulations 1992](#), which require employers to carry out digital screen equipment assessments and states users' entitlement to an eyesight test
- [The Gas Safety \(Installation and Use\) Regulations 1998](#), which require work on gas fittings to be carried out by someone on the Gas Safe Register
- [The Regulatory Reform \(Fire Safety\) Order 2005](#), which requires employers to take general fire precautions to ensure the safety of their staff
- [The Work at Height Regulations 2005](#), which require employers to protect their staff from falls from height

The school follows [national guidance published by UK Health Security Agency \(formerly Public Health England\)](#) and government guidance on [living with COVID-19](#) when responding to infection control issues.

Sections of this policy are also based on the [statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage](#).

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Roles and responsibilities

3.1 The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees has ultimate responsibility for health and safety matters in the school, but will delegate day-to-day responsibility to the Headteachers of the Trust Schools.

The Board of Trustees has a duty to take reasonable steps to ensure that staff and pupils are not exposed to risks to their health and safety. This applies to activities on or off the school premises.

The CLIC Trust, as the employer, also has a duty to:

- Assess the risks to staff and others affected by school activities in order to identify and introduce the health and safety measures necessary to manage those risks
- Inform employees about risks and the measures in place to manage them
- Ensure that adequate health and safety training is provided

3.2 Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for health and safety day-to-day. This involves:

- Implementing the health and safety policy
- Ensuring there is enough staff to safely supervise pupils
- Ensuring that the school building and premises are safe and regularly inspected
- Providing adequate training for school staff
- Reporting to the governing board on health and safety matters
- Ensuring appropriate evacuation procedures are in place and regular fire drills are held
- Ensuring that in their absence, health and safety responsibilities are delegated to another member of staff
- Ensuring all risk assessments are completed and reviewed
- Monitoring cleaning contracts, and ensuring cleaners are appropriately trained and have access to personal protective equipment, where necessary
- Ensuring that a paediatric first aider is always present and supervising pupils in the EYFS when they are eating.

In the Headteacher's absence, Lisa Davies, the School Business Support Officer assumes the above day-to-day health and safety responsibilities.

3.3 Health and Safety Lead

The nominated competent person for our school is Lisa Davies, the School Business Support Officer.

3.4 Named persons for specific risk areas

Asbestos-Headteacher

Legionella- School Business Manager / School Office Manager / Headteacher

Risk assessments- School Business Manager / School Office Manager / Headteacher

Training- School Business Manager / School Office Manager / Headteacher

Educational visits- Headteacher

3.5 Staff

School staff have a duty to take care of pupils in the same way that a prudent parent would do so

Staff will:

- Take reasonable care of their own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by what they do at work
- Co-operate with the school on health and safety matters
- Work in accordance with training and instructions
- Inform the appropriate person of any work situation representing a serious and immediate danger so that remedial action can be taken
- Model safe and hygienic practice for pupils
- Understand emergency evacuation procedures and feel confident in implementing them.

Volunteers and students have the same duties as those indicated for employees.

3.6 Pupils and parents

Pupils and parents are responsible for following the school's health and safety advice, on-site and off-site, and for reporting any health and safety incidents to a member of staff.

3.7 Contractors

Contractors will agree health and safety practices prior to starting work. Before work begins the contractor will provide evidence that they have completed an adequate risk assessment of all their planned work, by completing the CLIC Contractor form.

4. Site security

Rory Moriarty, the Site Manager and ROC Fire & Security are responsible for the security of the school site in and out of school hours. They are responsible for visual inspections of the site, and for the intruder and fire alarm systems.

ROC Fire & Security are key holders and will respond to an emergency.

All staff are responsible for keeping the school safe and secure, employees are expected to:

- Make sure fobbed doors/ gates are closed properly after use
- Keep any keys/ fobs safe and in their possession at any time
- Make sure any access codes are not told/ given to anyone that should not know them
- Sign in and out of school every time they enter/ leave the building

5. Fire

Emergency exits, assembly points and assembly point instructions are clearly identified by safety signs and notices. Fire risk assessments are carried out externally every other year (Manchester City Council) and reviewed annually by the School Business Manager / School Office Manager and Trust Compliance Coordinator.

Emergency evacuations are practised at least once a term and a report is written to outline any shortfalls.

The fire alarm is a loud intermittent bell.

Fire alarm testing will take place once a week.

New staff will be trained in fire safety and all staff and pupils will be made aware of any new fire risks.

In the event of a fire:

- The alarm will be raised immediately by whoever discovers the fire and emergency services contacted. Evacuation procedures will also begin immediately
- Fire extinguishers may be used by staff only, and only then if staff are trained in how to operate them and are confident they can use them without putting themselves or others at risk.
- Staff and pupils will congregate at the assembly points. These are indicated on the rooms' evacuation plan.
- Class teachers will take a register of pupils, which will then be checked against the attendance register of that day
- Helen Taylor, the Office Administrator will take a register of all staff
- Staff and pupils will remain outside the building until the emergency services say it is safe to re-enter

The school will have special arrangements in place for the evacuation of people with mobility needs and fire risk assessments will also pay particular attention to those with disabilities, see Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans (PEEPs).

6. COSHH

Schools are required to control hazardous substances, which can take many forms, including:

- Chemicals
- Products containing chemicals
- Fumes
- Dusts
- Vapours
- Mists
- Gases and asphyxiating gases
- Germs that cause diseases, such as leptospirosis or legionnaires disease

Control of substances hazardous to health (COSHH) risk assessments are completed by Imogen McIndoe, Compliance Coordinator, and circulated to all employees who work with hazardous substances. Staff will also be provided with protective equipment, where necessary.

Premises staff are trained on the correct use of hazardous substances.

Our staff use and store hazardous products in accordance with instructions on the product label. All hazardous products are kept in their original containers, with clear labelling and product information.

Any hazardous products are disposed of in accordance with specific disposal procedures.

Emergency procedures, including procedures for dealing with spillages, are displayed near where hazardous products are stored and in areas where they are routinely used.

6.1 Gas safety

- Installation, maintenance and repair of gas appliances and fittings will be carried out by a competent Gas Safe registered engineer
- Gas pipework, appliances and flues are regularly maintained
- All rooms with gas appliances are checked to ensure that they have adequate ventilation.

6.2 Legionella

- A water risk assessment is completed by external contractors and the School Business Support Officer, Lisa Davies, is responsible for ensuring that the identified operational controls are conducted and recorded in the school's water log book
- This risk assessment will be reviewed every two years and when significant changes have occurred to the water system and/or building footprint
- The risks from legionella are mitigated by the following: monthly temperature checks, heating of water, water run off at little used points in during long school breaks.

6.3 Asbestos

- Staff are briefed on the hazards of asbestos, the location of any asbestos in the school and the action to take if they suspect they have disturbed it
- Arrangements are in place to ensure that contractors are made aware of any asbestos on the premises and that it is not disturbed by their work
- Contractors will be advised that if they discover material which they suspect could be asbestos, they will stop work immediately until the area is declared safe
- A record is kept of the location of asbestos that has been found on the school site is kept in the schools individual Asbestos Management Plan
- Locations of ACMs are labelled with appropriate signage

7. Equipment

- All equipment and machinery is maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. In addition, maintenance schedules outline when extra checks should take place
- When new equipment is purchased, it is checked to ensure that it meets appropriate educational standards
- All equipment is stored in the appropriate storage containers and areas. All containers are labelled with the correct hazard sign and contents.

7.1 Electrical equipment

- All staff are responsible for ensuring that they use and handle electrical equipment sensibly and safely
- Any pupil or volunteer who handles electrical appliances does so under the supervision of the member of staff who so directs them
- Any potential hazards will be reported to Lisa Davies, School Business Support Officer immediately
- Permanently installed electrical equipment is connected through a dedicated isolator switch and adequately earthed
- Only trained staff members can check plugs
- Where necessary a portable appliance test (PAT) can be carried out by a competent, trained person. The school use an outside contractor for this and it is booked by the School Business Support Officer, Lisa Davies.
- All isolators switches are clearly marked to identify their machine
- Electrical apparatus and connections will not be touched by wet hands and will only be used in dry conditions
- Maintenance, repair, installation and disconnection work associated with permanently installed or portable electrical equipment is only carried out by a competent person

7.2 Personal Electrical equipment

- Electrical equipment can be brought into school; however it must be PAT tested before being used on site
- The DfE's non-statutory mobile phone guidance says that staff should not use their own mobile phone for personal reason throughout the school day.
- Staff are not permitted to use their personal mobile phone while children are present.

7.2 PE equipment

- Pupils are taught how to carry out and set up PE equipment safely and efficiently. Staff check that equipment is set up safely

- Any concerns about the condition of the gym floor or other apparatus will be reported to the reported to the School Business Support Officer.
- PE and gym equipment is annually serviced

7.3 Display screen equipment

- All staff who use computers daily as a significant part of their normal work have a display screen equipment (DSE) assessment carried out. 'Significant' is taken to be continuous/near continuous spells of an hour or more at a time
- Staff identified as DSE users are entitled to an eyesight test for DSE use upon request, and at regular intervals thereafter, by a qualified optician (and corrective glasses provided if required specifically for DSE use)

7.4 Specialist equipment

Parents are responsible for the maintenance and safety of their children's wheelchairs. In school, staff promote the responsible use of wheelchairs.

Oxygen cylinders are stored in a designated space, and staff are trained in the removal storage and replacement of oxygen cylinders.

8. Lone working

Lone working may include:

- Late working
- Home or site visits
- Weekend working
- Site manager duties
- Site cleaning duties
- Working in a single occupancy office

Potentially dangerous activities, such as those where there is a risk of falling from height, will not be undertaken when working alone. If there are any doubts about the task to be performed, then the task will be postponed until other staff members are available.

If lone working is to be undertaken, a colleague, friend or family member will be informed about where the member of staff is and when they are likely to return.

The lone worker will ensure that they are medically fit to work alone.

Anyone who's role includes lone working must refer to the Lone Working Policy.

Please also refer to the Home Visits Policy

9. Working at height

We will ensure that work is properly planned, supervised and carried out by competent people with the skills, knowledge and experience to do the work.

In addition:

- The Caretaker or Site Manager retains suitable ladders for working at height
- The Caretaker or Site Manager should complete work at height training
- Pupils are prohibited from using ladders
- Staff will wear appropriate footwear and clothing when using ladders
- Staff should use library kick-stools if appropriate
- Contractors are expected to provide their own ladders for working at height and a risk assessment must be carried out
- Before using a ladder, staff are expected to conduct a risk assessment to ensure its safety
- Access to high levels, such as roofs, is only permitted by trained persons.

10. Manual handling

The procedures related to manual handling apply to activities where there is foreseeable risk of injury.

It is up to individuals to determine whether they are fit to lift or move equipment and furniture. If individuals feel lifting an item could result in injury or exacerbate an existing condition, they will ask for assistance.

We will ensure that a risk assessment is undertaken to identify the nature of manual handling in the Trust, and that those who may be involved in manual handling activities are required to read it. The school will ensure that proper mechanical aids and lifting equipment are available in school, and that staff are trained in how to use them safely.

Staff and pupils are expected to use the following basic manual handling procedure:

- Plan the lift and assess the load. If it is awkward or heavy, use a mechanical aid, such as a trolley, break the load down where possible or ask another person to help
- Take the more direct route that is clear from obstruction and is as flat as possible
- Ensure the area where you plan to offload the load is clear
- When lifting, bend your knees and keep your back straight, feet apart and angled out. Ensure the load is held close to the body and firmly. Lift smoothly and slowly and avoid twisting, stretching and reaching where practicable
- Attend manual handling training offered.

11. Off-site visits

When taking pupils off the school premises, we will ensure that:

- Risk assessments will be completed where off-site visits and activities require them
- All off-site visits are appropriately staffed
- Staff will take a school mobile phone, a portable first aid kit, information about the specific medical needs of pupils along with school's contact details
- There will always be at least one first aider on school trips and visits
- In Early Years there will always be at least one first aider with a current paediatric first aid certificate on school trips and visits, as required by the statutory framework for the Early Years.

12. Lettings

This policy applies to lettings. Those who hire any aspect of the school site or any facilities will be made aware of the content of the school's health and safety policy, and will have responsibility for complying with it.

13. Violence at work

We believe that staff should not be in any danger at work and will not tolerate violent or threatening behaviour towards our staff.

All staff will report any incidents of aggression or violence (or near misses) directed to themselves to their line manager/headteacher immediately. This applies to violence from pupils, visitors or other staff.

14. Smoking

Smoking, including the use of e-cigarettes, is not permitted anywhere on the school premises.

15. Infection prevention and control

We follow national guidance published by Public Health England when responding to infection control issues. We will encourage staff and pupils to follow this good hygiene practice, outlined below, where applicable.

15.1 Handwashing

- Wash hands with liquid soap and warm water, and dry with paper towels
- Always wash hands after using the toilet, before eating or handling food, and after handling animals
- Cover all cuts and abrasions with waterproof dressings

15.2 Coughing and sneezing

- Cover mouth and nose with a tissue
- Wash hands after using or disposing of tissues
- Spitting is discouraged

15.3 Personal protective equipment

- Wear disposable non-powdered vinyl or latex-free CE-marked gloves and disposable plastic aprons where there is a risk of splashing or contamination with blood/body fluids (for example, nappy or pad changing)
- Wear goggles if there is a risk of splashing to the face
- Use the correct personal protective equipment when handling cleaning chemicals

15.4 Cleaning of the environment

- Clean the environment, including toys and equipment, regularly and thoroughly

15.5 Cleaning of blood and body fluid spillages

- Clean up all spillages of blood, faeces, saliva, vomit, nasal and eye discharges immediately and wear personal protective equipment
- When spillages occur, clean using a product that combines both a detergent and a disinfectant and use as per manufacturer's instructions. Ensure it is effective against bacteria and viruses and suitable for use on the affected surface
- Never use mops for cleaning up blood and body fluid spillages – use disposable paper towels and discard clinical waste as described below
- Make spillage kits available for blood spills

15.6 Laundry

- Wash laundry in a separate dedicated facility
- Wash soiled linen separately and at the hottest wash the fabric will tolerate
- Wear personal protective clothing when handling soiled linen
- Bag children's soiled clothing to be sent home, never rinse by hand

15.7 Clinical waste

- Always segregate domestic and clinical waste, in accordance with local policy
- Used nappies/pads, gloves, aprons and soiled dressings are stored in correct clinical waste bags in foot-operated bins
- Remove clinical waste with a registered waste contractor
- Remove all clinical waste bags when they are two-thirds full and store in a dedicated, secure area while awaiting collection

15.8 Animals

- Wash hands before and after handling any animals
- Keep animals' living quarters clean and away from food areas
- Dispose of animal waste regularly, and keep litter boxes away from pupils
- Supervise pupils when playing with animals

- Seek veterinary advice on animal welfare and animal health issues, and the suitability of the animal as a pet

15.9 Pupils vulnerable to infection

Some medical conditions make pupils vulnerable to infections that would rarely be serious in most children. The school will normally have been made aware of such vulnerable children. These children are particularly vulnerable to chickenpox, measles or slapped cheek disease (parvovirus B19) and, if exposed to either of these, the parent/carer will be informed promptly and further medical advice sought. We will advise these children to have additional immunisations, for example for pneumococcal and influenza.

15.10 Exclusion periods for infectious diseases

The school will follow recommended exclusion periods outlined by Public Health England, summarised in appendix 3.

In the event of an epidemic/pandemic, we will follow advice from Public Health England about the appropriate course of action.

15.11 Preventing and controlling infections in EYFS

In addition to general cleaning guidance, we will:

- Where possible, buy toys and equipment that can easily be cleaned
- Store toys in a clean container
- Not let children take toys into toilet areas.

Where nappies are used, we will:

- Have designated changing area away from the play facilities, and any area where food or drink is prepared or consumed
- Staff take the appropriate measures to wash and dry their hands after every nappy change
- Wrap soiled nappies in a plastic bag before disposing in a nappy bin
- Clean the changing table with soapy water or a detergent wipe after each use and at the end of the day.

16. New and expectant mothers

Risk assessments will be carried out whenever any employee notifies the school that they are pregnant.

Appropriate measures will be put in place to control risks identified. Some specific risks are summarised below:

- Chickenpox can affect the pregnancy if a woman has not already had the infection. Expectant mothers should report exposure to antenatal carer and GP at any stage of exposure. 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
- If a pregnant woman comes into contact with measles or German measles (rubella), she should inform her antenatal carer and GP immediately to ensure investigation

- Slapped cheek disease (parvovirus B19) can occasionally affect an unborn child. If exposed early in pregnancy (before 20 weeks), the pregnant woman should inform her antenatal care and GP as this must be investigated promptly

17. Occupational stress

We are committed to promoting high levels of health and wellbeing and recognise the importance of identifying and reducing workplace stressors through risk assessment.

Please refer to the CLIC Trust's Well Being Policy.

18. Accident reporting

18.1 Accident record book

- An accident form will be completed as soon as possible after the accident occurs by the member of staff or first aider who deals with it. An accident form template can be found in appendix 1
- As much detail as possible will be supplied when reporting an accident and an accident investigation form completed where appropriate for serious incidents
- The accident form will be uploaded to CPOMs
- Records held in the first aid and accident book will be retained by the school for a minimum of 3 years, in accordance with regulation 25 of the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1979, and then securely disposed of.

18.2 Reporting to the Health and Safety Executive

The School Business Support Officer/Manager will keep a record of any accident which results in a reportable injury, disease, or dangerous occurrence as defined in the RIDDOR 2013 legislation (regulations 4, 5, 6 and 7).

The School Business Support Officer/Manager will report these to the Health and Safety Executive as soon as is reasonably practicable and in any event within 10 days of the incident – except where indicated below. Fatal and major injuries and dangerous occurrences will be reported without delay (i.e. by telephone) and followed up in writing within 10 days.

School staff: reportable injuries, diseases or dangerous occurrences

These include:

- Death
- Specified injuries, which are:
 - Fractures, other than to fingers, thumbs or toes
 - Amputations
 - Any injury likely to lead to permanent loss of sight or reduction in sight
 - Any crush injury to the head or torso causing damage to the brain or internal organs
- Serious burns (including scalding) which:
 - Covers more than 10% of the body's surface area

- Causes significant damage to the eyes, respiratory system or other vital organs
- Any scalping requiring hospital treatment
- Any loss of consciousness caused by head injury or asphyxia
- Any other injury arising from working in an enclosed space which leads to hypothermia or heat-induced illness, or requires resuscitation or admittance to hospital for more than 24 hours

Work-related injuries that lead to an employee being away from work or unable to perform their normal work duties for more than 7 consecutive days (not including the day of the incident). In this case, the School Business Support Officer will report these to the HSE as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event within 15 days of the accident

Occupational diseases where a doctor has made a written diagnosis that the disease is linked to occupational exposure. These include:

- Carpal tunnel syndrome
- Severe cramp of the hand or forearm
- Occupational dermatitis, e.g. from exposure to strong acids or alkalis, including domestic bleach
- Hand-arm vibration syndrome
- Occupational asthma, e.g. from wood dust
- Tendonitis or tenosynovitis of the hand or forearm
- Any occupational cancer
- Any disease attributed to an occupational exposure to a biological agent

Near-miss events that do not result in an injury, but could have done. Examples of near-miss events relevant to schools include, but are not limited to:

- The collapse or failure of load-bearing parts of lifts and lifting equipment
- The accidental release of a biological agent likely to cause severe human illness
- The accidental release or escape of any substance that may cause a serious injury or damage to health
- An electrical short circuit or overload causing a fire or explosion

Pupils and other people who are not at work (e.g. visitors): reportable injuries, diseases or dangerous occurrences

These include:

- Death of a person that arose from, or was in connection with, a work activity*
- An injury that arose from, or was in connection with, a work activity* and the person is taken directly from the scene of the accident to hospital for treatment
- An accident "arises out of" or is "connected with a work activity" if it was caused by:
 - A failure in the way a work activity was organised (e.g. inadequate supervision of a school trip)
 - The way equipment or substances were used (e.g. lifts, machinery, experiments etc); and/or
 - The condition of the premises (e.g. poorly maintained or slippery floors)

Information on how to make a RIDDOR report is available here:

[How to make a RIDDOR report, HSE](#)

18.3 Notifying parents

The class teacher will inform parents of any accident or injury sustained by a pupil, and any first aid treatment given, on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable.

18.4 Reporting to Ofsted and child protection agencies

Headteachers will notify the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) of any serious accident, illness or injury to a pupil while in the school's care. Headteachers will notify Ofsted, the Department for Education and the Local Authority Safeguarding Board of a death of a pupil while in the school's care. Any incident of food poisoning affecting two or more pupils while in the school's care. This will happen as soon as is reasonably practicable, and no later than 14 days after the incident.

19. Home Visits

All staff undertaking any kind of home visit will do so with a colleague and refer to the Home Visits Guidelines.

20. Training

Our staff are provided with health and safety training as part of their induction process. Training may take a variety of different forms including:

- Online training courses
- Written instruction about responsibilities and procedures (particularly this document and related documents)
- Information to all colleagues through staff bulletins, briefings and team meetings
- Attending on-site/ off-site courses as appropriate

It is the responsibility of each individual, before undertaking any activity or using any item of specialist equipment, to ensure that they are appropriately trained and competent to do so.

Staff who work with pupils with special educational needs (SEN), may be given additional health and safety training.

21. Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed by the Headteachers every year.

At every review, the policy will be approved by the Board of Trustees.

22. Links with other policies

This health and safety policy links to the following policies:

- First Aid Risk Assessment
- Risk Assessments

- Health and Safety Provider's Hub for resources (schoolshub)
 - <https://www.manchester.gov.uk/schoolhub/site/scripts/login.php?target=%2Fschoolhub%2Fsite%2Findex.php>
 - Supporting pupils with Medical Conditions
 - Accessibility Plan
 - Lone Working Policy
 - Well Being Policy
 - Home Visits Guidelines

Appendix 1. Accident report

Accident Reference Number:	
About the Person Who Had the Accident	
Name (Child's Full Name)	
Age:	
Sex:	
About the Accident	
Date of Accident:	
Time of Accident:	
Location of the Accident:	
How the Accident Happened:	
Details of Injuries	
Describe the nature of the injuries, indicating the part(s) of the body affected:	
Treatment of Injuries	
Please record any first-aid treatment given, and by whom:	
Was Hospital Treatment Required?	☐ No ☐ Yes
Notification of accident gone to Parents? (Accident or Bumped Head Note)	☐ No ☐ Yes
Person Completing this Form	
Name:	Signature:
Other witness:	Signature:
Please return to the office. If the accident is serious it will be forwarded to Health and Safety at: health.and.safety@manchester.gov.uk	
Have any other injuries been subsequently notified?	☐ No ☐ Yes, Please Explain:

Appendix 2. Asbestos record

The text in this table are suggestions only. The table will need to be adapted to your school's specific circumstances.

Location	Product	How much	Surface coating	Condition	Ease of access	Asbestos type	Comment

Appendix 3. Recommended absence period for preventing the spread of infection

This list of recommended absence periods for preventing the spread of infection is taken from non-statutory guidance for schools and other childcare settings from Public Health England. For each of these infections or complaints, there [is further information in the guidance on the symptoms, how it spreads and some 'do's and don'ts' to follow that you can check](#).

Infection or complaint	Recommended period to be kept away from school or nursery
Athlete's foot	None.
Campylobacter	Until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.
Chicken pox (shingles)	Cases of chickenpox are generally infectious from 2 days before the rash appears to 5 days after the onset of rash. Although the usual exclusion period is 5 days, all lesions should be crusted over before children return to nursery or school. A person with shingles is infectious to those who have not had chickenpox and should be excluded from school if the rash is weeping and cannot be covered or until the rash is dry and crusted over.
Cold sores	None.
Diphtheria	Exclusion is essential. Contact your local UKHSA health protection team about any cases in your setting. For toxigenic diphtheria, only family contacts must be excluded until cleared to return by your local UKHSA health protection team.
Rubella (German measles)	5 days from appearance of the rash.

Hand, foot and mouth	Children are safe to return to school or nursery as soon as they are feeling better, there is no need to stay off until the blisters have all healed.
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted and healed, or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment.
Measles	Cases are infectious from 4 days before onset of rash to 4 days after so it is important to ensure cases are excluded from school during this period.
Mpox	Until recovered.e
Ringworm	Exclusion not needed once treatment has started.
Scabies	The infected child or staff member should be excluded until after the first treatment has been carried out.
Scarlet fever	Children can return to school 24 hours after commencing appropriate antibiotic treatment. If no antibiotics have been administered the person will be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. If there is an outbreak of scarlet fever at the school or nursery, the health protection team will assist with letters and factsheet to send to parents or carers and staff.
Slapped cheek syndrome, Parvovirus B19, Fifth's disease	None (not infectious by the time the rash has developed).
Bacillary Dysentery (Shigella)	Microbiological clearance is required for some types of shigella species prior to the child or food handler returning to school.

Diarrhoea and/or vomiting (Gastroenteritis)	Children and adults with diarrhoea or vomiting should be excluded until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped and they are well enough to return. If medication is prescribed, ensure that the full course is completed and there is no further diarrhoea or vomiting for 48 hours after the course is completed. For some gastrointestinal infections, longer periods of exclusion from school are required and there may be a need to obtain microbiological clearance. For these groups, your local health protection team, school health advisor or environmental health officer will advise. If a child has been diagnosed with cryptosporidium, they should NOT go swimming for 2 weeks following the last episode of diarrhoea.
Cryptosporidiosis	Until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.

E. coli (verocytotoxigenic or VTEC)	The standard exclusion period is until 48 hours after symptoms have resolved. However, some people pose a greater risk to others and may be excluded until they have a negative stool sample (for example, pre-school infants, food handlers, and care staff working with vulnerable people). The health protection team will advise in these instances.
Food poisoning	Until 48 hours from the last episode of vomiting and diarrhoea and they are well enough to return. Some infections may require longer periods (local health protection team will advise).
Salmonella	Until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid fever	Seek advice from environmental health officers or the local health protection team.
Flu (influenza)	Until recovered.

Tuberculosis (TB)	Pupils and staff with infectious TB can return to school after 2 weeks of treatment if well enough to do so and as long as they have responded to anti-TB therapy. Pupils and staff with non-pulmonary TB do not require exclusion and can return to school as soon as they are well enough.
Whooping cough (pertussis)	A child or staff member should not return to school until they have had 48 hours of appropriate treatment with antibiotics and they feel well enough to do so or 21 days from onset of illness if no antibiotic treatment.
Conjunctivitis	None.
Giardia	Until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.
Glandular fever	None (can return once they feel well).
Head lice	None.
Hepatitis A	Exclude cases from school while unwell or until 7 days after the onset of jaundice (or onset of symptoms if no jaundice, or if under 5, or where hygiene is poor. There is no need to exclude well, older children with good hygiene who will have been much more infectious prior to diagnosis.
Hepatitis B	Acute cases of hepatitis B will be too ill to attend school and their doctors will advise when they can return. Do not exclude chronic cases of hepatitis B or restrict their activities. Similarly, do not exclude staff with chronic hepatitis B infection. Contact your local health protection team for more advice if required.
Hepatitis C	None.

Meningococcal meningitis/ septicaemia	If the child has been treated and has recovered, they can return to school.
Meningitis	Once the child has been treated (if necessary) and has recovered, they can return to school. No exclusion is needed.
Meningitis viral	None.
MRSA (meticillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus)	None.
Mumps	5 days after onset of swelling (if well).
Threadworm	None.
Rotavirus	Until 48 hours after symptoms have subsided.