

Grantham Farm Montessori School



Health and Safety Handbook

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Amendment Record

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Introduction

In compliance with the requirement of Section 2 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, Grantham Farm Montessori School are effectively discharging their statutory duties by preparing a written Health and Safety Policy. A copy of the policy and associated employee handbook, which outline our health and safety arrangements and organisational structure, are held at Grantham Farm Montessori School's main place of business.

Grantham Farm Montessori School are aware that in order to ensure the health and safety policy is maintained effectively, it is essential that all references and information are up-to-date and accurate. Should any changes occur within the business, e.g. introduction of new processes or systems etc., or if changes occur that impact on the organisation of health and safety responsibilities, a nominated representative will liaise with Citation Ltd, whose Health and Safety Consultants will advise on any policy updates that are needed and arrange for such amendments to be forwarded.

The health and safety policy and management system requires constant monitoring by Grantham Farm Montessori School's management and reviewed particularly following changes to the business and following accidents or incidents to ensure continual legal compliance. Citation Ltd will review the policy at the time of annual inspection.

In order for Grantham Farm Montessori School to discharge its statutory duties, employees are required by law to co-operate with management in all matters concerning the health, safety and welfare of themselves and any other person who may be affected by their acts or omissions whilst at work. Grantham Farm Montessori School encourages all employees to inform management of any areas of the health and safety policy that they feel are inadequate or misrepresented to ensure that the policy is maintained as a true working document.

Health and Safety Policy Statement

The following is a statement of the School's health and safety policy in accordance with Section 2 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974.

It is the policy of Grantham Farm Montessori School to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of all employees working for the School and other persons who may be affected by our undertakings.

As a business we acknowledge that the key to successful health and safety management requires an effective policy, organisation and arrangements, which reflect the commitment of senior management. To maintain that commitment, we will continually measure, monitor, improve and revise, where necessary, our Occupational Safety and Health (OH&S) management system to ensure that health and safety standards are adequately maintained.

The Owner will implement the School's health and safety policy and recommend any changes to meet new circumstances. The School recognises that successful health and safety management contributes to successful business performance and will allocate adequate finances and resources to meet these needs.

The management of Grantham Farm Montessori School looks upon the promotion of health and safety measures as a mutual objective for themselves and employees. It is therefore, the policy of management to do all that is reasonably practicable to prevent personal injury and damage to property. Also, the School aims to protect everyone, including visitors and members of the public, in so far as they come into contact with our activities, from any foreseeable hazard or danger.

All employees have duties under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and are informed of their personal responsibilities to take due care of the health and safety of themselves and to ensure that they do not endanger other persons by their acts or omissions. Employees are also informed that they must co-operate with the School in order that it can comply with the legal requirements placed upon it and in the implementation of this policy. We are committed to continued consultation with the workforce to enable all viewpoints and recommendations to be discussed at regular intervals.

The School will ensure a systematic approach to identifying hazards, assessing the risks, determining suitable and sufficient control measures and informing employees of the correct procedures needed to maintain a safe working environment. We will provide, so far as is reasonably practicable, safe places and systems of work, safe plant and machinery, safe handling of materials and substances, the provision of adequate safety equipment and ensure that appropriate information, instruction, training and supervision is given.

We regard all health and safety legislation as the minimum standard and expect management to achieve their targets without compromising health and safety.

A signed copy of this statement is available on request.

Environmental Statement

We are committed to preventing pollution and to complying with all relevant environmental legislation, regulations and other environmental requirements.

We will regularly evaluate the environmental impact of our activities, products and services and we will take action to continually improve our environmental performance.

It is our policy to:

- Minimise the use of energy, water and natural resources
- Minimise waste through prevention, re-use and recycling where possible
- Dispose of waste safely and legally
- Avoid the use of hazardous materials, where practical
- Work with environmentally responsible suppliers
- Prevent environmental damage and minimise nuisance factors such as noise and air pollution.

We will define environmental objectives, targets and improvement actions that are related to this policy and to our significant environmental aspects. We will regularly evaluate progress.

We are committed to providing relevant environmental training and promoting environmental awareness to employees and, where appropriate, to suppliers and to communicating our environmental performance.

We will implement processes to prevent environmental non-conformities and to ensure that we are prepared to deal with potential environmental emergencies.

This policy will be regularly reviewed and updated to take account of organisational priorities and changes, environmental legislation and best practice.

A signed copy of this statement is available on request.

Food Safety Statement

Employees have a statutory duty to take care of themselves and others who may be affected by their acts or omissions. To enable these duties to be accomplished it is Grantham Farm Montessori School intention to ensure that responsibilities for food safety matters are effectively assigned, accepted and fulfilled at all levels within our organisation.

As far as is reasonably practicable, we shall ensure that:

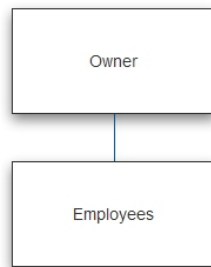
- Adequate resources are provided to ensure that proper provision can be made for food safety
- Risk assessments are carried out and periodically reviewed in accordance with the HACCP's
- Systems of work are provided and maintained that are safe and without risks to food safety
- Arrangements for use, handling, storage and transport of articles and substances for use at work are safe and without risks to health
- All employees are provided with such information, instruction, training and supervision as is necessary to secure their safety and health at work, the safety of others who may be affected by their actions and the safety of food on the premises
- Where appropriate, health surveillance will be provided to employees
- The provision and maintenance of all plant, machinery and equipment to ensure it is safe and without risk to health or food safety
- The working environment of all employees is safe and without risk to health or food safety and that adequate provision is made with regard to the facilities and arrangements for their welfare at work
- The place of work is safe and that there is safe access to and egress from the workplace
- Monitoring activities are undertaken to maintain agreed standards
- All food prepared or stored on the premises complies with all food safety requirements and is of the nature, substance and quality demanded.

It is the duty of all employees at work:

- To take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and of other persons who may be affected by their acts or omissions at work and operate with us in fulfilling our statutory duties
- Not to interfere with or misuse anything provided in the interest of health and safety.

A signed copy of this statement is available on request.

Safety Management Structure



General Responsibilities

As employers we have a duty to all employees, casual workers, part-time workers, trainees, visitors and sub-contractors who may be in our workplace or use work equipment provided by us. Consideration will also be given to our neighbours and the general public.

Management will ensure they:

- Assess all risks to worker's health and safety and bring the significant findings to the attention of employees
- Provide safe plant and equipment that is suitably maintained
- Provide a safe place of work with adequate facilities and safe access and egress
- Provide adequate training and information to all employees
- Have provisions in place to guarantee that articles and substances are handled and stored in a proper manner
- Provide health surveillance to employees where it is deemed necessary
- Appoint competent persons to help comply with health and safety law
- Provide employees and other workers who have little or no understanding of English, or who cannot read English, with adequate supervision, translation, interpreters or replace written notices with clearly understood symbols or diagrams.

Employees Responsibilities

The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 details two main sections which employees are required to comply with. These are: -

- All employees have a duty of care under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, section 7, to take reasonable care of themselves and any other person who may be affected by their acts or omissions at work
- In addition to the above, Section 8 states that under no circumstances shall employees purposely or recklessly interfere or misuse anything provided in the interest of safety or welfare, lifesaving equipment, signs or firefighting equipment
- Employees also have a duty to assist and co-operate with Grantham Farm Montessori School and any other person to ensure all aspects of health and safety legislation are adhered to.

Employees are obliged to:

- Always follow safety rules, avoid improvisation and comply with the health and safety policy
- Only perform work that they are qualified to undertake
- Always store materials and equipment in a safe manner
- Never block emergency escape routes
- Always practice safe working procedures, refrain from horseplay and report all hazards and defective equipment
- Always wear suitable clothing and personal protective equipment for the task being undertaken
- Inform the First Aider or Appointed Person of all accidents that occur.

The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations require all employees to:

- Utilise all items that are provided for safety
- Comply with all safety instructions
- Report to management anything that they may consider to be of any danger
- Advise management of any areas where protection arrangements require reviewing.

Sub-Contractors/Self-Employed Personnel Responsibilities

Will be made aware of the organisation's health and safety policy, safety rules and:

- Will be fully aware of the responsibilities and requirements placed upon them by the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and other relevant legislation
- Will comply with all instructions given by management
- Will co-operate with Management to ensure a high standard of health and safety on all contracts with which they are involved
- Will carry out risk assessments in relation to their activities, ensure that adequate health and safety arrangements are implemented and co-operate as necessary with all affected parties
- Will comply with signing in and out procedures.

Information For employees

Information regarding health and safety law is provided in a number of ways:

- Employees are provided with a copy of the 'Employee handbook'
- The approved poster "Health and Safety Law – What You Should Know" is displayed on the premises. This poster is advisably completed with names of responsible persons. Alternatively a leaflet version of the Health and Safety Law poster is available and should be distributed to all staff
- Management and employees have access to our Health and Safety Management System that contains all relevant information with regard to recording and monitoring procedures.

Joint Consultation

The Health and Safety (Consultation with Employees) Regulations require all employers to consult with their employees who are not represented by safety representatives, as detailed in the Safety Representatives and Safety Committees Regulations.

We recognise the importance and benefits to be gained by consultation and will maintain clear avenues of communication to ensure effective consultation between management and employees. It is the responsibility of management to ensure that consultation takes place in good time on matters relating to employees health and safety at work.

If at any time the method of consultation becomes ineffective due to the size or nature of the School, then the organisation will recognise the rights of employees or groups of employees to elect one or more persons to act as their representative for the purpose of such consultation.

Health and safety will be on the agenda of all management meetings. Items that may be included in the meeting are:

- Review of accident statistics, near misses and trends
- New legislation
- Compliance with the objectives of the health and safety plan
- Occupational health issues
- Introduction of new technology
- Result of health and safety audits
- Review of significant findings identified by reports produced by Citation Ltd
- Completion of corrective actions
- Review of training needs.

Citation Ltd along with other professional bodies will inform senior management of any

relevant changes to health and safety. Management will disseminate this information to all relevant employees.

If any visitors or customers raise any concerns with regard to health and safety, senior management will investigate the issue and if required, take appropriate action to deal with the matter.

Access And Egress

Description

Safe access and egress includes movement of persons, equipment and vehicles into, around and out of the School.

Associated Hazards

- Slips, trips and falls
- Falling objects
- Vehicle movement
- Uneven/obstructed floor
- Trailing cables
- Opening in the floor
- Unsuitable/insufficient lighting.

All employees And pupils Should

- Follow advice and information given by the School in relation to safe access and egress
- Regularly check that there is sufficient space to move around classrooms and corridors freely and where necessary report any problems
- Report any situation where safe access and egress is restricted or obstructed so that arrangements for the appropriate remedial action can be taken.

Accident Reporting

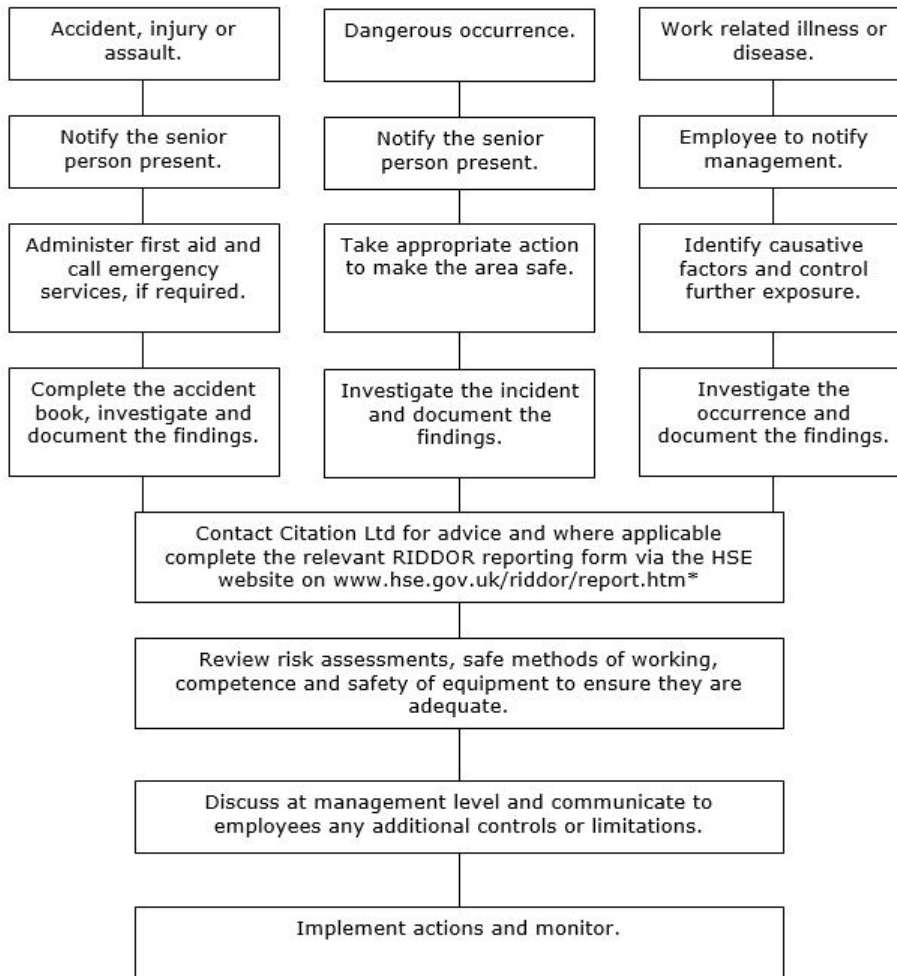
Description

There are many hazards present in all School. Control measures, when implemented, should reduce the risks from those hazards to a level as low as is reasonably practicable in order to prevent accidents and cases of ill health. This arrangement provides advice and guidance to all employees together with the information necessary for the reporting and subsequent investigation of accidents, incidents and near misses. An accident is an unplanned event that results in personal injury or damage to property, plant or equipment. A 'near miss' is any incident, accident or emergency which did not result in an injury.

Employees Responsibilities

Any employees who are involved in, or aware of, an accident must follow the accident reporting procedure and inform the School, either orally or in writing as soon as possible after the accident occurs. The nominated person will complete the necessary documentation including accident book entry, investigation and comply with any notification and reporting requirements.

Accident And Incident Reporting Flowchart



*Note the Incident Contact Centre telephone reporting service is only available for specified injuries and fatalities on 0845 300 9923.

Administration Of Medicine Including The Use Of EpiPens®

Description

Many pupils will need to take medication, or be given it at School at some time in their School life. For most, this will be for a short period to allow them to finish a course of antibiotics or apply a lotion. In some cases there may be a long term need for pupils to take medication. To allow pupils to take or be given medication at School minimises the disruption that could be caused by illness and allows their education to proceed at a steady rate alongside their peers.

Associated Hazards

- Unauthorised access to medicines
- Mal administration of medicines
- Medicines allergies.

Teachers' Responsibilities

The head teacher will ensure that:

- Medicines brought into the School are suitably labelled with the pupils name, name of the drug; dosage; frequency of administration
- A record card is completed for pupils receiving medication. The card should include the following information:
- The medicines required by the pupils
 - Details of dosage and times for administration
 - The types of medicines being carried
 - Appropriate risk assessment undertaken
 - The employees involved in administration or supervision of medication
- Employees do not compel any pupils to take medication
- In an emergency, pupils have prompt access to their medicine through a recognised procedure
- All employees are familiar with the emergency procedure
- These procedures are followed when on School outings.

Teachers

Who participate in administering medication to pupils will comply with the School's policy.

There is no legal duty that requires School employees to administer medication - this is a voluntary role .

EpiPens®

EpiPen® Auto-injectors are intended for immediate self administration in the emergency treatment of anaphylactic shock.

In the event of pupils being prescribed an EpiPen® the School will ensure that:

- All employees are trained in recognizing anaphylaxis and in the administration of an EpiPen®
- pupils are encouraged to carry their emergency medication on person at all times
- Either the parent/ guardian or pupils have granted permission for the medication to be administered in an emergency situation
- An emergency box is provided, the box to be stored in a safe, accessible, unlocked area that is clearly labelled
- The box will contain two 'in date' EpiPen® for use in an emergency and will be labelled with the name of pupils prescribed EpiPen®
- In the event of pupils having had an anaphylactic reaction they will be sent by ambulance to hospital whether full recovery is noted or not
- pupils will be accompanied throughout by a member of the teaching employees and the empty EpiPen® that has been administered, will be taken with them to hospital
- The pupils parents will be informed immediately after alerting the ambulance.

Note:

Since there is no way to predict the severity of a reaction, and because anaphylaxis can progress so rapidly, waiting for the ambulance or the Medical Centre employees to administer adrenaline may greatly increase the risk of death.

Therefore, it is essential that anyone with a history of anaphylaxis keep adrenaline auto-injectors, such as EpiPen® adrenaline auto-injectors, on hand at all times and be prepared to use them whenever a reaction occurs.

Alcohol And Drugs Misuse

Description

There is evidence that the effects of drinking or drug use or abuse can reduce personal performance and potentially increase absence rates. In all jobs safety is paramount, and any form of drug or alcohol related problem is a serious matter and in some circumstances may be a criminal offence. The scope of this policy extends to alcohol, illicit drugs or substances and over-the-counter or prescription medication if abused or taken in an irresponsible manner.

Associated Hazards

- Impairment of co-ordination
- Inability to drive or use equipment safely
- Lack of awareness, judgment and sense of danger.

Disciplinary Procedures

- If an alcohol or drug related problem comes to light that results in unacceptable behaviour or performance it may be dealt with in accordance with our disciplinary or capability procedures
- Behaviour or performance which is found to be unacceptable and related to alcohol or drug abuse, may, depending on the circumstances of the individual case, result in summary dismissal.

Employees Responsibilities

Employees should:

- Not attend for work at any time whilst under the detrimental influence of alcohol or drugs
- Seek help voluntarily if they recognise they have an alcohol or drug related problem
- Inform the Senior Person Present if they are aware that any employees have an alcohol or drug related problem that is affecting their work. This will ensure that employees receive the necessary support and assistance.

Asbestos - For Those In Control Of The Premises (Dutyholder)

Description

Numerous premises, including public buildings built or refurbished before 2000 are likely to contain asbestos containing materials.

Workers engaging in maintenance, repair, refurbishment, alteration or demolition activities could be exposed to asbestos fibres which can be released from asbestos containing materials such as roofing sheets, ceiling tiles, pipe insulation or lagging.

Inhaling air containing asbestos fibres can lead to asbestos-related diseases, mainly cancers of the lung and chest lining. Asbestos is a prohibited substance and is classified as a Category 1 carcinogen.

Prolonged exposure for young children can increase the potential of developing mesothelioma in comparison to that of an adult. Asbestos related illness contributes to hundreds of adult deaths every year within School buildings, with a potential 86% still containing the substance.

Associated Diseases

- Asbestosis
- Mesothelioma
- Lung cancer
- Pleural thickening and pleural plaques.

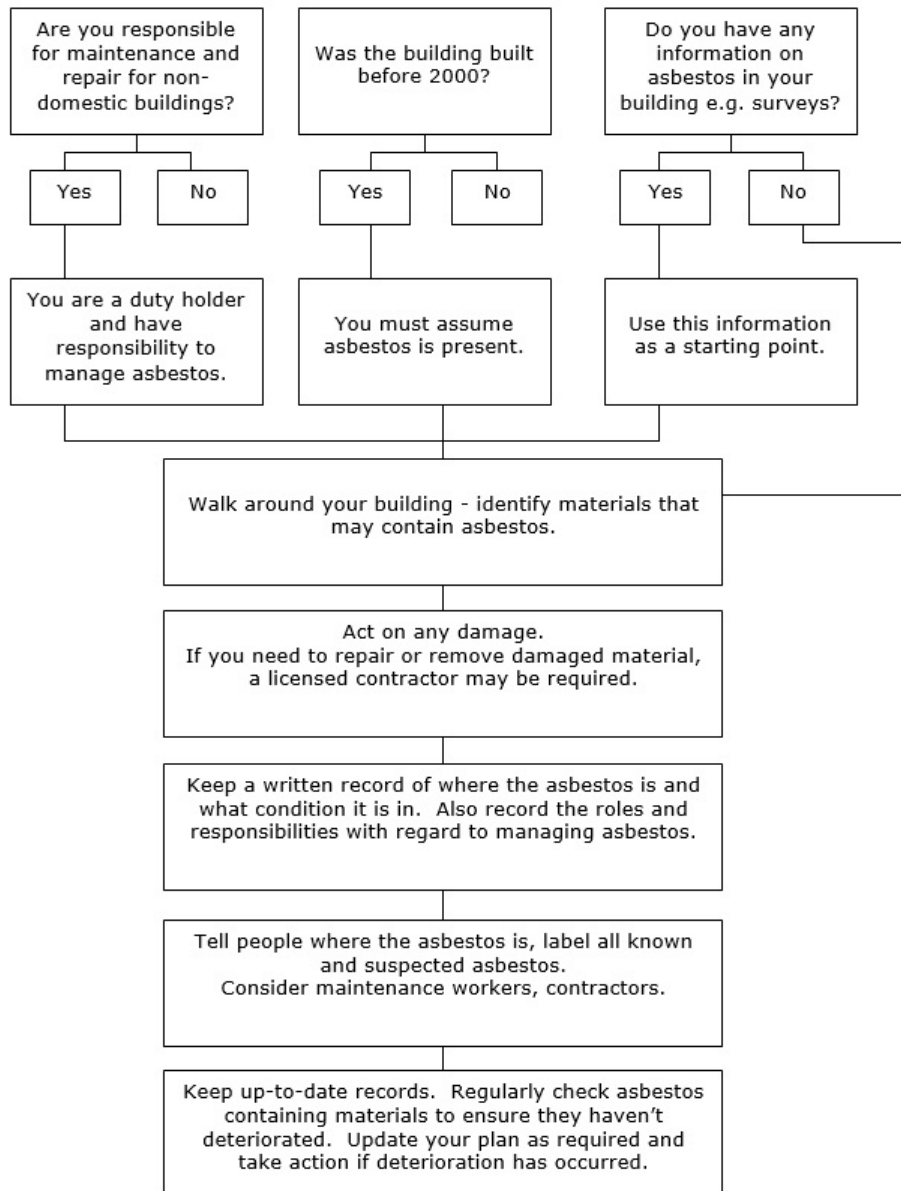
These diseases can take between 15 to 60 years to develop and can prove fatal.

Employees Responsibilities

Employees will: -

- Report any damage to the building or building materials to Grantham Farm Montessori School immediately
- Not work on the building structure or equipment, e.g. walls, ceilings, fuse boxes, etc. unless instructed by Grantham Farm Montessori School and are suitably trained
- Follow all information, instruction and training given to prevent injury or ill health.

Asbestos Management Flowchart



Body And Fashion Jewellery

Description

Body modification and adornment, which includes traditional ear (lobe) piercing has become well established and socially acceptable. Other body adornment practices have expanded in popularity from their previous position as fringe activities and their development is ongoing. These now include navel rings, lip studs, tongue studs and eyebrow studs, amongst others.

Associated Hazards

- Infection/cross infection
- Injury to the wearer (i.e. rips or tears) or to others
- Entanglement.

Note: the list of hazards associated with the wearing of jewellery is not exhaustive.

Employees Responsibilities

All employees are required to take care of themselves and others and ensure that the only jewellery that is worn complies with School policies.

Blood Borne Viruses (BBV)

Description

We recognise that there is a potential risk of employees coming into contact with Blood Borne Viruses (BBV) such as hepatitis and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). To reduce the risks posed by these viruses we will assess the potential for exposure and introduce controls to reduce the risk.

Associated Hazards

- Direct contact with infected blood or saliva
- Contact with clinical dressings
- Needlestick injuries.

Employees Responsibilities

- Immediately report any spillage of bodily fluids and arrange for suitable isolation and cleaning in line with their level of training
- Report to management in confidence, if they become aware that they are a carrier of a BBV, if it is relevant to their employment.

The risk of BBV infection is low, as direct contact with blood and body fluids does not occur regularly. Much depends on the nature of the exposure and not all exposures result in infection.

Bomb Threats

Description

The receipt or setting down of explosive or other potentially dangerous devices is a hazard in all premises.

The aim at all times is to ensure that effective procedures are in place which are clearly understood to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the safety of all persons on the premises.

Associated Hazards

- Fire and explosion
- Fatalities/major injuries.

Employees Responsibilities

- All employees must know what to do in the event of a bomb threat and take appropriate action
- All employees must participate in bomb alert training and evacuation
- All employees must never compromise the security of the building in any way.

Child Protection

Description

Child abuse is a global phenomenon. It occurs in all countries and within all societies and involves the physical, sexual, emotional abuse and neglect of children. It is nearly always preventable.

Statutory Definitions For Child Abuse For Entry Into The Child Protection Register Are:

- Neglect: - the persistent or severe neglect of a child, or the failure to protect a child from exposure to any kind of danger, including cold, starvation or extreme failure to carry out important aspects of care, resulting in the significant impairment of the child's health or development
- Physical injury: - actual or likely physical injury to a child or failure to prevent physical injury (or suffering) to a child including deliberate poisoning, suffocation and Munchausen's by proxy
- Sexual abuse: - actual or likely sexual exploitation of a child or adolescent. The child may be dependent and/or developmentally immature
- Emotional abuse: - actual or likely severe adverse effect upon the emotional and behavioural development of a child caused by persistent or severe emotional ill-treatment or rejection.

Associated Signs Of Abuse

Beyond the obvious signs of physical abuse, such as bruising, employees are instructed to look for signs of emotional or sexual abuse, such as:

- Sudden changes in behaviour and/or deterioration of performance
- Difficulty in trusting or defiance of others, excessive anxiety or low self-esteem
- Knowledge of sexual matters beyond what would be expected
- A strong need for affection, sometimes expressed in physical terms
- Frequent aches and pains possibly arising from psychosomatic illnesses.

There are, of course, many other signs of abuse, but it must be understood that the presence of such symptoms does not necessarily denote the presence of abuse – they can be due to many other causes.

Employees Responsibilities

All employees will:

- Report any suspicions or conversations that indicate abuse has taken place
- Alert the School if they think that someone is acting in an unsafe manner, or in ways that may be misconstrued

- Do not question or approach parents, guardians or other children in the family.

Cleaning And Disinfection

Description

Everyone involved in the School must be committed to ensuring that satisfactory standards of hygiene are achieved. The requisite standards will be clearly and effectively communicated and reinforced by management. Cleaning schedules will be developed as a communication link between management and staff and are necessary to ensure that premises and equipment are cleaned effectively and if necessary, disinfected.

Associated Hazards

- Chemical storage and handling
- Mixing of chemicals in different containers
- Slips, trips and falls
- Dermatitis.

Employees Will:

- Co-operate with the School in relation to maintaining a clean and tidy environment
- Follow training, guidance and instruction to prevent injury or ill health
- Make use of any personal protective equipment provided
- Report to the School any hazardous or dangerous situation
- Co-operate with management arrangements for health and safety
- Ensure suitable signs are displayed where necessary.

Compressed Gas Cylinders

Description

Accidents involving gas cylinders can be very serious and may result in major injuries or death.

The term 'gas cylinder' includes various types of pressure vessel, which may be used to transport and store gases under pressure. Gas cylinders can be used for different purposes.

Associated Hazards

- Fire and impact from the blast or rapid release of compressed gas
- Impact from parts of gas cylinders or valves that fail or flying debris
- Contact with released gases or fluids
- Manual handling or collision with falling gas cylinders.

All employees will:

- Undertake training in the safe use of compressed gas and follow information and instruction provided
- Store cylinders in their designated location in a secure, upright position, away from the dangers presented by moving vehicles
- Ensure that storage areas are well ventilated and positioned away from any source of heat, naked flame or direct sunlight
- Store cylinders in segregated areas according to gas type with oxidisers being stored at least twenty feet from flammable gases
- Report any damage to cylinders or attachments.

Construction, Design and Management (CDM) **Responsibilities (Schools)**

Description

The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (CDM) cover a very broad range of construction activities such as building, civil engineering, engineering construction work, demolition, site preparation, site clearance, renovation, decoration, installation, maintenance, and dismantling of structures

Under the CDM Regulations, legal duties apply to clients, designers, and contractors for all construction projects even for simple, short duration work. However, for those projects that are likely to take more than 30 days or involve more than 20 sub-contractors at one time or more than 500-person days of construction work, additional management duties are imposed, and projects are notifiable to the regulators. CDM Principal Designers and Principal Contractors must be appointed for notifiable projects.

Associated Hazards Include:

- Slips, trips and falls
- Fire and explosion
- Vehicular movement
- Falling objects
- Manual handling
- Excavations
- Hazardous substances.
- Asbestos (pre-2000 build)
- Security – (school open – segregation children to works in progress)
- Working at height
- Scaffolding

Clients Responsibilities

Clients are defined as companies, organisations or individuals for whom a construction project is carried out including local authorities, partnerships, school governors, charities, insurance companies but excluding domestic clients.

For all Projects, Clients will:

- Ensure that designers and contractors are competent and adequately resourced

- Provide information ('Pre-Construction Information') including site rules and details of site hazards, to those planning or bidding for the work
- Where important information is not available, take reasonable steps to acquire such information including construction drawings, plans, manuals, survey reports and location of utilities
- Ensure that the project is planned and managed suitably for its duration
- Facilitate good communications, cooperation and co-ordination between project members
- Allow sufficient time and resources for the design, planning and construction work to be done properly
- Ensure that adequate welfare facilities are arranged
- Ensure that structures constructed for use as a workplace conform to the requirements of the Workplace (Health and Safety and Welfare) Regulations.

For Notifiable Projects:

Where projects are likely to Take More Than 30 Days or Involve More than 20 sub-contractors at any one time or more than 500 Person Days of construction works:

The Client Will Undertake the Following Additional Duties:

- Appoint a competent and adequately resourced CDM Principal Designer prior to detailed design of the structure - scope of works
- Appoint a competent Principal Contractor
- Provide information ('Pre-Construction Information') as early as possible to the CDM Principal Designer relevant to the health and safety of the project
- Ensure that work does not start before the welfare facilities and the Construction Phase Plan are in place
- Agree the format of the Health and Safety File with the CDM Principal Designer/Principal Contractor and retain the file for future access after completion of the project.

Contractors

Description

A contractor is anyone who is undertaking work on our behalf but is not a direct employee. Contractors may be employed to undertake maintenance, repairs, installation, construction, window cleaning, engineering and many other jobs. Work undertaken for a client by a contractor is usually covered by a civil contract.

Whilst it is good practice for health and safety requirements to be written into such contracts, health and safety responsibilities are defined by criminal law and cannot be passed on to another by a contract.

Thus, in any client/contractor relationship, both parties will have duties under health and safety law. Contractors are especially vulnerable and may put the School's employees and pupils at risk.

Associated Hazards

- Movement of site traffic
- Excavations
- Working at height
- Manual handling injuries
- Hazardous materials/substances.

Contractor's/Sub-Contractor's Responsibilities

All sub-contractors undertaking work on behalf of the School:

- Must accept responsibility for complying with the provisions of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and all other relevant statutory provisions in respect of the work comprising the contract
- Must provide suitable and appropriate supervision to plan, control and monitor their operations having carried out risk assessments for the work
- Must agree risk assessments and any method statements with the School before work commences
- Must inform the School of any unforeseen hazards arising from the work to enable the necessary precautions to be put in place
- Shall undertake electrical work and work involving the use of electrical tools and equipment in accordance with the appropriate regulations and industrial guidance

- Must ensure plant and machinery brought on site is fully guarded and complies with the requirements of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER)
- Must make available for inspection, test certificates issued by a competent person for equipment such as lifting equipment, air compressors and pressure plant
- Must report all accidents to the School immediately so that they can record the incident in the Accident Book.

Employees Responsibilities

Employees will:

- Immediately report any unsafe practices or concerns to the School management.

Control Of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH)

Description

Using chemicals or other hazardous substances at work may put people's health at risk, thus, the School is required to control exposure to hazardous substances to prevent ill health. The aim is to protect both employees, pupils and others who may be exposed by complying with the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (as amended) (COSHH).

Hazardous substances include: -

- Substances used directly in school and work activities (e.g. chemicals, paints, adhesives, cleaning agents)
- Substances generated during work activities
- Naturally occurring substances (e.g. dust)
- Biological agents (e.g. bacteria and other micro-organisms).

Effects from hazardous substances can range from mild eye irritation to chronic lung disease or even death.

Associated health issues may include: -

- Skin irritation
- Asthma
- Losing consciousness
- Cancer
- Infection from bacteria and/or micro-organisms.

Employees Responsibilities

All employees have responsibilities under COSHH Regulations, and are expected to: -

- Take part in training programmes
- Observe container hazard symbols
- Practice safe working with hazardous substances following training provided
- Report any concerns immediately
- Wear, use correctly and maintain any personal protective equipment provided and respirable protective equipment (RPE)

- Return all hazardous substances to their secure location after use
- Observe all control measures correctly.

Covid-19 And Pandemic Management

The School will implement contingency plans in line with government guidelines in order to help protect employees from the effects of pandemics within the workplace.

This may include a number of measures arrived at by a process of risk assessment and the interpretation and implementation of government emergency legislation and guidelines.

Employees Will:

- Comply with the contents and controls detailed within the School risk assessments
- Comply with workplace procedures designed to mitigate against the effect of pandemics on the workplace, such as Covid-19
- Take care of themselves and others in the workplace where activities give rise to the potential for the spread of infection
- Comply with the relevant Government guidelines and legislation in relation to their fitness to attend the workplace
- Follow any appropriate isolation/quarantine procedures which may be introduced in line with government guidance on travel
- Report any concerns or issues relating to non-conformance with pandemic controls to the person responsible
- Comply with testing requirements of the government and / or employer where there is a requirement to do so in line with legislation and / or risk assessment
- Comply with relevant contact tracing systems implemented by government, informing their employer where required to do so
- Notify their employer immediately should they be required to self-isolate in line with government and / or School requirements.

Disciplinary Rules

Description

Grantham Farm Montessori School believes that health and safety is a critical factor that needs to be taken into account when running the School. To enable the School to control safety, a number of safety rules have been established. Failure to comply with these rules may result in disciplinary action.

Employees Responsibilities

- Co-operate with their employer and conduct themselves in a way that does not create risk of harm to themselves and others
- To not misuse or interfere with anything provided for health, safety and welfare
- To report any identified hazards to the School
- To comply with clearly indicated and specific safety rules
- To wear safety clothing or equipment provided

Display Screen Equipment (DSE)

Description

Display Screen Equipment (DSE) based work can have potentially serious effects on health.

DSE users can experience a range of different physical and psychological health problems including eyestrain, blurred vision, headaches, and musculoskeletal problems including repetitive strain injury (RSI) and work related upper limb disorders (WRULD).

Problems are caused by a combination of badly designed tasks, equipment and work environment. However, most of the conditions are preventable by giving attention to the way in which work is organised, and providing appropriate equipment and workplaces.

Associated Hazards

- Musculoskeletal injuries
- Repetitive Strain Injury (RSI)
- Work related upper limb disorders (WRULD)
- Visual fatigue
- Stress.

All employees have a responsibility: -

- To inform the School in confidence as soon as possible if a health problem arises through the use of display screen equipment
- To work in accordance with any advice or guidance given by the School
- To familiarise themselves with the contents of the relevant risk assessments.

Doors

Description

All doors within the School will be designed, installed and maintained, so that employees, pupils and visitors can utilise them without risk of injury.

Associated Hazards

- Fire/Products of combustion
- Slips, trips and falls
- Object movement
- Struck by moving object
- Entrapment.

Teachers will: -

- Not chock or wedge fire doors open
- Report any damage to doors, fixings or signs to the Maintenance Department
- Report any accidents or near misses.

Driving At Work

Description

It has been estimated that up to a third of all road traffic accidents involve somebody who is at work at the time, making work-related road crashes the biggest single safety issue for most UK businesses. Promoting sound health and safety driving practices and a good safety culture at work may well spill over into private driving, and could reduce the chances of employees being injured in a crash whilst away from work.

Associated Hazards

- The driver: competency, training, fitness and health
- The vehicle: suitability, condition, safety equipment (seat belts), and ergonomic considerations
- The journey: routes, scheduling, time, distance, weather conditions.
- Breakdowns and other emergencies

Employees Responsibilities

- Employees must follow any advice, information, instruction and training given by the School
- All employees who are expected to drive on school business must have a valid drivers' licence for the class of vehicle they are driving
- Drivers must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that the vehicle is adequate for the purpose and is in a safe mechanical condition. This is particularly important for privately owned and driven vehicles
- Drivers are expected to comply with traffic legislation and The Highway Code, be conscious of road safety and demonstrate safe driving
- It is expected that any person driving vehicles on School business will not be under the influence of drink or drugs and must not drive whilst disqualified
- Drivers must stop after a crash or similar incident with which they are involved
- All relevant employees must provide a copy of their driving licence on request and declare any driving convictions
- All relevant employees must inform the Responsible Individual if they become aware of any medical condition or take medication that might affect their ability to drive.

Educational Outings

Description

Educational visits form an important part of the School curriculum and are designed to stimulate the mental, emotional and physical development of the pupils as well as facilitating deeper and more practical understanding of curriculum subjects.

It also forms an important part of enabling pupils to learn to understand and manage the risks that are a normal part of life.

School visits include short visits to premises close to the School such as the local library, park, outdoor centres, museums, charitable events etc. Some may also arrange activities outside of School hours including trips to foreign countries.

A proportionate and sensible approach should be used when planning, assessing and managing the risks associated with School trips, with preparation and planning being key to successful and safe School visits.

Associated Hazards

- Lack of suitable and sufficient risk assessment, leading to unanticipated risks and adequate controls not being implemented
- Insufficient records collated of those approved by parents to attend the outing and a register of their attendance during the trip
- Outings being planned and facilitated by employees who have not been suitably trained and are therefore unaware of relevant safety considerations and implications
- Poor pre-checking of contractors involved in the outing. This may include the vetting of travel operators, voluntary support staff and activity facilitators
- No suitable contingency plan in place to cover traffic, toilet breaks, first aid/medication issues, individual's behaviour, refreshments or unforeseen circumstances
- No consideration or implementation of safeguarding provisions
- Lack of appropriate insurance to cover the planned activities.

Teachers and employees will:

- Comply with the governing body policy and follow the associated protocols and procedures on School outings
- Ensure suitable planning, management, risk assessments, approval and evaluation of School visits, with consideration of pupils safety being paramount.

- That suitable transport will be used with risk assessments and emergency procedures in place for first aid, breakdown of transport, missing children and emergency contact details are available
- That licenses will be checked of adventure activity providers to ensure they comply with the Adventure Activities Licensing Regulations 2004.
- Suitable supervision will be in place with consideration of the age, sex, behaviours, safeguarding and medical/dietary needs of all pupils
- Parental consent will be obtained as appropriate for School trips
- Record and investigate all accidents and incidents.

Education Premises Management

Description

The School premises are constantly monitored by Grantham Farm Montessori School and the School Care Taking Team to ensure it complies with the Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999, which stipulate minimum standards for such premises.

School's are also covered by the Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992, which outline provisions that must be made in relation to the work environment.

Provisions that are covered by these regulations include: toilet facilities, fire, staff rooms, weather protection, noise, lighting, heating, temperature, ventilation and water supply.

Associated Hazards

- No suitable supply of water for domestic purposes including drinking water, toilets, urinals, sinks and showers
- Where water temperature is not regulated and therefore exceeds 43C
- No appropriate drainage system for hygienic purposes
- Load bearing structures not capable of sustaining and transmitting the dead load and imposed loads
- No suitable security arrangements for the School grounds and buildings
- Poorly managed sub-letting arrangements to third parties who may use the School
- Unsuitable access arrangements due to bad maintenance of entrances and access ramps for wheelchair users
- Inappropriate medical and first aid facilities for pupils
- Outside catering suppliers providing inadequate facilities and unhygienic methods of preparation, serving and consumption with lack of regular inspections
- Poor general cleanliness, tidiness and housekeeping throughout the premises
- Insufficient noise control, sound insulation and acoustics
- Poor lighting, heating and ventilation in classrooms and other areas of the School
- Inappropriate provision and use of non-standard furniture and fittings
- Inappropriate flooring condition in both internal and external areas due to uncontrollable factors. i.e. adverse weather
- Any play equipment supplied, fitted and maintained to a poor standard
- Poor resistance to the building from rain, snow, lightning, wind and moisture.

Employees will:

- Comply with the health and safety policy and follow any associated protocols and procedures for Premises Management
- Report any defects or repairs that they come across in the School to Owner
- Carry out any inspections of the premise or equipment at required timescales as defined by the Owner

Electricity

Description

The safe management of electrical installations and equipment is essential to our business. It is therefore imperative that electrical systems and equipment are designed, constructed, selected, maintained and used with care. Not only is there a potential for harm, but loss of power supply could impact our ability to conduct business and force temporary closure.

Associated Hazards

- Direct or indirect contact with live parts, causing shock, burns, heart fibrillation and tissue damage
- Faults that could cause a fire due to equipment overheating
- Fire or explosion where electrical arcing could be the source of ignition
- Contact with overhead lines.

Portable equipment and testing

Definition - Equipment, which is not part of a fixed installation but is able to be connected to a fixed installation, or a generator, by means of a flexible cable via a plug and socket assembly.

This includes equipment that is either hand-held or hand operated while connected to the supply, or is intended to be moved while connected to the supply.

Grantham Farm Montessori School is responsible for ensuring that all portable electrical appliances are maintained in a safe condition and inspected at suitable intervals. Equipment will be marked to identify the date tested. The results of inspections shall be logged and records made available for inspection.

Experience of operating the maintenance system over a period, together with information on faults found, should be used to review the frequency of inspection. It should also be used to review whether and how often equipment and associated leads and plugs should receive a combined inspection and test.

Any defective equipment will be removed from use until it can be repaired/replaced, with remedial action being recorded. All items of equipment that cannot be repaired will be withdrawn from use. Under no circumstances will any makeshift or temporary electrical repairs be made on any electrical equipment.

On occasion, we may hire-in equipment from a reputable supplier. This equipment must be treated the same as company equipment and not subjected to abuse or neglect.

Employees Responsibilities

Employees have a responsibility for: -

- Co-operating with management arrangements for electrical safety in the workplace
- Visually checking equipment before use for any obvious defects such as cable or casing damage or scorch marks
- Reporting any defects, faults or dangerous activities
- Using equipment only in line with the manufacturers' operating instructions e.g. jet washer used with additional RCD or RCBO protection
- Complying with safety rules and use work permits/lock out procedures as applicable
- Not bringing personal electrical equipment onto company premises without prior authorisation from management. If allowed, any such equipment must be tested in accordance with company procedures
- Gaining permission before using extension leads or adaptors
- Switching off any non-critical equipment when not in use
- Not attempting repairs to electrical appliances or circuits unless qualified to do so
- Exercising caution when placing drinks near to appliances or power outlets.

Emergency Plan

Description

As part of our overall Health & Safety Management Plan we will create not only a safe working environment but provide a suitable and sufficient means of controlling emergency situations, e.g. rescuing or retrieving persons who may become unavoidably trapped, collapse of a structure or uncontrolled release of a substance etc.

This will not however diminish any responsibility on our part, to do all that is reasonably practicable to prevent such an event occurring in the first place.

Associated Hazards

- Fire and explosion
- Flooding
- Asphyxiation
- Working at height or in confined spaces
- Hazardous substances
- Collapse of structures and excavations
- Bomb threat
- Spillage.

Employees Responsibilities

- Co-operate and follow directions of responsible persons in order to comply with the emergency procedures
- Attend training in the actions to be taken in the event of an emergency
- Raise the alarm on discovering an emergency situation
- Only use emergency equipment if you have been trained and authorised to use such equipment
- Report immediately any faults, damage to emergency equipment or concerns with emergency plans.

Events Safety

Description

The health and safety arrangements for events organised at the premises may need to vary according to the nature of the event. Therefore, robust planning and management are fundamental to ensuring safety at each event.

Note: This arrangement covers events taking place either wholly or partially in the open air or in marquees or other temporary structures. The general safety advice is however also pertinent for small events taking place indoors.

Associated Hazards

- Poor venue design such as marquees, fencing
- Lack of employees/volunteer/contractor competence
- Delivery, installation or removal of equipment and services
- People management
- Traffic management
- Medical emergencies and major incidents
- Waste management.

Note: food safety may need to be considered.

-

Employees Responsibilities

Employees will: -

- Comply with the arrangements put in place for the event
- Report any unsafe situations or acts to the person in charge at the event.

Fire

Description

Fire prevention is an important obligation for all Schools. Grantham Farm Montessori School has a responsibility for ensuring the health, safety and welfare of all employees and pupils who may have access to the premises. These general duties include safety in relation to fire hazards, both from the work processes and activities, as well as general fire safety.

It is the policy of Grantham Farm Montessori School to ensure that all employees, pupils, visitors and contractors are protected from the risks of fire. In order to achieve this, appropriate fire prevention, precautionary and evacuation measures shall be taken in compliance with the relevant fire legislation and recognized good practice standards.

Associated Hazards

- Flames and heat
- Smoke and toxic fumes
- Reduced oxygen
- Collapse of buildings.

Employees Responsibilities

All employees are required to:

- Practice and promote fire prevention
- Raise the alarm on discovery of a fire
- Report any concerns regarding fire safety to management, so that any shortfalls can be investigated and remedial action taken
- Receive basic training in the action to take in the event of fire
- Follow instructions and training in relation to fire safety in the workplace
- Co-operate with management arrangements for fire prevention in the workplace
- Accept individual responsibility to take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and for any other person who may be affected by their acts or omissions.

Grantham Farm Montessori School does not expect employees to fight fires, however, extinguishing action can be undertaken if it is safe to do so and you have been trained.

On no account should a closed room be opened to fight a fire.

Fire Action

If You Discover A Fire

- Immediately operate the nearest alarm call point or notify the senior person present
- Attack the fire (only if trained and if safe to do so) with the appliances provided. **Do not take personal risks.**

The Senior Person Present will call the fire service immediately by:

- Using the phone to dial 999
- Giving the operator the telephone number and asking for the fire service.

When the fire service reply, give the response distinctly:

- Give the company name and location (as per Fire Action Notice / Fire Plan) to the operator from which the call is being made
- Do not replace the receiver until the fire service has confirmed the details.

Call the fire service immediately to every fire or on suspicion of a fire.

On Notification Of A Fire

- The Senior Person Present will take charge of the evacuation and ensure that everybody is accounted for
- As soon as the alarm is heard, all non-essential personnel and visitors will leave the building by the nearest available exit and proceed to the nominated fire assembly point as identified on the fire action notices
- Remaining personnel will proceed with the phased evacuation of young people to an area of safety.

The Senior Person Present will liaise with the Fire Officer in attendance, and arrange such assistance as the fire service may require.

Use the nearest available exit.

Do not stop to collect personal belongings.

Do not re-enter the building until told to do so by the Senior Fire Officer.

In the event of a fire, the safety of a life shall override all other considerations, such as saving property or extinguishing the fire.

First Aid

Description

Employees and pupils can sustain an injury or become ill and it is important that they receive immediate attention and that an ambulance is called for in serious situations. The provision of adequate first aid cover is essential, it can save lives and prevent minor injuries becoming major ones.

Associated Hazards

- Bodily injuries: blows, impact, crushing, stabs, cuts, grazes, scalds, falls from height
- Illnesses: asthma, diabetes, epilepsy etc.

Employees Responsibilities

To reduce the risks of suffering personal injury or delay in getting treatment, employees must:

- Co-operate with the School arrangements for first aid
- Know what the procedure is for summoning help
- Follow any guidance or instruction given, to prevent injury or ill health
- Report any hazardous or dangerous situations.

Gas Safety

Description

Every year, a number of people die from carbon monoxide poisoning caused by gas appliances or flues which have not been installed properly or maintained. When gas does not burn properly, carbon monoxide is produced, which is poisonous.

Associated Hazards

- Tiredness
- Drowsiness
- Headache
- Stomach pains
- Nausea
- Chest pains.

Employees Must: -

- Co-operate with management arrangements for gas safety
- Not carry out repair work to gas appliances unless competent to do so
- Follow any training, guidance and instruction given to prevent injury or ill health
- Report any hazardous or dangerous situation.

Glass and Glazing

Description

The Health and Safety at Work etc Act does not specifically mention glazing, but the introduction of the Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations included requirements for glazing, for which the duty to comply will fall to the School.

Associated Hazards

- Cuts and lacerations from exposed edges or broken glass panels
- Eye injuries from small flying glass particles
- Food contamination
- Light fitting breakages.

Employees Responsibilities

- Cordon off access and report all damaged or broken glazing to the maintenance department
- All accidents and incidents must be reported to the School management team.

Hand Tools

Description

Tools that are hand held and are powered manually. Categories of hand tools include (but are not limited to) wrenches, pliers, cutters, striking tools, struck or hammered tools, screwdrivers, clamps, snips, saws, drills and knives. Outdoor tools such as garden forks, pruning shears, and rakes are additional forms of hand tools.

The greatest hazards posed by hand tools result from misuse and improper maintenance e.g.

- If a chisel is used as a screwdriver, the tip of the chisel may break and fly off, hitting the user or other employees.
- If a wooden handle on a tool, such as a hammer or an axe, is loose, splintered, or cracked, the head of the tool may fly off and strike the user or other employees.
- If the jaws of a wrench are sprung, the wrench may slip.
- If impact tools such as chisels, wedges, or drift pins have mushroomed heads, the heads may shatter on impact, ejecting sharp fragments toward the user or other employees.
- Iron or steel hand tools may produce sparks that can be an ignition source around flammable substances

Associated Risks

- Ejected materials
- Cuts, splinters , punctures.
- Falls
- Sparks and fire

Employees should:

- Carry all sharp tools in sheath or holsters
- Examine each tool for damage or wear before use
- Tag worn, damaged or defective tools "Out of Service" and do not use them
- Do not use a tool if the handle surface has splinters, burrs, cracks or splits
- When handing a tool to another person, direct sharp points and cutting edges away from yourself and the other person
- Do not carry sharp or pointed hand tools such as probes or knives in your pocket unless the tool or your pocket is sheathed

- Do not perform "make-shift" repairs to tools or manufacture 'homemade' tools for work
- Do not throw tools from one location to another or from one employee to another
- Transport hand tools only in tool boxes or tool belts
- Wear the appropriate personal protective equipment provided, usually safety goggles, gloves, and safety footwear
- Understand any Risk assessments or Safe Systems of Work provided for the use of the tools.

Hazard Reporting

Description

A hazard is something that has the potential to cause harm, ill health or injury. The associated risk is the likelihood that a hazard will cause harm, during the course of the work activity, and the severity of any potential injury.

Associated Hazards

- Tripping on trailing wires or loose floor coverings
- Faulty electrical fittings
- Unguarded edges
- Obstructed emergency exit routes.

Note - This list of hazards is not exhaustive.

Hazard reporting includes 'near miss' reporting. Near misses are hazardous incidents with the potential to cause an injury or damage, e.g. employee tripped over a trailing cable but no actual injury occurred.

Employees Responsibilities

- All Employees should use the hazard reporting system as a means of communicating potentially dangerous situations or practices that may be present in the school, this is to be done verbally and in writing using the forms provided.
- When a hazard has been identified, it must be reported immediately to your Supervisor. It is their duty to assess the situation and introduce the necessary control measures, so far as reasonably practicable, to prevent injury or unsafe conditions.

Health Conditions

Grantham Farm Montessori School is aware that people who have underlying health conditions may not wish to reveal their health problem. However, workplace adjustments can only be made if the individual is willing to let them as the employer know about the condition. Such conditions could include but not be limited to Diabetes, Epilepsy and Asthma (including Occupational).

Disclosure should help the individual in their job and facilitate help and support from management and colleagues.

Employees Responsibilities

- To co-operate with the employer in relation to health and safety arrangements
- Notify the employer of any prescriptive medication, general sale medication or pharmacy medicines that would affect the ability to work safely e.g. drowsiness
- Follow any training, guidance and instruction
- Report any accident or incident to the employer.

*****Note: The following list is not exhaustive and other health conditions diagnosed in conjunction with the individuals appointed GP and health specialist should be dealt with in a similar fashion.**

Additional responsibilities for employees with underlying health conditions:

Cancer:

Employees suffering from Cancer have an additional duty to:

- Notify the employer if your Cancer could have an adverse effect on your day-to-day ability to work or if the condition could increase the risk of an accident at work.
- Notify the employer if taking medication that could have an adverse effect on your health and safety or that of others.
- Notify the employer and DVLA if your doctor says you might not be fit to drive, or your medication causes side effects which could affect your ability to drive.

Diabetes:

Employees suffering from Diabetes have an additional duty to:

- Notify the employer and the DVLA if:
 - receiving treatment with insulin where the job entails driving any type of vehicle or

- receiving any type of medication for diabetes where the job entails driving Group 2 vehicles (bus, coach or lorry).
- Inform your employer if you need access to a fridge or cold flask for storing insulin
- Inform your employer if you need a private area in which to check blood sugar levels
- Inform your employer if you need to maintain a check on blood sugar levels throughout the day and to take regular breaks
- Inform your employer if you need access to the services of your G.P. or diabetic nurse during the working day.

Epilepsy:

Employees suffering from Epilepsy have an additional duty to:

- Alert the employer if your epilepsy is having an adverse effect on your day-to-day ability to work
- Where necessary, to inform the employer if the condition could increase the risk of an accident at work
- If part of your job includes driving, to notify the employer and the DVLA if receiving treatment or tablets. Notification to the DVLA is a strict legal requirement.

Haemophilia:

Employees suffering from Haemophilia have an additional duty to:

- Inform the employer if your bleeding disorder is going to affect your ability to do your job or if you need specialised equipment or work wear.
- To be as prepared as possible for a bleed at work
- Inform the employer if he/she needs a private place at work where he/she can administer his/her own treatment if the need arises.

Hypertension:

Employees suffering from Hypertension have an additional duty to:

- Notify the employer if you experience any symptoms that could affect your ability to operate plant or machinery.
- Inform DVLA if driving a group 2 vehicle (bus, coach, or lorry)

You must stop driving if a doctor says you have malignant hypertension. You can only drive again when both the following apply:

- a doctor confirms that your condition is well controlled
- your blood pressure is consistently below 180/110mmHg for cars or 180/100mmHg for group 2 vehicles.

Lupus:

Employees suffering from Lupus have an additional duty to:

- Notify the employer and the DVLA if you experience any symptoms that could affect your ability to drive or put your safety and the safety of those around you at risk, such as cognitive issues affecting your ability to concentrate
- If you are asked if you are disabled for the purposes of the Equality Act or the Disability Discrimination Act, you must answer yes, regardless of whether you consider yourself to be disabled.

Mental health disorders:

Employees suffering from mental health disorders have an additional duty to:

- Notify the employer if your mental health disorder is having an adverse effect on your day-to-day ability to work or if the condition could increase the risk of an accident at work
- Notify the employer if taking medication that could have an adverse effect on your health and safety or that of others
- Some mental health disorders also affect the ability to drive safely and will need to be reported to your employer and the DVLA. If you are unsure you can check on the DVLA website. <https://www.gov.uk/health-conditions-and-driving>.

Multiple Sclerosis:

Employees suffering from Multiple Sclerosis have an additional duty to:

- Alert the employer if your multiple sclerosis is having an adverse effect on your day-to-day ability to work
- Where necessary, to inform the employer if the condition could increase the risk of an accident at work
- If part of your job includes driving, to notify the employer and the DVLA. Notification to the DVLA is a strict legal requirement
- If you are asked if you are disabled for the purposes of the Equality Act or the Disability Discrimination Act, you must answer yes, regardless of whether you consider yourself to be disabled. These laws specifically define MS as a disability from the point of diagnosis.

Musculo-skeletal disorders:

Employees suffering from musculo-skeletal disorders have an additional duty to:

- Notify the employer if your musculo-skeletal disorder is having an adverse effect on your day-to-day ability to work or if the condition could increase the risk of an accident at work
- Notify the employer if taking medication that could have an adverse effect on your health and safety or that of others
- Some musculo-skeletal disorders also affect the ability to drive safely and will need to be reported to your employer and the DVLA. If you are unsure you can check on the DVLA website. <https://www.gov.uk/health-conditions-and-driving>

Health Surveillance

Description

Health surveillance is conducted by observing and communicating and systematically watching for early signs of work-related ill health in workers exposed to certain health risk. Health surveillance is essential if there is an identifiable disease or adverse health effect which is related to the employees exposure to a health risk, where this has been identified by a risk assessment.

Health surveillance is necessary where: -

- There is an identifiable disease or health condition may occur
- There are valid techniques available to detect the early signs of the disease or health effect
- and these techniques do not pose a risk to employees

It requires the implementation of certain procedures to achieve this, including simple methods carried out by employer who has been trained (e.g. looking for skin damage on hands), or issuing health screening questionnaires, or technical checks (e.g. audiology tests) undertaken by an occupational health professional or more involved medical examinations (e.g. lung function tests).

Some hazardous substances will require health surveillance as a condition of use e.g. lead, asbestos, ionising radiation.

Health surveillance records should be kept confidential by Human Resources or an occupational health professional for forty years and include: -

- Surname and forename
- Permanent address
- Sex
- Date of birth
- National Insurance Number
- Date of commencement of present employment
- A historical record of jobs involving exposure to the hazardous substances requiring the health surveillance.

Recorded details of each health surveillance check should include:

- The date they were carried out and by whom
- The outcome of the test/check
- The decision made by the occupational health professional in terms of fitness for task and any restrictions required. This should be factual and only relate to

the employees functional ability and fitness for specific work, with any advised restrictions.

Associated Hazards

- Solvents
- Fumes
- Dusts
- Biological agents
- Other hazardous substances
- Asbestos
- Ionising radiation.

Health Effects

Examples include:-

- Dermatitis
- Occupational Asthma
- Asbestosis

Employees Responsibilities

All employees will: -

- Advise the Responsible Individual of any significant health issues
- Report any significant changes in their health to the Responsible Individual in intervals between health surveillance sessions
- Co-operate with health surveillance programmes where a risk assessment has established the requirement
- Co-operate with other risk reduction measures for the protection of their health
- Attend health surveillance appointments or organise in advance for a change of appointment time if original is inconvenient
- Attend appropriate training in relation to workplace hazards and health surveillance.

Housekeeping

Description

Often poor standards of housekeeping are a common cause of injury and damage at work and can create possible fire hazards. Unsatisfactory housekeeping is often the result of poor working practices, lack of direct supervision and/or organisational deficiencies within the workplace.

Associated Hazards

- Fire
- Slipping, tripping/falling over
- Poor cleanliness
- Dirty equipment
- Cluttered pedestrian gangways.

Employees Responsibilities

Employees must: -

- Co-operate with management arrangements for good housekeeping in the workplace
- Follow any guidance and instruction given to prevent injury or ill health
- Report to the pupils management team any hazardous or dangerous situations.

Information, Instruction, Supervision and Training

Description

Preventing accidents and ill health caused by work is a key priority for Grantham Farm Montessori School. Health and safety information, instruction, supervision and training helps the School to ensure all employees and pupils are not injured or made ill by any activities that they do; promotes a positive safety culture, where safe and healthy working becomes second nature to everyone; and enables the School to meet its legal duty.

Employees Responsibilities

All employees will:-

- Co-operate with the School in relation to all training aspects
- Attend any training courses that are identified as necessary
- Follow training, guidance and instruction to prevent injury or ill health
- Use protective and safety equipment provided
- Report to their line manager any hazardous or dangerous situations
- Co-operate with management arrangements for health and safety.

Kitchen Safety

Description

Due to the nature of the School we utilise a variety of equipment for the preparation, storage and distribution of food. It is our policy to ensure that these areas are safe and without risks to the health and safety of employees and pupils, those accessing the kitchen and those we are providing food for.

Associated Hazards

- Machinery safety
- Slips and trips
- Cuts
- Manual handling
- Occupational dermatitis and asthma
- Burns and scalds.

All relevant employees will:

- Comply with this policy and follow the associated protocols/procedures/safe systems of work for their areas of work and responsibility
- Not interfere with any safety device used on equipment and check all guards before the equipment is used
- Report any faulty equipment or missing guards to management
- Any food or drink that is accidentally spilt will be cleaned up immediately and the appropriate warning signs displayed in prominent positions
- Familiarise themselves with COSHH assessments and safe handling of chemicals before use
- Wear any personal protective equipment (PPE) provided
- Carry out good personal hygiene.

Ladders and Stepladders

Description

Over a third of all reported falls from height incidents involve ladders or stepladders, many injuries are caused by inappropriate or incorrect selection and use of equipment.

By conducting a risk assessment, it may be determined that ladder use is acceptable for work of short duration (less than 30 minutes), providing three points of contact can be maintained whilst working from the ladder or steps, necessary control measures and training are adhered to. The duration of work should not determine whether ladders are the most suitable means of working at height. Selection of ladders should be considered, as part of a risk assessment, if the intended work is low risk and safer means of working at height (e.g. a fully guarded working area or mobile elevating work platform) are not reasonably practicable.

Associated Hazards

- Failure of the ladder itself, causing persons or equipment to fall
- Items falling from the ladder
- Users over-reaching or over stretching from the ladder
- Overloading of the ladder
- The ladder slipping and falling due to not being correctly secured
- Faulty, damaged or poorly maintained equipment
- Inappropriate use of ladders
- Manual handling when using ladders.

Safe Use of Leaning Ladders

- Leaning ladders should be appropriate for the job and not exceed 9 metres in length
- Leaning ladders should comply with British/European standards, ladders purchased should conform to EN131 Professional standard
- Domestic ladder equipment should not be used
- Leaning ladders must be undamaged and free of paint or any other coating which could hide cracks or splits
- Leaning ladder stiles must be undamaged and unbent
- Wood should be free of warping or splitting
- Metal ladders must be free from corrosion, sharp edges or dents and rungs free from distortion

- Footpads must be in good condition
- Leaning ladders should have slip-resistant rubber or plastic feet
- Leaning ladders must be free of missing/loose rungs
- Leaning ladders should be regularly inspected and defective ladders removed from use
- If ground conditions are poor, ladder feet should be tied into stakes in the ground, with a large flat wooden board as a base
- During use, leaning ladders should extend at least 3 rungs (1 m) past the landing point or above the highest rung on which feet rest
- Leaning ladders should be positioned one metre out at the base for every four metres in height
- Leaning ladders should be secured at the top or, if this is not practicable, should be secured near the bottom, weighted or footed to prevent flipping. Footing should be considered a last resort
- Leaning ladders should have a strong upper resting point (i.e. not glazing or plastic gutters) – a stability device may be required to ensure an adequate upper resting point
- The overlap for extendable leaning ladders should be up to 5m closed length 2 rungs, 5-6m closed length 3 rungs, and over 6m closed length 4 rungs
- There should only be one person on the ladder at any one time
- Employees should be trained to transport tools in a shoulder bag or wear a tool belt. Consider the use of a gin wheel or other lifting equipment
- Employees should be fully trained in ladder use
- Never use ladders in strong winds or within 6 horizontal meters of overhead power lines (unless it has been made dead or protected with insulation)
- Do not move or extend the ladder whilst it is in use.

Safe Use of Stepladders

- Stepladders should be of robust construction and in good condition, any replacements purchased should conform to EN131 Professional standard
- Stepladders should not be used to access another level, unless they have been specifically designed for this purpose
- Any retaining cords or straps must be of equal length and in good condition
- Any metal braces between the legs must be locked into place
- Legs of stepladders must be opened fully when in use
- All legs need to be firmly and squarely placed on a solid level surface
- The stepladder should be positioned close to the work to prevent over-stretching

- The stepladder should be placed at right angles to the work if the work could cause sufficient force to make the stepladder unsuitable if used sideways
- The top tread should not be used unless it has been designed as a platform with a secure handhold
- Employees knees should be kept below the top of the steps for support and stability
- Only one person should use the stepladder at any one time.

Employees Responsibilities

Employees will: –

- Follow instruction, training and information provided by the employer on the safe use of ladders
- Check whether the type of work activity requires the use of a ladder; establish whether the ladder is suitable for the task and match the ladder to the job. Work should not commence if a point of work risk assessment deems a ladder unsuitable for the task, until further instruction from a supervisor or line manager is sought
- Ensure the ladder is in good condition; check that it has been inspected and stored correctly; any repairs have been carried out correctly; that it has been regularly maintained and that it is free from defects, of good construction and of sound material
- Carry out visual inspection prior to use, following an event which may have caused damage to the ladder and when moving to a different environment (e.g. from a dirty area to a clean area)
- Avoid holding items whilst climbing (e.g. use a tool bag or belt)
- Do not use defective ladders and report any defective ladders to the employer immediately
- Make use of any personal protective equipment provided by the employer
- Avoid over reaching through proper positioning of the ladder. Employees naval/belt buckle should remain within the styles
- Always grip the ladder and face the rungs while climbing or descending. Never slide down the styles
- Advise the employer of any health issues, which may affect the ability to work at height.

Legionella

Description

Legionnaire's disease is one of a group of diseases collectively known as Legionellosis. Particular hazards arise from showers, fire sprinkler systems, and hot water systems containing dead-legs where people potentially inhale aerosols, which are contaminated with Legionella bacteria . The disease can affect anyone however, young people and weak individuals are more susceptible and this group can suffer far more significantly.

Associated Hazards

- Legionnaire's disease, Pontiac fever, Lochgoilhead fever.

Employees Responsibilities

All employees will:-

- Co-operate with management arrangements for the control of Legionella in the workplace
- Follow any information, training and instruction given by the School to prevent ill health
- Report any hazardous or dangerous situations to the Owner.

Lighting

Description

Providing adequate lighting levels to enable people to work is a basic necessity. Good lighting that considers physiological and psychological needs of employees will create a work environment that is welcoming, energising and productive.

Associated Hazards

- Bodily injuries
- Slipping/falling over
- Electrical hazards
- Poor housekeeping.

Emergency Lighting

Emergency lighting may be needed to illuminate an escape route in an emergency evacuation (escape lighting), or to allow continued working or help evacuation of areas deficient in natural light, should the normal lighting fail (standby lighting).

Escape lighting will be provided to: –

- Clearly indicate the escape route
- Allow safe movement along the route and through exits
- Ensure fire-fighting equipment, call-points and other emergency gear can be readily located and any instructions seen.

Escape lighting should come on within five seconds of the failure of normal lighting, and provide at least 1-lux luminance at floor level. While this will seem 'gloomy', it is sufficient for safe movement during an emergency. The aim is to provide a similar level of lighting as moonlight.

The area immediately outside the final exit should be illuminated, to help dispersal of those leaving the premises in a hurry during night-time hours. For most purposes, a back-up lighting duration of between one and three hours should be satisfactory.

Employees Responsibilities

Employees must: -

- Report any defective lighting to the Responsible Individual
- Report any discomfort experienced as a consequence of lighting in the workplace

- Co-operate with management arrangements for workplace lighting.

Lone Working

Description

Lone workers can be anyone who works by themselves without direct contact or supervision. Examples include a Caretaker working on their own in a School.

Associated Hazards

- Accidents
- Inadequate provision of rest, hygiene and welfare
- Violence whilst at work
- Manual handling activities
- Injury received whilst entering unsafe premises
- Lack of adequate visibility, due to poor lighting.

Employees Responsibilities

Employees who are recognised as lone workers, must:-

- Co-operate with the School by following rules and procedures designed to protect their safety as a lone worker
- Attend personal safety training programmes as necessary
- Provide information on their whereabouts during working hours to the School management team
- Report all incidents relating to lone working using Grantham Farm Montessori School's reporting procedure.

Maintenance

Description

Every year, there are a number of accidents arising from the use of work equipment, including machinery. Many are serious and some are fatal.

By using safe, well maintained equipment, operated by adequately trained employees, accidents and associated financial costs can be reduced or prevented. Maintenance also includes cleaning and adjusting.

Associated Hazards

- Scheduled maintenance not being undertaken as required or breakdown maintenance inadequate, leading to unrevealed failures of safety critical items
- Human error or incompetence of maintenance employees
- Poor communication between maintenance employees and other employees
- Lack of knowledge by maintenance employees of the working environment where maintenance is being carried out (i.e. lack of risk assessments, warning signs, method statements, emergency procedures)
- Unauthorised employees performing maintenance functions
- Failure to re-commission plant correctly after maintenance to ensure that operations are not adversely affected in terms of safety considerations.

Relevant Employees will:-

- Follow instruction, guidance and safe systems of work in respect of machinery maintenance
- Notify the Maintenance Department of any problems or hazards on a machine, such as an unguarded part
- Not carry out any maintenance activities on machinery unless trained to do so
- Co-operate with the School arrangements for maintenance of machinery
- Make full and proper use of all PPE that has been issued to them.

Manual Handling

Description

Manual handling injuries can occur wherever people are at work. Manual labour, awkward postures, manual materials handling and previous or existing injury are all risk factors implicated in the development of manual handling injuries. Manual handling is defined as the supporting and transporting of a load by human effort and includes lifting, lowering, pushing, pulling or carrying.

Associated Hazards

- Heavy, unstable or unpredictable loads
- Restrictive working environment
- Uneven or wet floors
- Poor manual handling technique.

All employees involved with manual handling activity should: -

- Follow the safe system of work designed and introduced by the School and should not deviate from this without good reason
- Not undertake a manual handling activity when a reasonably practicable alternative exists
- Use any mechanical aids that have been provided for their use and for which they have been trained. Any faults with mechanical aids should be reported immediately
- Assist and co-operate with the process of the assessment of risk
- Assist the School with the implementation of training, attend training sessions as required and should apply the knowledge gained from training to their daily work
- Report all accidents, injuries and near misses involving handling activities – however trivial
- Inform the School if they are unable to undertake their normal manual handling duties because of injury, illness or any other condition
- Not undertake any manual handling operation that they believe is beyond their capability
- Report any unsafe systems of work.

Missing pupils

Description

pupils may go missing when in School or when on School trips.

This could be for a number of reasons and it is essential that appropriate action is undertaken that identifies and minimises the risks to the pupils.

All incidents will be monitored to help address any causes and potential problems. It is essential that each incident is fully investigated to establish cause, and that issues are addressed in such a way as to minimise the likelihood of recurrence.

Associated Hazards:-

- Physical attacks
- Verbal abuse
- Injury to pupils
- Abduction.

Employees Responsibilities:

The Head Teacher will ensure that:-

- Registers of pupils attendance are maintained for both School and School outings
- All employees are familiar with the arrangements in the event of any missing pupils
- The class teacher or visit leader will enact the School policy in the event pupils going missing
- All employees will comply with the policy arrangements for missing pupils.

Monitoring, Inspection And Review

Description

There is a legal requirement to monitor and review health and safety arrangements.

This enables organisations to assess how effectively risks are controlled in order to implement improvements, where required, and to develop a positive health and safety culture and safe working environment. The frequency of monitoring and review will be decided by the level of risks, competence of people, legal requirements, results of accidents and recommendations by manufacturers or suppliers of equipment.

Monitoring Includes: –

- Checking compliance in following the Grantham Farm Montessori School Health and Safety Policy, control measures stated in risk assessments and safe systems of work
- Inspecting and testing of work equipment
- Inspecting workplace locations and activities
- Checking competence of staff
- Checking the wellbeing and health of staff.

School Responsibilities Are To: -

- Prepare and implement a plan for regular monitoring and inspection of health and safety arrangements
- Arrange with Citation Ltd for annual inspections of the workplace and processes to be undertaken
- Monitor employees health requirements and fitness to work, where applicable, e.g. eye tests, effects of noise and vibration, general fitness etc., as required by risk assessment
- Ensure competent persons regularly inspect, examine and test equipment, where applicable, following manufacturers' recommendations and at intervals, where set by statutory requirements
- Regularly inspect the workplace and activities to ensure a safe working environment
- Regularly check progress in complying with health and safety plans
- Regularly check employee and contractor competence during work activities to ensure they are working safely and are following the requirements of the employee handbooks, instructions, etc
- Review risk assessments at least annually, or where there has been a significant change in tasks, premises layout, equipment or personnel
- Record results of inspections and monitoring that is undertaken, e.g. using Citation stationery templates

- Gather and analyse data about injuries, cases of ill health (including monitoring of sickness absence records) and incidents with the potential to cause injury, ill health or loss. This data provides information about health and safety failures and gives the opportunity to learn from mistakes and to prevent recurrence
- Take any necessary remedial actions to safeguard the health and safety of employees, pupils, contractors, public or visitors where hazards, faults, omissions, non-compliances, lack of training, unsafe activities or conditions are found through complaints, inspection, monitoring and review
- Prioritise when, how and who implements any actions required
- Periodically review the whole of the health and safety management system including the elements of planning, organisation, control and monitoring to ensure that the whole system remains effective and legally compliant.

Employees Responsibilities

Employees must: –

- Check equipment, including any personal protective equipment supplied, is safe before use
- Co-operate with School arrangements in respect of workplace inspections
- Follow any training, information, guidance and instruction given by the School for checking and inspection of safe practices
- Report any hazards or defects immediately.

New And Expectant Mothers

Description

Grantham Farm Montessori School is committed to protecting the health and safety of all new and expectant mothers. The phrase "new and expectant mother" means an employee (or a pupils of the School) who is pregnant, or who has given birth within the previous six months or who is breastfeeding. "Given birth" is defined as having delivered a living child or, after 24 weeks of pregnancy, delivered a stillborn child.

Associated Hazards

- Physical agents (e.g. standing for long periods of time, movements and posture)
- Biological agents (e.g. infectious diseases)
- Chemical agents (e.g. medicines and drugs, chemicals used in learning activities)
- Working/study conditions (e.g. workload, stress, violence).

Employees and pupils Responsibilities

Employees and pupils will:-

- Report to the School as soon as pregnancy is confirmed
- Follow advice and information given by the School in relation to safe working practices
- Report any hazardous situation to the School so that arrangements for the appropriate remedial action can be taken
- Co-operate with arrangements for health and safety and use all protective and safety equipment provided by the School.

Permit To Work

Description

A permit to work system is an advanced formalised development of the method statement, and is usually introduced where the following criteria exist:-

- High risk activities
- Required precautions are complicated
- Where the activities of different groups of workers need to be coordinated to ensure safety of ALL concerned
- The work areas normally requiring a permit to work system are confined space entry, excavations, hot works and high voltage electrical works.

Associated Hazards

Typically, activity that involves the following issues would normally be controlled with a permit to work system, this includes: -

- Fire resulting from hot works
- Asphyxiation, drowning, burns, etc., from confined space working
- Crushing, drowning and asphyxiation in excavations from ingress of materials or water
- Electrocution, shock, burns from inadvertent contact with electricity
- Falls through fragile roofs
- Stored energy such as steam, hydraulic fluid
- Exposure to harmful substances such as fumes
- Any other situation that standard systems or risk assessment do not adequately control.

Maintenance Employees Responsibilities

- Observe and understand the rules and report any circumstances to management, which prevents compliance with the system or undermines its effectiveness
- Employees are encouraged to make suggestions during the formulation of written systems or suggest any improvements
- Do not carry out any works until a permit to work has been agreed and issued by the authorised person

- Only work within the timescale recorded on the permit to work
- Ensure the permit to work is returned to the authorised person on completion of the work.

Personal Hygiene – Food Areas

Description

Personal hygiene is an important part of food hygiene and applies to every person who works in food handling areas. Personal hygiene includes personal cleanliness and the use of suitable protective clothing. If personal hygiene rules are not applied, food may be exposed to the risk of contamination.

Reporting Illness/Exclusion

Employees are encouraged to report if they or anyone in their household are suffering from diarrhoea, stomach upset or vomiting. Food handlers suffering from any of the complaints listed above will be excluded from food handling duties until they have fully recovered.

Food Handlers' Responsibilities

All employees must comply with the following:-

- Hands must be washed thoroughly, before starting work, before handling food, after using the toilet, after handling raw foods or waste, after every break, after eating and drinking, after cleaning, and after blowing your nose
- Hair must be tied back and preferably covered
- Food handlers must not spit, sneeze or cough over food
- Food handlers must not smoke in a food preparation area
- Cuts and sores must be covered with a waterproof (preferably highly visible) dressing
- Jewellery must be kept to a minimum when preparing and handling food – a plain wedding ring and sleeper earrings are acceptable.

Personal Protective Equipment

-

Personal protective equipment (PPE) is to be supplied and used at work wherever there are risks to health and safety that cannot be adequately controlled in other ways. PPE will only be used as a last resort when preventative or other control measures cannot be applied.

Some examples of PPE used by workers include, but are not limited to: Protective footwear, gloves, high visibility clothing (vests / jackets), hard hats (with and without chin straps), dust masks and safety glasses.

All PPE is provided free of charge and is expected to be kept in a good condition by the workers using it.

Worker Duties:

- Make full and proper use of all PPE that has been issued to them
- Inspect all PPE before use to ensure that it is suitable, clean and undamaged
- Report any defective PPE to the employer
- Report any discomfort or ill health experienced as a consequence of wearing the equipment
- Not undertake any work unless the correct equipment is being worn
- Store PPE securely at all times and in line with instructions.

Pest Control

Description

Pests can be divided into three groups:- rodents, insects and birds. They can enter the building via open doors and windows as well as gaps in building structures, looking for warmth, food and shelter. Unfortunately they can spread disease, viruses, bacteria and parasites so any infestation requires urgent action. Pests also cause damage to premises and equipment by their habits, for example burrowing and gnawing.

Associated Hazards

- Bacterial contamination (bacteria on the pest or in droppings)
- Physical contamination (droppings, eggs, hair and dead bodies)
- Cross contamination (bacteria left on surfaces and utensils)
- Chemical contamination (poor and uncontrolled use of insecticides)
- Damage to premises.

All Employees Will:-

- Ensure windows and doors are kept closed when not in use
- Ensure cleaning schedules are followed and premises are kept clean and tidy
- Ensure all spillages and food debris are cleared away immediately to ensure that a good standard of housekeeping is achieved at all times
- Not allow waste receptacles to overflow, especially those in external areas
- Follow good storage procedures and will follow regular stock rotation to identify any pest activity
- Inform the School management team of any evidence of infestation
- Not interfere with any measures taken by the School management team to control pest infestation.

Physical Education Classes

Description

Physical Education (PE) includes a wide variety of indoor and outdoor activities, each having an inherent element of risk. Experienced in a safe and supportive environment, PE contributes to a pupils's physical development and well-being.

Teachers, and others in positions of responsibility, should ensure that planning and implementation of PE activities includes consideration of safety as an important element. This applies to all activities within the School curriculum, to extra-curricular activities during or outside normal School hours and whether undertaken on or away from School premises.

Associated Hazards

- Slips, trips and falls
- Falls from height
- Missiles
- Moving and handling apparatus
- Defective equipment
- Failure to consider existing medical conditions
- Behavioural issues
- Inappropriate clothing or footwear.

Employees will: -

- Comply with this policy and follow the associated protocols, procedures and safe systems of work
- Ensure that employees clothing and footwear is appropriate to the activity and the environment in which the activity is taking place
- Provide adequate supervision in class, proportionate to the age and ability of individual pupils, the activity being undertaken, location travel distance and weather conditions
- Ensure that the area in which activities are carried out is thoroughly inspected prior to commencement of the activities. Any unanticipated hazards which haven't been considered as part of relevant risk assessments, and therefore aren't adequately controlled, must be reported to a responsible person immediately and the activities should not take place until the area has been deemed safe
- Carry out pre-use visual checks of equipment to identify obvious defects - this includes a visual sweep of playing areas prior to use to ensure any hazardous objects are removed

- Carry out, at least on a weekly basis, a general inspection of the PE equipment and keep records of all inspections and any resulting action necessary
- Immediately remove from use and report any faulty equipment
- Ensure that unsafe behaviour by pupils is discouraged and dealt with appropriately and proportionately.

Portable Electrical Appliances

Description

Portable electrical appliances are found in most workplaces and include power tools, portable lighting, computer equipment, kitchen appliances, portable heaters and equipment such as cable extension leads. Where equipment is powered from the mains electrical supply there may be a significant electrical hazard that will need to be specifically controlled.

Associated Hazards

- Shock or burns
- Uncontrolled start up of equipment
- Fire or explosion
- Trips and falls.

Employees Responsibilities

- Visually check the equipment before and during use looking for signs of faults, overheating or damage to the equipment including to the wiring, plugs, casing and any guarding
- Immediately stop work if faults are found and report any defects to the supervisor
- Do not carry out any repairs or adjustments to equipment unless trained to do so
- Take care of the equipment that has been provided
- Disconnect the equipment from the supply before making any adjustments
- Ensure that equipment is plugged into the correct supply by an approved method, do not attempt to use a makeshift temporary connection.

Power Tools

Description

A Power Tool is a device that may be hand held but is driven by a power source other than human effort. There are various types of power tools determined by their power source: electric, pneumatic (powered by compressed-air), liquid or gaseous fuel (Fuel-powered tools are usually operated with gasoline or LPG), hydraulic, and powder-actuated.

Power tools include (but are not limited to): chippers, drills, hammers, sanders, chainsaws, compressed air guns and other tools.

Dangers and associated hazards

- Guards failure / guards being removed: Exposed moving parts of power tools need to be safeguarded at point of operation, in-running nip points, rotating parts, ejected chips and sparks to protect the operator and others
- Operating controls and switches: hand-held power tools unequipped with a constant-pressure switch or control that shuts off the power when pressure is released
- Electric tools: burns, shocks, trips
- Portable abrasive wheel tools: ejected fragments, moving parts, cuts
- Pneumatic tools: getting hit by one of the tool's attachments or by some kind of fastener the worker is using with the tool or injection of air into bloodstream
- Liquid fuel tools: fuel vapours can burn or explode and emit dangerous exhaust fumes
- Powder-actuated tools: ejected fragments, noise, vibration
- Hydraulic power tools: fire- if the fluid used in hydraulic power tool is not an approved fire-resistant fluid or injection of fluid into individual.

Employees Responsibilities

Employees will:

- Never carry a tool by the cord or hose
- Never yank the cord or the hose to disconnect it from the receptacle or power source
- Keep cords and hoses away from heat, oil, and sharp edges
- Preferably run cables above head height
- Disconnect tools and ensure movement has stopped when not using them, before servicing and cleaning them, and when changing accessories such as blades, bits, and cutters

- Visual pre-use inspections should be completed to look for:
 - broken or missing guards
 - damaged or cracked tool housings
 - loose, deformed or missing parts
 - exposed conductors or "live" parts
 - leaks from hoses or hydraulic systems etc.
- Avoid accidental starting. Do not hold fingers on the switch button while carrying a plugged-in tool
- Maintain tools with care; keep them sharp and clean for best performance
- Follow instructions in the user's manual for lubricating and changing accessories
- Be sure to keep good footing and maintain good balance when operating power tools
- Wear the correct apparel for the task. Loose clothing, ties, or jewellery can become caught in moving parts
- Personal protective equipment provided must be worn (safety goggle, gloves, safety foot wear and hearing protection etc.) as identified by the risk assessment
- Remove all damaged portable electric tools from use and tag them: "Do Not Use."

Responsibilities (electrical)

- Understand any risk assessment and Safe System of Work provided by your employer
- Inspect for damage before use
- Operate electric tools within their design limitations
- Use the correct PPE when using electric tools
- Store electric tools in a dry place when not in use
- Do not use electric tools in damp or wet locations unless they are approved for that purpose
- Keep work areas well lighted when operating electric tools
- Ensure that cords from electric tools do not present a tripping hazard
- In the construction industry, employees who use electric tools must be protected by ground-fault circuit interrupters or an assured equipment-grounding conductor program.

Responsibilities (pneumatic)

- Understand any risk assessment and Safe System of Work provided by your employer
- Inspect for damage before use including all hoses for wear (do not repair leaks with tape)
- Secure pneumatic power tools to hoses to prevent accidental disconnection
- Do not exceed the manufacturer's safe operating pressure for all hoses and fittings
- Install and maintain safety clips or retainers on pneumatic impact tools to prevent them from being accidentally expelled
- Ensure that safety clips or retainers are used on sections of hose to prevent accidental whip action
- Use the correct size of hose and the shortest size necessary for the tool. Keep all disconnected hoses clean
- Fit all air lines with an efficient filter and lubricator
- Use compressors in well-ventilated areas
- Do not use compressed air to clean clothing, skin, or hair and don't turn the hose towards another person
- Wear personal protective equipment as supplied by your employer.

Responsibilities (abrasive wheels)

- Understand any risk assessment and Safe System of Work provided by your employer
- Inspect for damage before use, do not use wheels or blades that have gouges, pieces missing or uneven wear to the grinding surface
- Before an abrasive wheel is mounted, it must be inspected closely for damage and should be sound- or ring-tested to ensure that it is free from cracks or defects
- To prevent an abrasive wheel from cracking, it must fit freely on the spindle.
- Follow the manufacturer's recommendations
- Take care to ensure that the spindle speed of the machine will not exceed the maximum operating speed marked on the wheel
- An abrasive wheel may disintegrate or explode during start-up.
- Allow the tool to come up to operating speed prior to grinding or cutting
- Employees should never stand in the plane of rotation of the wheel as it accelerates to full operating speed
- Wear personal protective equipment as supplied by your employer.

Responsibilities (liquid / gaseous fuel tools)

- Understand any risk assessment and Safe System of Work provided by your employer
- Inspect for damage before use, check for leaks of fuel
- Employees must be careful to handle, transport, and store gas or fuel only in approved flammable liquid containers, according to proper procedures for flammable liquids.
- Before refilling a fuel-powered tool tank, the user must shut down the engine and allow it to cool to prevent accidental ignition of hazardous vapours, before restarting ensure all fuel vapours or spillages have dispersed or been cleaned away
- When a fuel-powered tool is used inside a closed area, effective ventilation and/or proper respirators such as atmosphere-supplying respirators must be utilised to avoid breathing carbon monoxide
- Wear personal protective equipment as supplied by your employer, for tool use and refilling procedures.

Responsibilities (powder-actuated tools)

- Understand any risk assessment and Safe System of Work provided by your employer
- Inspect for damage before use
- Only operate equipment in line with the manufacturer's instructions and specific safe systems of work
- Must check that the tool is unloaded before doing any alteration or adjustment to safety guards, muzzle or barrel
- Follow the manufacturer's guidance when dealing with a misfired cartridge
- Report any defect and ensure the equipment is not used until it has been repaired by a competent person
- Not remove any guards fitted to the tool
- Assist the employer in counting cartridges out and in every day
- Not undertake horseplay, especially with cartridge tools
- Never walk around with a loaded gun
- Wear the appropriate personal protective equipment provided, usually eye and hearing protection as a minimum.

Responsibilities (hydraulic power tools)

- Understand any risk assessment and Safe System of Work provided by your employer

- Inspect for damage before use, including any hoses for wear or leaks (DO NOT REPAIR)
- Follow The manufacturer's recommended safe operating pressure for hoses, valves, pipes, filters, and other fittings must not be exceeded
- If a leak is found DO NOT ATTEMPT TO STOP THE LEAK BY ANY MEANS, turn off equipment, place on floor and remove from power immediately.

Risk Assessment

Description

In many premises there are risks, which may affect the health and safety individuals within the building. There is an absolute duty on employers to 'conduct suitable and sufficient risk assessments' in the workplace, under Regulation 3 of the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations. A properly conducted risk assessment is an important step in protecting employees, pupils and the School, as well as complying with the law. In many instances, straightforward measures can control risks, and whilst the law does not expect the School to eliminate all risks, they are required to protect people so far as is reasonably practicable.

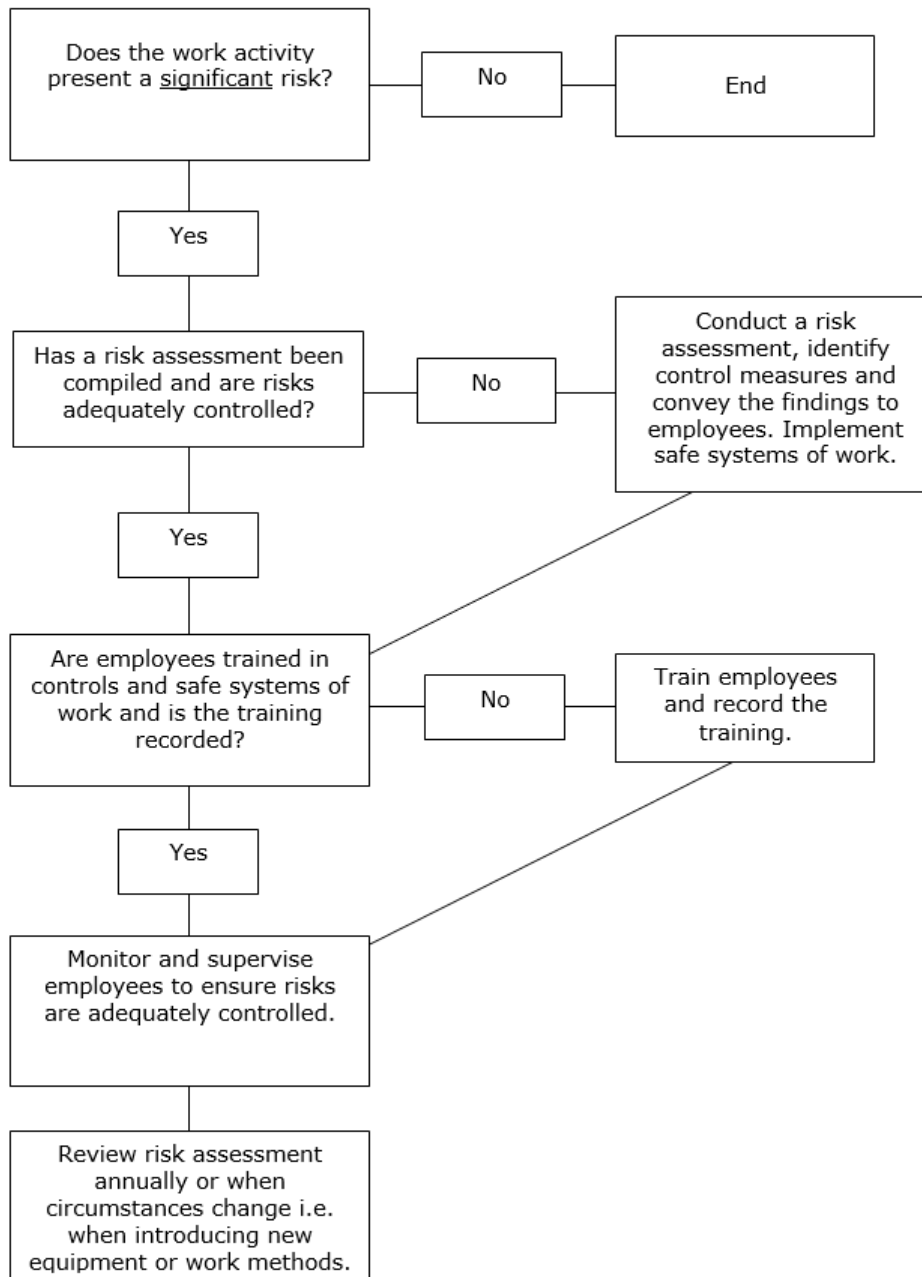
Associated Hazards

- Physical, chemical and/or biological agents
- Working conditions and processes
- Manual handling activities
- Exposure to infectious diseases
- Work-related stress
- Long working hours
- Workstations and posture
- Other workplace hazards.

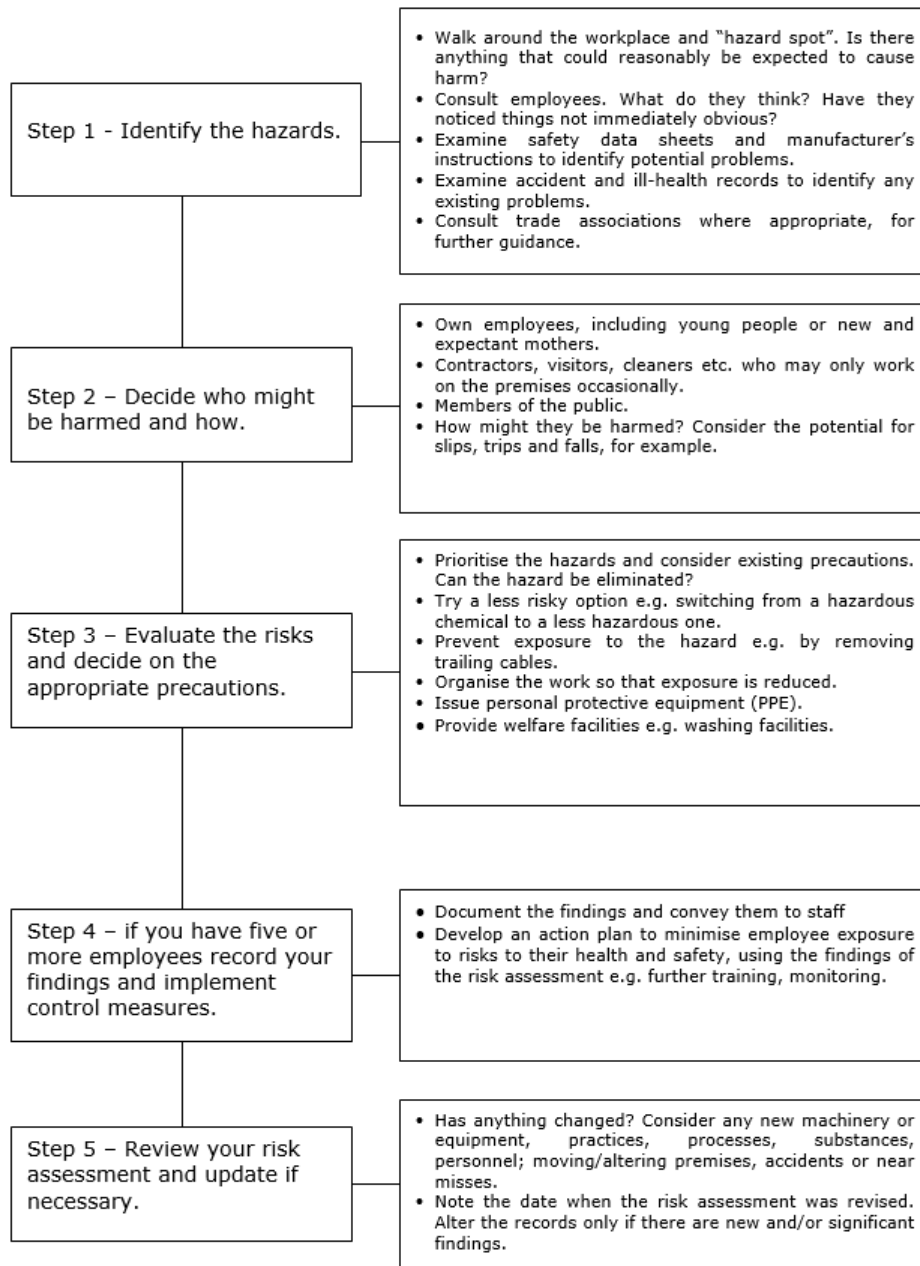
All employees must: -

- Co-operate with management arrangements in respect of workplace risk assessments
- Follow any training, information, guidance and instruction given by the School
- Comply with any control measures laid down within risk assessments
- Report any hazards or defects to the School management team immediately
- Make full and proper use of any PPE provided.

Risk Assessment Flow Chart



Risk Assessment Process



Safety Signs

Description

Safety signs include the use of illuminated signs, hand and acoustic signals (e.g. fire alarms). Traditional signs such as prohibition and warning signs may need to be supplemented to comply with more specific legislation e.g. photo luminescent signs for fire exits and fire-fighting equipment.

Grantham Farm Montessori School will provide specific safety signs whenever there is a risk that cannot be avoided or controlled by other means, for instance by engineering controls and safe systems of work. Where a safety sign would not help to reduce that risk, or where the risk is not significant, there is no need to provide a sign.

All safety signs are colour coded and each colour has a meaning, for example: -

- White circle with red edging and a diagonal line indicates **PROHIBITED** e.g. no smoking



- Blue signs indicate that it is **MANDATORY** to carry out an action, e.g. the wearing of personal protective equipment



- A triangular sign with black edging and a yellow background indicates **WARNING** of a hazard and would normally contain a black pictogram, e.g. radiation



- Green signs identify or locate safety equipment as well as marking emergency escape routes.



Employees Will:-

- Familiarise themselves and comply with any signs and notices that are displayed
- Bring any defects to the attention of the School management team
- Follow safe operating procedures.

School Transport

Description

The provision of School transport includes a diverse range of vehicles. 18% of children killed or seriously injured on the roads were travelling to or from School. However, casualty statistics indicate that fewer casualties occur to children travelling to and from School in PSV vehicles than amongst those who walk or are driven in cars.

There are two categories of School transport drivers, professional drivers and non-professional drivers.

Associated Hazards

- The driver: - competency, training, fitness and health
- The vehicle: - suitability, condition, safety equipment (seat belts), and ergonomic considerations
- The journey: - routes, scheduling, time, distance, weather conditions
- The pupils: - behaviour and discipline.

employees engaged in driving the School bus will:

- Follow any advice, information, instruction and training given by the School Governing Body
- Hold a valid drivers' licence for the class of vehicle they are driving
- Ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that the vehicle is adequate for the purpose and is in a safe mechanical condition
- Comply with traffic legislation, be conscious of road safety and demonstrate safe driving
- Not be under the influence of drink or drugs and not drive whilst disqualified
- Stop after a crash or similar incident with which they are involved
- Provide to the School a copy of their driving licence, on request, and declare any driving convictions
- Inform the School if they become aware of any medical condition or take medication that might affect their ability to drive
- Implement the School's code of conduct for pupils.

Stress

Description

Stress is not a weakness and can affect anyone. Grantham Farm Montessori School recognises that there is a difference between pressure and stress at work and that taking action to reduce the risk of ill-health, because of work-related stress, leads to the creation of a good working environment and a healthy workforce.

Although a certain amount of pressure can be motivational and enable employees to perform at their best, it is when too much pressure is experienced, leaving employees unable to cope, that stress can result.

The Health and Safety Executive has defined stress as 'the adverse reaction a person has to excessive pressure or other types of demand placed upon them'.

Work-related stress can be tackled by School and its employees working together to identify sources of stress and how those can be managed.

Sources of stress can include:

- Demands of the role, leading to an unmanageable workload
- Being under challenged or having no autonomy, leading to a lack of job satisfaction or low esteem
- Environmental factors, such as noise, temperature, exposure to violence or aggression
- Lack of support from management or colleagues
- Organisational changes and how those are communicated and managed
- Relationships and being subjected to unacceptable behaviours, such as bullying.

Employees responsibilities

Employees will:-

- Follow Grantham Farm Montessori School reporting procedures if they are experiencing work-related stress. It will be beneficial to do this at an early stage, to prevent a situation from getting worse
- Contribute to the development of any work-related stress risk assessment carried out by the employer
- Read all communications from the employer that concern work related changes and the reasons behind those
- Attend any counselling or stress management training sessions provided by the employer.

Tree Management

Description

In some circumstances trees can pose a risk to people and buildings. Like all living organisms, trees are subject to decline, senescence and collapse and they can be damaged physically, or invaded by pathogenic organisms. As trees deteriorate they are increasingly likely to shed branches, or fail in strong winds and the potential to cause harm increases.

The School has the responsibility to ensure inspections are carried out on all trees on the School site by a qualified tree inspector (arborist), this will reduce the risk of potential property damage, maintain tree stocks for conservation and environmental value, prevent injury from falling trees and slip, trip and fall hazards from exposed tree roots.

There are some limitations to when tree works can be undertaken; contractors employed by a School should be fully conversant with the legislation surrounding nesting birds, bat habitats etc.

Associated Hazards

- Trees in decline are increasingly likely to shed branches, or fall in strong winds
- Lack of inspection of trees by a qualified tree inspector on an 6-monthly basis could lead to trees causing injury, or death to people and property damage
- No record kept of tree inspections that the School undertake
- Recommended tree works not being actioned within suitable timescales
- No regular inspections and monitoring by School employees for falling branches and obvious defects with trees.

Employees will:

- Comply with this policy and follow the associated protocols and procedures for Management of trees on site
- Report to management any falling branches or concerns with any trees on the School site
- Ensure suitable supervision of pupils so they do not enter any cordoned off area.

Violence And Aggression

Description

Grantham Farm Montessori School recognises the difficulties in managing violence and aggression at work and aims to put in place steps to identify and minimise risks to support employees and monitor incidents to help address any potential problems.

The Health and Safety Executive's definition of work-related violence is any incident in which a person is abused, threatened or assaulted in circumstances relating to their work. All employees whose job requires them to deal with the public can be at risk from violence.

Associated Hazards:-

- Physical attacks
- Verbal abuse
- Low morale
- Depression
- Stress.

Employees Will:-

- Attend appropriate training sessions if they are deemed to be at risk at work from violence or aggression
- Report any incidents of violent or threatening behaviour to the School management team
- Complete an incident report form after any violent incidents. This form outlines who has been involved along with details of the situation that lead to the incident occurring
- Co-operate with management arrangements for dealing with violence and aggression at work.

Visit By An Enforcement Officer

The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and associated legislation conveys powers on Inspectors who are appointed by the relevant enforcing authority, in order that they ensure statutory requirements are being complied with.

Most dealings with those on whom the law places duties are informal - Inspectors offer information, advice and support, both face to face and in writing. They may also use formal enforcement mechanisms, as set out in health and safety law, including improvement notices where a contravention needs to be remedied and prohibition notices where there is a risk of serious personal injury, or ultimately prosecution.

Non-compliance can lead to prosecution but this is always seen as the last step in the process, except for:-

- Failure to comply with an Improvement or Prohibition Notice
- Breach of the law that has significant potential for harm, regardless of whether it caused an injury
- Reckless disregard for the health and safety of workers or others
- Repeated breaches of legal requirements where it appears that management is neither willing nor structured to deal adequately with
- Substantial legal contravention, where there has been a serious accident or a case of ill health.

Employees should:-

- Not obstructing any reasonable request made by an Enforcement Officer
- Comply and co-operate with requests by the Officer
- Follow instruction and guidance given by the School.

Waste Disposal

Description

This arrangement covers the general waste generated by the School in carrying out its activities but not those related to the disposal of waste food.

Associated Hazards

- Build up of combustibles presenting a fire hazard
- Health hazard due to possible vermin infestation
- Poor housekeeping presents a tripping hazard.

Employees Responsibilities

- To dispose of waste as instructed
- To inform management if an activity produces waste that has not been previously identified or removed from site so that the relevant steps can be taken for safe removal
- Not to climb onto skips or other waste receptacles
- To inform management if waste receptacles are full and need emptying
- Not to remove items from waste receptacles and take or use for personal use.

Welfare

Description

The provision of welfare in the School should be taken seriously.

Welfare provisions will be provided for those people who are not employees but may use the premises on an infrequent basis e.g. visitors and contractors.

For disabled persons it may be necessary to specifically make parts of the School accessible for their use e.g. toilets, washbasins, doors, passageways etc.

Employees' and pupils' Responsibilities

The welfare facilities provided and maintained by Grantham Farm Montessori School are for the benefit of all employees, pupils and visitors. Employees and pupils have a responsibility to use the facilities in a proper manner and not damage or misuse any equipment that is provided.

Personal responsibility should be taken for clearing your own waste and cleaning any utensils when eating or drinking on the premises. Any damage or defects should be reported immediately to enable attention and repair.

Work Equipment

Description

The definition of work equipment is wide and includes machinery, apparatus, equipment, installations and tools. Therefore, items as diverse as mini-buses, photocopiers, laboratory equipment and apparatus, soldering irons and scalpels are included. Scaffolding, access equipment and safety devices etc are also considered to be work equipment.

Associated Hazards

- Dangerous/rotating parts of machinery
- Ejection of materials
- Rupture or disintegration
- Fire, overheating or explosion
- Gas, liquid, vapour or hazardous substance
- Excessively hot or cold surfaces
- Failure of safety controls on powered equipment
- Dangers from instability, poor lighting or poor maintenance
- Noise or vibration.

All employees and pupils will: -

- Use work equipment safely and in accordance with the information, instruction and training provided by the School
- Only use, clean or maintain the equipment that they are trained on
- Visually check and carry out other checks, required by risk assessment, prior to and during use and report any faults and unsafe conditions to the Responsible Individual
- Take reasonable care of themselves and others who may be affected by their actions
- Co-operate with the School in the management arrangements for the provision and use of work equipment
- Seek the permission of the School before bringing any personal items of equipment to work where it is intended that they be used by either themselves or others as part of work activities
- Make full and proper use of any personal protective equipment provided by the School

- Inform the Responsible Individual if they are taking any prescription medications that may affect their ability to safely operate any item of work equipment.

Work Experience

Description

Work experience may be defined as giving pupils the opportunity to undertake a task or range of tasks on an employer's premises, much as would an employee, but with the emphasis on learning. As such it is an important part of a young person's education, helping to develop their understanding of the workplace, their personal and social skills and their employability.

Associated Hazards:-

- Unsuitable work placements
- Lack of supervision
- Use of work equipment.

Employees Responsibilities:-

- To cooperate and comply with the School's arrangements for pupils undertaking work placement experience
- To report any adverse feedback or concerns, in relation to work placements.

Working At Height

Description

Falls from height remain the single biggest cause of workplace deaths and one of the main causes of major injury. A place is at height if a person could be injured falling from it, even if it is at or below ground level. Work includes moving around at a place of work, but not travel to or from, a place of work.

Associated Hazards

- Falls from equipment and structures
- Falling objects.

Relevant Employees will: -

- Comply with training for working at height
- Only use the height access equipment identified in the risk assessment
- Make use of any personal protective equipment provided by the School
- Follow safe systems of work devised by the School
- Report any accidents, incidents and near misses to the School.

Young Persons

Description

Most young people cannot wait to get their first job, be it a paper round, shop work or dog walking. But some young people may be unaware of the hazards the workplace may hold.

There are specific legal requirements and restrictions, on those who employ young people (and even more so, children).

A young person is defined as anyone under 18 years old.

A child is anyone who has not yet reached the official age at which they may leave school, just before or just after their 16th birthday (often referred to as the minimum school leaving age (MSLA)).

Under health and safety law, employers must assess the risks to young people before they start work/work experience and tell them what the risks are.

After leaving school a Young Person must:

- Stay in full time education e.g. college, or
- Start an apprenticeship or traineeship, or
- Spend 20 hours or more per week working or volunteering while in part time education or training.

Associated Hazards

Some young people may be at particular risk because of:

- Their lack of awareness
- Unfamiliarity with their surroundings
- Being physically or psychologically less suited to certain tasks
- Their lack of skills and training.

Employees Responsibilities

Employees must:

- Co-operate with management arrangements for young people in the workplace
- Report any hazards to the employer
- Follow any guidance, information, instruction and training given by the employer.

Young people must:

- Ask the employer or senior individual if unsure about anything
- Make full and proper use of all PPE that has been issued to them
- Not undertake any tasks unless they have been trained
- Report any hazards or defects to the employer or a senior employees.

Receipt of health and safety handbook is on the next page

Receipt of Health and Safety Handbook

Grantham Farm Montessori School have compiled a health and safety policy as legally required under the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations, the full policy is available for inspection upon request.

To assist with the communication of information, the School will issue each of their employees with a reduced copy of the health and safety policy, this is in the form of a handbook. It is important that the contents of the handbook are read and understood prior to returning this acknowledgement slip.

I confirm that I have read and understand the employee health and safety handbook and will comply with all rules that are imposed in the interest of safety.

Name: -	
Signature: -	
Date: -	

Please return this form to Owner