

Lockdown Policy

We take all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of children, staff and others on the premises, communicating policies clearly to staff on induction and through training. Parents are informed about the procedures through the prospectus, website and reminders through newsletters.

In the event of an emergency requiring a full lockdown, the following procedure will be implemented.

Lockdown procedure

We will use the lockdown procedure when the safety of the children, staff and others on the premises is at risk and we are better placed inside the current building, with doors and windows locked and blinds and/or curtains closed.

We will activate this emergency procedure in response to a number of situations, but some of the more typical might be:

- A report incident or disturbance in the local community (with potential to pose a risk to staff and children in the school)
- An intruder on the school site (with potential to pose a risk to staff and children in school)
- A warning being received regarding a local risk from AWE Aldermaston, or of air pollution (smoke plumes, gas cloud etc.)
- A major fire or explosion in the vicinity of the school – as long as it is safer staying in the premises than leaving.

In this case the staff will be notified by the following action:

Signal for lockdown – bell being rung and “Lockdown” shouted

Signal for all-clear – “All Clear, lockdown ended”

All individuals (including children) will remain in the area they are in, if safe to do so. If the children are outside, staff are to promptly and calmly direct children into the building, if this will not endanger them. Staff will make efforts to close and lock doors wherever safe to do so.

All individuals will keep away from the windows and doors and children will be occupied in the centre of the room so they are not placed at risk or are able to see any situation developing outside.

Internal communications will be kept to a minimum. Communication between rooms will be through internal telephones or mobile phones.

The head teacher or deputy in charge will ensure all children, staff and visitors are accounted for and safe before returning to the office area to keep up to date with the current situation. The head teacher or deputy in charge will manage the situation dependent upon the information available. If the school is in immediate danger of an intruder, the police will be called as a matter of urgency. In other cases where the situation has been alerted by the police or local area authority then the school will await further instructions.

Once the all-clear has been given externally, the head teacher or deputy in charge will issue the all-clear internally. After this time the staff will try to return to normal practice to enable the children not to be disrupted or upset by the events.

Any children showing worries or concerns will have one to one time with their key person to talk about these.

Parents will be informed about the situation at the earliest safest opportunity and will be kept updated when the information changes.

After the event a post-incident evaluation will be conducted to ensure that each child and staff member was supported fully and the procedure went as planned. Ofsted will be informed.

Regular drills will be held to practice exercising the lockdown procedures, using non-alarming scenarios.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the school	Date for review
<i>August 2023</i>	<i>E. Wetherley</i>	<i>August 2024</i>