

First Aid Policy



Approved by: Board of Directors **July 2023**

Signed by: Chair of Directors

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Contents

1. Aims	3
2. Legislation and guidance	3
3. Roles and responsibilities	3
4. First aid procedures	4
5. First aid equipment.....	6
6. Record-keeping and reporting.....	6
7. Training	8
8. Monitoring arrangements	8
9. Links with other policies	8

1. Aims

The aims of our first aid policy are to:

- Ensure the health and safety of all staff, students and visitors
- Ensure that staff and governors are aware of their responsibilities with regards to health and safety
- Provide a framework for responding to an incident and recording and reporting the outcomes

2. Legislation and guidance

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

- [The Health and Safety \(First-Aid\) Regulations 1981](#), which state that employers must provide adequate and appropriate equipment and facilities to enable first aid to be administered to employees, and qualified first aid personnel
- [The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992](#), which require employers to make an assessment of the risks to the health and safety of their employees
- [The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999](#), which require employers to carry out risk assessments, make arrangements to implement necessary measures, and arrange for appropriate information and training
- [The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations \(RIDDOR\) 2013](#), which state that some accidents must be reported to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE), and set out the timeframe for this and how long records of such accidents must be kept
- [Social Security \(Claims and Payments\) Regulations 1979](#), which set out rules on the retention of accident records
- [The Education \(Independent School Standards\) Regulations 2014](#), which require that suitable space is provided to cater for the medical and therapy needs of students.
- This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Roles and responsibilities

3.1 Appointed person(s) and first aiders

The school has appointed a person in charge of First Aid. They are responsible for:

- Taking charge when someone is injured or becomes ill
- Ensuring there is an adequate supply of medical materials in first aid kits, and replenishing the contents of these kits
- Ensuring that an ambulance or other professional medical help is summoned when appropriate

First aiders are trained and qualified to carry out the role (see section 7) and are responsible for:

- Acting as first responders to any incidents; they will assess the situation where there is an injured or ill person, and provide immediate and appropriate treatment
- Sending students home to recover, where necessary

- Filling in the medical log and/or accident report on the same day, or as soon as is reasonably practicable, after an incident. Both of these documents can be found in the back office of Reception.
- Keeping their contact details up to date

The list of First Aiders is displayed in each classroom and in prominent places around the school, and is updated regularly.

3.2 The local authority and board of directors

Herefordshire Local Authority has ultimate responsibility for health and safety matters in the school, but delegates responsibility for the strategic management of such matters to the school's board of directors.

The board of directors delegates operational matters and day-to-day tasks to the headteacher and staff members.

3.2 The board of directors

The board of directors has ultimate responsibility for health and safety matters in the school, but delegates operational matters and day-to-day tasks to the headteacher and staff members.

3.3 The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for the implementation of this policy, including:

- Ensuring that an appropriate number of trained first aid personnel are present in the school at all times
- Ensuring that first aiders have an appropriate qualification, keep training up to date and remain competent to perform their role
- Ensuring all staff are aware of first aid procedures
- Undertaking, or ensuring that staff undertake, risk assessments, as appropriate, and that appropriate measures are put in place
- Ensuring that adequate space is available for catering to the medical needs of students
- Reporting specified incidents to the HSE when necessary (see section 6)

3.4 Staff

School staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring they follow first aid procedures
- Ensuring they know who the first aiders in school are
- Completing accident reports for all incidents they attend to where a first aider is not called
- Informing the headteacher or their manager of any specific health conditions or first aid needs

4. First aid procedures

4.1 In-school procedures

In the event of an accident resulting in injury:

- The closest member of staff present will assess the seriousness of the injury and seek the assistance of a qualified first aider, if appropriate, via a phone call to the office or by sending a trusted student. The first

aider will then provide the required first aid treatment. The office will inform either the HT or member of SLT of the injury.

- The first aider, if called, will assess the injury and decide if the emergency services should be called. The call should be made by either the first aider or a member of SLT. The first aider will remain on the scene until help arrives
- The first aider will also decide whether the injured person should be moved or placed in a recovery position
- If emergency services are called, a member of SLT will contact parents/carers as soon as possible to either come into school or meet their child at the hospital. If the latter, a member of staff will accompany the student to the hospital.
- If the first aider judges that a student does not need the emergency services, but is too unwell to remain in school, a member of SLT will contact parents/carers to collect their child. Upon their arrival, the first aider will recommend next steps to the parents/carers
- The first aider on the scene will complete an accident report form on the same day or as soon as is reasonably practical after an incident resulting in an injury

4.2 Off-site procedures

When taking students off the school premises, staff will ensure they always have the following:

- A school mobile phone
- A portable first aid kit including, at minimum:
 - A leaflet giving general advice on first aid
 - 6 individually wrapped sterile adhesive dressings
 - 1 large sterile unmedicated dressing
 - 2 triangular bandages – individually wrapped and preferably sterile
 - 2 safety pins
 - Individually wrapped moist cleansing wipes
 - 2 pairs of disposable gloves
- Information about the specific medical needs of students
- Parents'/carers' contact details

When transporting students using a minibus or other large vehicle, the school will make sure the vehicle is equipped with a clearly marked first aid box containing, at minimum:

- 10 antiseptic wipes, foil packed
- 1 conforming disposable bandage (not less than 7.5cm wide)
- 2 triangular bandages
- 1 packet of 24 assorted adhesive dressings
- 3 large sterile unmedicated ambulance dressings (not less than 15cm × 20 cm)
- 2 sterile eye pads, with attachments
- 12 assorted safety pins

- 1 pair of rustproof blunt-ended scissors

Risk assessments will be completed by the trip leader prior to any educational visit that necessitates taking students off school premises.

5. First aid equipment

A typical first aid kit in our school will include the following at a minimum:

- A leaflet giving general advice on first aid
- 20 individually wrapped sterile adhesive dressings (assorted sizes)
- 2 sterile eye pads
- 2 individually wrapped triangular bandages (preferably sterile)
- 6 safety pins
- 6 medium-sized individually wrapped sterile unmedicated wound dressings
- 2 large sterile individually wrapped unmedicated wound dressings
- 3 pairs of disposable gloves

No medication is kept in first aid kits.

First aid kits are stored in:

- The back office of Reception
- Science office within the labs
- Design and technology (inc Food) classrooms
- The school kitchen – plus a burns first aid kit.
- School minibuses
- PE office

6. Record-keeping and reporting

6.1 First aid and accident record file

- The medical log and/or an accident form will be completed by the person appointed in charge of first aid on the same day or as soon as possible after an incident resulting in an injury
- A copy of the accident report form will also be added to the student's educational record by office staff.
- Records held in the first aid and accident file will be retained by the school for a minimum of 3 years, in accordance with regulation 25 of the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1979, and then securely disposed of.

➤ 6.2 Reporting to the HSE

The Finance Director, who has responsibility for Health and Safety in the school, will keep a record of any accident which results in a reportable injury, disease, or dangerous occurrence as defined in the RIDDOR 2013 legislation (regulations 4, 5, 6 and 7).

They will report these to the HSE as soon as is reasonably practicable and in any event within 10 days of the incident – except where indicated below. Fatal and major injuries and dangerous occurrences will be reported without delay (i.e. by telephone) and followed up in writing within 10 days.

School staff: reportable injuries, diseases or dangerous occurrences

These include:

- Death
- Specified injuries, which are:
 - Fractures, other than to fingers, thumbs and toes
 - Amputations
 - Any injury likely to lead to permanent loss of sight or reduction in sight
 - Any crush injury to the head or torso causing damage to the brain or internal organs
 - Serious burns (including scalding) which:
 - Covers more than 10% of the whole body's total surface area; or
 - Causes significant damage to the eyes, respiratory system or other vital organs
 - Any scalping requiring hospital treatment
 - Any loss of consciousness caused by head injury or asphyxia
 - Any other injury arising from working in an enclosed space which leads to hypothermia or heat-induced illness, or requires resuscitation or admittance to hospital for more than 24 hours
- Work-related injuries that lead to an employee being away from work or unable to perform their normal work duties for more than 7 consecutive days (not including the day of the incident). In this case, the Finance Director, who has responsibility for Health and Safety in the school, will report these to the HSE as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event within 15 days of the accident
- Occupational diseases where a doctor has made a written diagnosis that the disease is linked to occupational exposure. These include:
 - Carpal tunnel syndrome
 - Severe cramp of the hand or forearm
 - Occupational dermatitis, e.g. from exposure to strong acids or alkalis, including domestic bleach
 - Hand-arm vibration syndrome
 - Occupational asthma, e.g. from wood dust
 - Tendonitis or tenosynovitis of the hand or forearm
 - Any occupational cancer
 - Any disease attributed to an occupational exposure to a biological agent
- Near-miss events that do not result in an injury, but could have done. Examples of near-miss events relevant to schools include, but are not limited to:
 - The collapse or failure of load-bearing parts of lifts and lifting equipment

- The accidental release of a biological agent likely to cause severe human illness
- The accidental release or escape of any substance that may cause a serious injury or damage to health
- An electrical short circuit or overload causing a fire or explosion

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

These include:

- Death of a person that arose from, or was in connection with, a work activity*
- An injury that arose from, or was in connection with, a work activity* and the person is taken directly from the scene of the accident to hospital for treatment

*An accident “arises out of” or is “connected with a work activity” if it was caused by:

- A failure in the way a work activity was organised (e.g. inadequate supervision of a field trip)
- The way equipment or substances were used (e.g. machinery, experiments etc); and/or
- The condition of the premises (e.g. poorly maintained or slippery floors)

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

[How to make a RIDDOR report, HSE](http://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/report.htm)

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/report.htm>

6.3 Notifying parents

The appointed person in charge of first aid will inform parents of any serious accident or injury sustained by a student, and any first aid treatment given, on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable. Parents/carers will always be informed if the child has a head bump, however minor, or if the emergency services are called.

7. Training

All school staff are able to undertake first aid training if they would like to.

All first aiders must have completed a training course, and must hold a valid certificate of competence to show this. The school will keep a register of all trained first aiders, what training they have received and when this is valid until. There is a list of first aid staff displayed in all classrooms and communal areas.

The school will arrange for first aiders to retrain before their first aid certificates expire. In cases where a certificate expires, the school will arrange for staff to retake the full first aid course before being reinstated as a first aider.

8. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed by SLT every 4 years.

At every review, the policy will be approved by the board of directors

9. Links with other policies

This first aid policy is linked to the:

- Health and safety policy
- Risk assessment policy
- Policy on supporting students with medical conditions

JEC July 2023