



Gateway Primary Academy

Health and Safety Policy Addendum:

COVID - 19 Pandemic 2020

Written by: Jamiel Cassem on Friday 29th May

Reviewed: July 2020 in response to Government guidance for keeping children safe when widening the opening of schools.

Reviewed: January 2021 (in response to National lockdown).

Please note: This addendum will be reviewed and updated as necessary in response to government guidance.

This addendum should be read in conjunction with our Health and Safety Policy available from the office.

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1. Statement of Policy Addendum

This policy addendum is created to support the safe re-opening of The Gateway Primary Academy. This addendum was created alongside a review of the main policy and includes temporary changes to the main school policy which will be reviewed in light of current circumstances.

The Governing Body and the Headteacher at The Gateway Primary Academy will strive to achieve the highest standards of health, safety and welfare which are consistent with their responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and other statutory and common law duties.

This policy sets out how these duties will be conducted during the school closure and full re-opening during the COVID-19 Pandemic. It includes a description of the school's organisation and arrangements for dealing with different areas of risk.

The Gateway Primary Academy will, so far as is reasonably practicable, take steps to meet its responsibilities through a robust Risk assessment process which highlights the risk of transmission and infection of the COVID-19 virus as well as all steps taken to reduce the potential spread of the virus.

This policy:

- will be brought to the attention of, and/or issued to, all members of staff (a reference copy is kept on the shared access drive as well as in the policies folder in the school office and on health and safety notice boards);
- will be reviewed regularly and updated if and when changes to the school risk assessment take place.

2. Organisation

As an academy the Governing Body (the employer) has overall accountability for health and safety at The Gateway. At a school level **Mr Cassem**, as Headteacher, is responsible for operational delivery of health and safety policies and procedures, ensuring that risk assessments are conducted, followed and reviewed and that employees, governors and pupils are aware of their responsibilities and duties in respect of health, safety and welfare.

Responsibilities of the Headteacher

Responsibilities of the Headteacher, Mr Cassem, remain the same as in the main school Health and Safety Policy.

In addition, during the COVID-19 Pandemic, Mr Cassem is responsible for:

- co-operating with the Governing Body to enable this health and safety policy and procedures to be implemented and complied with;
- communicating the policy and other appropriate health and safety information to all relevant people;
- ensuring effective arrangements are in place to proactively manage health and safety, by conducting risk assessments and implementing required actions;
- reporting to the Governing body on health and safety performance and any safety concerns/issues which may need to be addressed by the allocation of funds;
- reporting any significant risks which cannot be rectified within the school's budget;
- ensuring that all staff are competent to carry out their roles and are provided with adequate information, instruction, training and supervision;
- following all Department for Education guidelines, as specified in the:
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>
- and;
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>
- and;
- guidance published in the January 2021 contingency framework.
- to follow this guidance, where reasonable and safe measures can be effectively implemented at The Gateway Primary Academy without causing increased risk of infection to pupils, staff or the wider community.

Responsibilities of the Governing Body

The Governing Body remains responsible for ensuring that health and safety management systems are in place and effective. They fulfil a strategic role in health and safety and are not expected to be involved in day to day management of the school.

Where the designated Health and Safety Governor is unavailable to support in their usual role, the Chair of Governors and/or Vice-chair may take on the health and safety governor responsibilities.

Where required, the Governing Body will seek advice and support on health and safety matters.

Responsibilities of all staff

As is always the case, staff are responsible for complying with and supporting the safe implementation of the Health and Safety Policy as well as those measures outlined in the updated COVID-19 risk assessment (January 2021)

Staff must always remain vigilant, ensuring their own safety and that of their colleagues and pupils.

Responsibilities of pupils

- Pupils will return to school in 'year group bubble groups'. This will be clearly communicated to pupils.
- Pupils will be expected to support the safe implementation of risk reducing measures as described in the Behaviour Policy Addendum (January 2021).

Where pupils are unable to maintain safety precautions or the risk to individuals or groups of pupils, staff or community members is increased due to not being able to meet the safety procedures outline in the COVID-19 Risk Assessment then parents/guardians of pupils will be called to collect their child until support for this pupil's safe return can be implemented.

3. Arrangements

For a full overview of arrangements, please refer to the full Health and Safety Policy

Accident and incident reporting

In addition to usual Accident and Incident reporting, all confirmed cases of COVID-19 within our school will be recorded using the usual RIDDOR procedures, as well as reporting to Public Health England (PHE).

Parents and staff will also be informed of all confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the setting. All pupils and staff within the 'year group bubble group' will be sent home from the setting as soon as a positive test is confirmed and should not return until a negative test result is received or a 14 day isolation period has ended and all symptoms are no longer present.

For up to date guidance on symptoms please refer to:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>

All members of the school community will be able to request a COVID-19 testing kit.

All members of the school community, who complete a COVID-19 test, will be requested to submit their result, either positive or negative, to the Headteacher as soon as possible.

Headteacher/Office Administrator and Caretaker are responsible for:

- Maintaining first aid resources, equipment and logs to ensure effective prevention of future incidents can be avoided and that minor injuries can be effectively treated.

All staff are responsible for:

- ensuring that they report all incidents or symptoms without delay to the Headteacher, where emergency isolation procedures will be implemented
- providing to **Mr Cassem, Headteacher** as soon as possible a copy of any written confirmation by a medical professional of an occupational (work-related) disease or illness with which they have been diagnosed which prevents them from safely returning to work at this time.

Morning Club and After-school Clubs

To avoid cross-contamination between 'bubble groups' all before and after-school club arrangements are suspended until further notice.

Behaviour management and bullying

Mr Cassem, Headteacher is the lead for behaviour management.

The arrangements for behaviour management and bullying are outlined within The Gateway Primary Academy:

- Behaviour Policy and statement of behaviour principles; and
- Anti-Bullying Policy.

A Behaviour Policy Addendum has been produced for use during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Cleaning

During the school closure the school has been cleaned thoroughly by the site team.

New cleaning procedures have been included in the COVID-19 Risk Assessment and include daily checklists for each room being used.

- Limited resources will be available each day. All used resources will be cleaned by the bubble team each day;
- Each 'year group bubble' has been allocated general anti-bacterial and disinfectant cleaning supplies and PPE to ensure the safe cleaning of materials each day;
- An amended timetable will be in place for 'year group bubbles' to ensure enough time can be allocated to a full clean each day;
- High risk areas, such as door handles, hard surfaces and light switches will be cleaned frequently throughout the day with a thorough clean at the end of each day;
- Year group bubble teams will support the cleaning of resources in their bubble space each day to ensure the cleaner has effective time to maintain a high level of cleaning every day.

If we reach a situation where cleaners (KM supplied) are unavailable, due to illness or other reasons, to clean the building and no alternative can be sourced we will need to consider the possible closure of the premises until a clean can take place.

If a positive test for COVID-19 in a pupil, member of staff or family member of any of the aforementioned is reported then this bubble group will be closed and the bubble group spaces will be cleaned thoroughly before any reopening can take place.

Dress code

Pupils will be expected to wear full school on their return to school in September. On days they are completing PE they will be asked to attend school in their PE kits to reduce the number of items being brought into school and allow for easy washing.

Pupils and staff will need to ensure they are wearing clean clothes, daily. Staff will need to continue to dress in accordance to the staff handbook.

Educational Visits and Journeys

No visits or journeys will be scheduled for this period.

Fire evacuation and other emergency arrangements

All current fire routes have been assessed for their suitability during the full re-opening phase and no amendments are needed. All current fire routes are still applicable and allow for bubble groups to safely evacuate the building without cross-contaminating bubble group spaces.

First aid

As per the full Health and Safety Policy: **First aiders** are responsible for:

- carrying out and recording a suitable and sufficient assessment of first aid needs;
- procuring such first aid equipment as is required following the completion of the first aid needs assessment;
- ensuring that lists around the school showing the names of first aiders and Paediatric first aiders are periodically updated as required;
- arranging for the purchase of replacement first aid equipment and supplies as required;
- ensuring that first aiders have appropriate training and that certificates are in date;
- periodically checking the location and contents of first aid kits and AEDs, reporting deficiencies or faults to **Mr Cassem**; and
- re-stocking first aid equipment as required.

Each year group bubble space will be provided with a basic first-aid kit in their room and accident book per bubble.

All first aid should be carried out using the appropriate PPE

All staff have watched the online videos in the safe use of gloves, aprons, masks and goggles and should use these when administering first aid to anyone.

Food safety

Hot lunches will be provided for those entitled to Universal Free School Meals.

All other foods and drinks brought to school must be in lunch boxes which are stored centrally on the lunch box trolley.

Pupils will eat their lunch in the hall in their designated space. At this time we will be having 3 sittings in the hall to reduce the numbers of pupils per table and to allow pupils to only sit on one side of the table and no children facing one another. Between sittings the tables will be cleaned using disinfectant as per guidance. At this time packed lunches and school dinners will eat together to stop bubbles of children mixing.

No food should be shared between pupils.

Hazardous substances

Mr Rappold (Caretaker) and Mrs Mahoney (Cleaner) are responsible overall for ensuring that hazardous substance (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health - COSHH) management arrangements are in place.

Both these members of staff have recently updated their COSHH training.

Mrs Mahoney will provide COSHH guidance to all adults who are supporting the cleaning process and will be responsible for ensuring the continued and safe supply of cleaning resources to each bubble group.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Where identified as required by risk assessment, PPE will be provided.

Headteacher and Deputy Head are responsible for the:

- procurement and issuing of PPE;
- recording of PPE issued; and
- monitoring of the condition of PPE issued.

All staff and pupils must wear PPE when required by risk assessments. Staff issued with PPE for their personal use or for provision to others under their control must ensure that PPE is stored appropriately, that it is maintained in good condition, checked before use and that defects are reported for replacements to be made.

All staff have watched training videos on the safe and effective use of PPE that may need to be used during this pandemic, including gloves, masks, aprons and visors.

Once used PPE should be disposed of safely and in accordance with the relevant guidelines.

A PPE support file will be created to support staff with remembering the safe and correct use of PPE, including donning and doffing of PPE and safe disposal.

Risk assessment

The COVID-19 Risk assessment is reviewed at least weekly by SLT and will be shared via the school website as well as regular copies issued to staff electronically. This document is the core working document throughout this process.

Individual risk assessments for pupils who have an EHCP or those at risk due to other SEND or emotional needs will be managed by the SENDCo and the staff in each bubble group.

Safeguarding

The specific arrangements for safeguarding and child protection are outlined within The Gateway Primary Academy Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

Mr Cassem is the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Miss Warner is Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Visitor management

- During the COVID-19 Pandemic parents and visitors to the site will need to follow the guidance outlined in the reception area.
- Visitors to the site will only be welcomed by appointment with the Headteacher.
- Only essential visits to carry out essential work and, where possible, meetings will be re-scheduled to take place virtually.
- Peripatetic music teachers will be returning to teaching violins and ukuleles and will follow school procedures when in school e.g. maintaining a social distance, hand washing.

Policy approval and review

This addendum has also been created for use during the pandemic and will support the safe re-opening of the school. It will be reviewed as necessary in line with local and national guidance.