



# HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

## Outwood Academy Valley

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V12	April 2025	Laura Calton	Reference to accident / RIDDOR / near miss reporting system updated to Medical Tracker.  Permits to work referenced in 8.2.  Policy re-written in relation to statutory requirements and legislation.  Section added on electric vehicles.

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## STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Board and Chief Executive of Outwood Grange Academies Trust believe that ensuring the health and safety of staff, students and visitors is essential to the success of all its academies.

We are committed to:

- a. Providing a safe and healthy learning and working environment.
- b. Preventing accidents and work related ill health.
- c. Compliance with statutory requirements as a minimum.
- d. Assessing and controlling risks from curriculum and non-curriculum work activities.
- e. Ensuring safe working methods and providing safe working equipment.
- f. Providing effective information, instruction and training.
- g. Consulting with employees and their representatives on health and safety matters.
- h. Monitoring and reviewing our systems and prevention measures to ensure they are effective.
- i. Setting targets and objectives to develop a culture of continuous improvement.
- j. Ensuring adequate welfare facilities exist throughout the organisation.
- k. Ensuring adequate resources are made available for health and safety issues, so far as is reasonably practicable.

This Health & Safety Policy will be reviewed at least annually to ensure that it is current and that any new legislation is taken into account and that the procedures are fit for purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "D.R. Earnshaw.", with a horizontal line drawn underneath.

David Earnshaw  
Chair of Outwood Grange Academies Trust Board  
Date: 23.06.2025

## **1. RESPONSIBILITIES**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is committed to fostering a strong health and safety culture and ensuring that health and safety responsibilities are clearly defined and discharged at all levels. This section outlines the key health and safety duties assigned across the Trust and Academy.

## **2. OUTWOOD GRANGE ACADEMIES TRUST (THE BOARD)**

The Board of Trustees holds overall accountability for health and safety within the Trust.

### **The Trust will ensure:**

- A clear and effective Health and Safety Policy is established, reviewed annually, and adequately resourced.
- Responsibilities for health, safety, and welfare are allocated to competent persons who are informed of their duties.
- Effective procedures are in place for risk assessment, control, and incident management.
- Health and safety performance is actively monitored and reviewed across all Academies.
- Appropriate financial and human resources are allocated to support health and safety initiatives.
- An external competent person is engaged to provide independent advice and support.

## **3. THE PRINCIPAL (OR HEAD OF ACADEMY)**

The Principal is the key person responsible for the effective day-to-day implementation and management of this Health and Safety Policy within their academy.

### **The Principal will ensure:**

- This Policy is communicated to all relevant persons within the academy.
- Academies are responsible for ensuring risk assessments of their premises, equipment, and daily activities are conducted, reviewed, and lead to safe systems of work. For all other works, especially larger projects or those with technical complexities, the approval of contractor RAMS and the management of safe systems of work on the client's behalf will be undertaken by appropriately appointed competent persons (e.g., the Principal Designer under CDM regulations).
- Appropriate information, instruction, training, and supervision are provided to staff and students.
- Emergency procedures (e.g. fire, first aid) are established, communicated, and regularly practiced.
- Premises, plant, and equipment are maintained in a safe condition, including statutory inspections.
- Accidents, incidents, and hazards are reported, investigated, and remedial actions are taken.
- Contractor activities are adequately managed and monitored for health and safety.

- A report on the academy's health and safety performance is submitted to the Academy Council.

#### **4. TEACHING/NON-TEACHING STAFF HOLDING POSTS/POSITIONS OF SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

(e.g. Vice Principals, Assistant Principals, Business Managers, Site Manager, Catering Manager, Managers/Supervisors)

These individuals are responsible for implementing health and safety policies and procedures within their specific departments or areas of control.

##### **They must:**

- Apply Trust and academy health and safety policies and procedures to their areas of work.
- Ensure risk assessments for activities within their responsibility are completed, implemented, and reviewed.
- Ensure staff under their management are competent and follow safe working practices.
- Resolve or escalate health and safety problems to the Principal.
- Ensure all accidents, incidents, and hazards in their area are reported promptly.

#### **5. ALL EMPLOYEES**

All employees have a personal responsibility to take reasonable care for their own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by their acts or omissions.

##### **All employees must:**

- Comply with all health and safety policies, procedures, and instructions issued by the Trust and academy.
- Complete health and safety training that is assigned to them.
- Act in accordance with any health and safety training received.
- Report all accidents, incidents, and potential hazards (including near misses and unsafe conditions) using agreed methods.
- Cooperate with management and colleagues on health and safety matters.

#### **6. CONTRACTORS, STUDENTS AND VISITORS**

- Contractors must adhere to all academy health and safety rules, comply with relevant legislation, permit to work requirements and provide safe systems of work for their activities on site. Detailed requirements are outlined in the Trust's Management of Contractors and Working with Contractors on Academy Sites Policies.
- Students, in accordance with their age and aptitude, are expected to exercise personal responsibility for their own safety and that of others, and to comply with Academy health and safety rules and staff instructions.

- Visitors must adhere to academy health and safety rules, including sign-in procedures and emergency instructions, as outlined in the Academy's Visitors Policy.

## 7. EXTERNAL COMPETENT PERSON

The Trust engages an external competent person to provide expert health and safety advice and to conduct independent audits and inspections across all academies, providing recommendations to support compliance and continuous improvement.

## 8. PROCEDURES AND ARRANGEMENTS

Detailed procedures and arrangements for specific health and safety risks and activities have been established to ensure compliance with legal and statutory requirements.

The list below provides a brief, alphabetical summary of all the key health and safety arrangements applicable to the academy. More detailed policies and written procedures for a number of these areas are also available and these will be provided as applicable to staff and visitors.

### ACCIDENT, INCIDENT AND ILL-HEALTH RECORDING, REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION

We are committed to the thorough recording, reporting, and investigation of all accidents, incidents (including near misses), and cases of ill-health involving students, staff, and visitors. This is crucial for identifying hazards, preventing recurrence, and continually improving our safety measures.

All incidents will be recorded on Medical Tracker. We will comply with all statutory reporting requirements, including those under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR), informing the Health and Safety Executive where necessary.

Investigations will be conducted promptly and proportionately to understand the root causes of incidents. The findings will inform corrective actions and be used to enhance our health and safety procedures.

#### Definitions:

- An **accident** is an unplanned event that causes injury to persons, damage to property or a combination of both.
- An **incident/near miss** is an unplanned event that does not cause injury or damage but could do so.
- A **work-related illness** is illness that is contracted by an employee through the course of work as a result of activities carried out by the school.

#### Active Monitoring Systems

We are committed to actively monitoring our health and safety performance to ensure a safe environment for all. This includes regular reviews and inspections to identify potential



hazards, assess the effectiveness of our controls, and ensure continuous improvement and compliance with all relevant health and safety standards.

### **Asbestos**

The academy is committed to robustly managing any asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) on its premises in strict accordance with the **Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012**. Our primary objective is to protect all students, staff, contractors, and visitors from the risks associated with asbestos exposure. All detailed management procedures, including assessment, control measures, monitoring, training, and emergency protocols, are comprehensively outlined in the OGAT Asbestos Policy, which forms an integral part of our overall health and safety management system.

The academy will protect employees, pupils and other persons potentially exposed to asbestos as far as is reasonably practicable. Everyone who needs to know about the presence of asbestos will be alerted. No one will be allowed to start any work that could disturb asbestos unless the correct procedures are to be employed. This must be read in conjunction with the OGAT Asbestos Policy.

### **Behaviour Management**

All staff must be familiar with the academy policies for behaviour management and bullying. Any incidents of unacceptable behaviour or bullying must be reported and dealt with in accordance with these policies.

### **Emergency Preparedness and Response**

The academy is committed to safeguarding the school community from various emergency situations, including fire, medical emergencies, severe weather, security threats, and other critical incidents. We maintain comprehensive emergency plans and procedures designed to ensure the safety and well-being of all students, staff, and visitors.

Detailed procedures covering specific emergencies, such as fire evacuation, lockdown protocols, bomb threat response, and first aid, are outlined in our dedicated Emergency Plan and associated operational documents. These documents provide specific instructions, roles, and responsibilities to facilitate an effective and coordinated response to any emergency. Regular drills and training are conducted to ensure all members of the school community are familiar with these procedures.

### **Catering Safety and Food Hygiene**

The academy is committed to ensuring the highest standards of health, safety, and food hygiene within its catering facilities. The Catering Manager holds overall responsibility for the safe operation of these facilities, including the preparation of necessary risk assessments and ensuring compliance with all relevant food safety legislation.

- All catering staff receive appropriate training and are required to adhere to strict hygiene practices and reporting procedures, particularly regarding illness that could impact food safety.

- Detailed operational procedures, including specific responsibilities, food hygiene protocols, and illness reporting guidelines, are outlined in the academy's Food Safety Management System and related procedural documents.

### **Cleaning and Maintenance**

The academy is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy environment through effective cleaning and routine maintenance of its premises and grounds. The Site Manager for Equans is responsible for overseeing these activities in accordance with Outwood Grange Academies Trust policies and procedures, ensuring that all work is conducted safely and to required standards.

### **Contractors – see Working with Contractors on Academy Sites Policy**

The Academy is responsible for the selection and management of contractors in accordance with Outwood Grange Academies Trust procurement processes..

Contractors should be made aware of the academy Health and Safety Policy and safeguarding procedures and their obligations under it before commencing any work on site.

Academy staff must be aware of this policy and report any concerns regarding contractors' activities to the Principal immediately.

### **Curriculum Safety (including out of Academy learning activities)**

Heads of Department are responsible for ensuring that risk assessments are in place for all curriculum activities where there is a potential risk to staff and students.

The risk assessments must be made known to all teaching and support staff and reviewed regularly.

Guidance from CLEAPSS, AfPE, DATA and other lead bodies should be adopted as appropriate.

### **Display Screen Equipment (DSE)**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is committed to protecting the health and safety of all DSE users (those who regularly use DSE for a significant part of their normal work). To achieve this, the academy will:

- **Assess Workstations:** Conduct suitable assessments of DSE workstations to identify and reduce risks, ensuring controls like breaks or changes of activity are implemented.
- **Provide Information & Training:** Ensure all DSE users receive adequate information and training on safe DSE use and workstation setup.
- **Review & Respond:** Periodically review DSE arrangements and take appropriate action to address any discomfort, ill-health, or special requirements related to DSE use.

### **Employees are required to:**

- Follow training and guidance on safe DSE workstation setup and use, including taking regular breaks or changing activity.
- Report any DSE-related discomfort, health concerns, or medical conditions that may affect DSE use to their manager, ensuring confidentiality.

### **Eye and Eyesight Tests:**

DSE users are entitled to a free eye and eyesight test every 2 years by a qualified optician. Corrective appliances (glasses) will be provided if specifically required for DSE work and normal corrective lenses cannot be used. Any claims for corrective glasses must be supported by an approved Eye test and VDU Examination Report Form which is available from the Business Manager/HR Assistant.

### **Electric Vehicles (excluding disability aids)**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is committed to maintaining a safe environment and ensuring compliance with all relevant legislation regarding the use of electric vehicles on its premises.

#### **The Academy will:**

- Prohibit the use of privately owned electric vehicles such as e-scooters, e-unicycles, and e-skateboards. This is because these vehicles are currently unregulated for use on public land and pose potential safety risks.

**Registered electric cars and mobility scooters used for disability access are exempt from this prohibition and can be used on academy grounds.**

This policy applies to all areas of the academy, including playgrounds, pathways, and buildings.

- Manage the fire safety risks associated with lithium-ion batteries in any approved electric vehicles or charging equipment, ensuring storage and charging are in fire-protected zones as documented in the Fire Risk Assessment.
- Communicate this prohibition clearly to all staff, students, parents, and visitors.

#### **All persons on academy premises must:**

- Comply with the ban on privately owned electric vehicles (as defined above) on academy property.
- Report any instances of non-compliance to the Principal.

### **Electrical Equipment Safety – to be read in conjunction with Electrical Safety Policy**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is committed to ensuring the safety of all persons (employees, pupils, and others) who use, operate, or maintain electrical equipment on its premises, in compliance with the **Electricity at Work Regulations 1989**.

#### **The Academy will (Employer Duties):**

- Ensure all electrical installations and equipment are safely installed, maintained, and routinely tested by competent persons to prevent danger. This includes fixed wiring and portable equipment.
- Implement and enforce safe systems of work for all electrical activities, including inspection, maintenance, and testing.
- Prohibit live working.
- Verify that all persons (employees or contractors) carrying out electrical work are competent and qualified.
- Require that any electrical equipment brought onto the premises by third parties (e.g. hirers) is safe and compliant with current standards.

**Employees must (Employee Duties):**

- Visually check electrical equipment for damage before use.
- Immediately report any defects or concerns about electrical equipment to their manager/supervisor.
- Never use or attempt to repair any defective electrical equipment.
- Use all electrical equipment safely, following training and instructions, ensuring leads do not create trip hazards, and avoiding unsafe practices like daisy-chaining extension leads or overloading sockets.
- Not bring personal electrical items onto the premises without prior inspection and approval and obtaining PAT testing sign-off in advance before use.

The Equans Site Manager will ensure that testing, inspection and maintenance of equipment is undertaken as required and recorded on the Every system.

**Education Visits and Journeys – see separate Policy**

The Principal and the Educational Visit Coordinator are responsible for ensuring that all academy off-site trips are managed in accordance with the academy School Visits Guidance. All staff involved in off-site visits must be familiar with this document.

**Fire Precautions**

The Equans Site Manager is responsible for:

- The formal maintenance and regular testing of the fire alarm and emergency lighting.
- The maintenance and inspection of the firefighting equipment.
- The maintenance of exit/escape routes and signage.
- Supervision of contractors undertaking hot work.
- The completion of the annual FRA action plan according to prescribed timescales.

All staff must be familiar with the academy Fire Safety Risk Assessment, the academy emergency plan and evacuation procedures.

**Fire Safety and Evacuation - see also separate Fire Safety Policy**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is committed to ensuring the safety of all persons on its premises from fire, in compliance with the **Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005**.

**The Academy will:**

- Maintain a comprehensive **Fire Safety Policy** and **evacuation plan**, informed by the **Fire Risk Assessment** and detailing procedures for fire prevention, detection, emergency response, and the delivery of the associated action plan, focusing on local arrangements and roles.
- Conduct regular fire drills (at least termly) to ensure all staff, students, visitors, and contractors are familiar with evacuation procedures.
- Ensure fire safety equipment is maintained and regularly inspected.
- Provide appropriate fire safety information and training to all staff and relevant persons.
- Establish clear roles and responsibilities for fire wardens and other key personnel during an emergency.

**All persons on academy premises must:**

- Familiarise themselves with fire evacuation routes and assembly points.
- Evacuate immediately and safely upon the sounding of the fire alarm, following all instructions.
- Never re-enter the building without explicit permission from the Fire Service or a designated senior member of staff.
- Report any potential fire hazards or concerns immediately to a member of staff.

**First aid and supporting students' medical needs – See separate policies**

The academy is committed to ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of all its pupils, staff, and visitors. In line with the **Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations 1981** and Department for Education guidance, the academy will provide adequate and appropriate first aid provision.

This provision is determined by a comprehensive first aid needs assessment, which considers all relevant factors including the number of people on site, specific hazards, and off-site activities. The academy will ensure a sufficient number of suitably trained First Aiders and/or Appointed Persons are available during all operational hours, supported by well-stocked first aid kits and appropriate facilities.

All incidents requiring first aid will be recorded, and those meeting the criteria will be reported to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) in accordance with the **Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) 2013**. This policy will be regularly reviewed to ensure its continued effectiveness."

**Glazing Safety**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is committed to ensuring the safety of all persons from risks associated with glazing on its premises, in compliance with the **Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992**.

**The Academy will:**

- Regularly inspect and maintain all glazing to identify and rectify any damage or defects that could pose a hazard.
- Ensure glazed walls and panels on corridors and walkways remain clear and unobstructed to maintain visibility and prevent hazards.

**Hazardous Substances (COSHH) and Hazard Reporting**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is fully committed to protecting the health of all individuals from risks associated with hazardous substances, in strict compliance with the **Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH)**. We ensure that all hazardous substances are identified, assessed, and appropriately controlled through established measures and safe working practices. Comprehensive information, instruction, and training are provided to all relevant persons.

We actively encourage all employees, students, visitors, and contractors to contribute to a safe environment by promptly reporting any hazards or unsafe conditions they identify. The

academy maintains an effective system for the recording, assessment, and timely remediation of all reported hazards, ensuring continuous improvement in our safety performance.

Detailed procedures for the management of hazardous substances, including specific control measures, safe handling protocols, and emergency responses, along with our comprehensive hazard reporting system, are outlined in dedicated procedural documents.

### **Inclusion and Reasonable Adjustments**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is committed to ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of all individuals, including those with disabilities, in full compliance with the **Equality Act 2010**.

#### **The Academy will:**

- Ensure that health and safety risk assessments proactively consider the needs of students and staff with disabilities and that reasonable adjustments are implemented to enable their safe participation.
- Provide adequate facilities, support, and necessary training to staff to safely accommodate individual needs.
- Strive to include all students in activities and will only consider exclusion on health and safety grounds where absolutely unavoidable, with such decisions made at a senior leadership level.

### **Ligature Risk Reduction - see also Suicide Prevention Plan**

#### **Definitions**

A **ligature** is anything that binds or ties - which could include a range of items such as bedding, clothing, belt, cord, rope or other material.

A **ligature point** is anything that could be used to attach a ligature for the purpose of strangulation or hanging. This could include shower rails, coat-hooks, water pipes and window frames – but other potential ligature points should be considered. As well as ligature points at high level used for hanging, ligature points could be at low level, with service users using other means e.g. twisting their bodies, to achieve the same effect.

#### **Risk Assessment**

Risk assessments will be undertaken at least annually.

If building changes such as but not limited to, structural, change of use, room layout and furnishings are made, additional assessments will be undertaken by the Equans Site Manager and Business Manager. Any potential risks must be notified to the Chief Operating Officer and appropriate measures taken.

Assessment and safety should be considered both as part of the planning process and when the work is completed. If a new safety alert relating to suicide risks in Trust premises is received, the assessment will focus on the new risk identified with an awareness of other potential risks. Following assessment identified risks will be identified to the Chief Operating

Officer for action. The outcome of the assessment will be communicated to all academies within the Trust.

Any new structures or buildings plans will be assessed for risk of potential suicidal idealisation concerns and reduced risk/anti-ligature fittings used where available.

### **Legionnaires' Disease**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is committed to preventing and controlling the risk of exposure to Legionella bacteria in all its water systems, in full compliance with the **Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974** and the **Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH)**, and following the guidance in HSE's ACOP L8.

#### **The Academy will:**

- Appoint a competent person (or persons) with the necessary authority to manage Legionella control effectively.
- Conduct regular Legionella risk assessments for all relevant water systems to identify and evaluate potential risks of exposure.
- Develop, implement, and maintain a comprehensive written scheme of control for preventing or managing Legionella risks.
- Ensure the effective implementation of control measures, including maintaining appropriate water temperatures, preventing stagnation, controlling corrosion and scale, and undertaking necessary monitoring and disinfection as required by the written scheme.
- Keep accurate records of all risk assessments, written schemes, and control measures.
- Provide appropriate information, instruction, and training to all relevant staff involved in Legionella control or who may be exposed to risk.
- Establish and follow emergency procedures in the event of a Legionella outbreak or positive test result.

### **Lone Working**

Outwood Grange Academies is committed to ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of all employees who work alone or without close or direct supervision. This commitment aligns with the requirements of the **Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974** and the **Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999**.

#### **The Academy will:**

- Conduct suitable and sufficient risk assessments to identify and evaluate the specific hazards and risks associated with lone working activities.
- Implement and maintain effective control measures to eliminate or reduce identified risks to a reasonably practicable level. This includes establishing appropriate communication systems, emergency procedures, and providing necessary equipment or training.
- Provide information and instruction to lone workers on the risks they face and the control measures in place
- Ensure that a permit to work is issued specifically to contractors engaged in lone working in compliance with the **Working with Contractors policy**

A comprehensive Lone Working Policy and associated procedures detail specific arrangements for safe lone working.

### **Supporting Student with Medical Conditions - see separate policy**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is committed to ensuring the health, safety, and well-being of all students with medical conditions, enabling their full participation in academy life. This commitment aligns with statutory guidance on supporting pupils with medical conditions in schools.

#### **The Academy will:**

- Develop and implement individual healthcare plans (IHCPs) or appropriate risk assessments for students with medical conditions, where necessary, to manage their needs safely.
- Ensure relevant staff receive appropriate training and information to confidently and competently support students' medical needs, including the administration of medication when required.
- Maintain clear procedures for managing medication on site and for responding to medical emergencies.
- Work collaboratively with parents/carers and healthcare professionals to ensure the safe and effective support of students.

A separate, comprehensive policy for Supporting Students with Medical Conditions provides detailed guidance and procedures.

### **Maintenance and repair of equipment**

The detailed arrangements for the maintenance and inspection of equipment are described in the site maintenance procedures under the control of the Equans Site Manager.

All faulty equipment must be taken out of use and reported to the Equans Site Manager. Staff must not attempt to repair equipment themselves.

### **Manual Handling - see separate policy**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust will ensure that any significant manual handling tasks are risk assessed and these tasks eliminated where possible.

No member of staff should attempt to lift or move any heavy furniture or equipment themselves but must ask the Equans Site Manager for assistance. Students are not allowed to move or lift any heavy or unwieldy furniture or equipment. Support staff who assist students with physical disabilities must be trained in the safe use of lifting equipment and handling techniques.

### **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

Construction sites can be dangerous places. It is the Principal's responsibility to ensure adequate supplies of PPE for general academy operations. This should be accompanied by a risk assessment.



Where the need for PPE has been identified it must be worn by any staff member or student who might be at risk of personal injury. Any staff member/student who refuses to wear PPE will be subject to disciplinary action.

PPE must be maintained and stored in designated areas. Staff must report any lost/damaged PPE to their line manager.

In respect of building projects on academy sites (including internal remodelling) PPE will be subject to the stipulation of the contractor, and access to site must be by permission with appropriate PPE. Do not enter without their permission.

As a minimum the wearing of hi vis jackets, work boots and hard hats are mandatory on all sites. Similarly gloves, eye protection and other levels of PPE will be dictated as required by the contractor's site manager. Permission must be sought from the Capital Team and the contractor in advance, prior to access to site by any OGAT/academy staff.

### **Risk Assessment**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is committed to the proactive management of health and safety risks to ensure the well-being of all employees, students, visitors, and contractors. We achieve this through a systematic process of risk assessment, in full compliance with the **Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999**.

#### **The Academy will:**

- Conduct suitable and sufficient risk assessments for all known and reasonably foreseeable hazards across our premises, activities, equipment, and operations.
- Identify and implement effective control measures to eliminate or reduce risks to a reasonably practicable level.
- Ensure that all significant findings of risk assessments are recorded.
- Provide relevant information, instruction, and training on risk assessment findings and control measures to affected persons.
- Regularly monitor and review risk assessments and revise them when there are significant changes, new risks emerge, or following incidents.

Management is responsible for ensuring risk assessments are completed, implemented, and reviewed within their areas of control.

### **Security**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is committed to providing a secure environment for all employees, students, visitors, and contractors, thereby protecting their health, safety, and well-being. We will proactively manage security risks to minimise the potential for harm from crime, violence, or unauthorised access.

For any contractors requiring access to the academy site outside of standard operating hours, a strict key protocol must be followed. Academies are required to operate this central

protocol whenever keys or fobs are signed out. This ensures proper security, accountability, and safety for all out-of-hours work.

**The Academy will:**

- Conduct security risk assessments to identify potential threats and vulnerabilities that could impact the safety of individuals.
- Implement and maintain appropriate security measures (e.g. access control, CCTV systems) to deter, detect, and respond to security incidents.
- Establish and communicate clear procedures for managing security incidents, including responses to intruders, aggressive behaviour, or suspicious activities.
- Provide information and instruction to staff on personal security measures and reporting security concerns.
- Ensure CCTV systems are operated in compliance with data protection legislation and used to support security and safety objectives.

**All persons on academy premises must:**

- Adhere to all established security procedures, including access control protocols.
- Immediately report any security concerns, suspicious behaviour, or incidents to the Senior Leadership Team.

**Severe weather conditions**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all employees, students, visitors, and contractors during periods of severe weather.

**The Academy will:**

- Assess the risks posed by severe weather conditions (e.g. ice, snow, high winds, flooding) to the safety of individuals travelling to/from and on site.
- Implement appropriate control measures to minimise identified risks, such as gritting pathways, clearing snow, or securing outdoor equipment.
- Make timely decisions regarding academy closure or operational changes when severe weather conditions pose an unacceptable risk to health and safety, in consultation with senior leadership.
- Ensure clear and timely communication of any closure decisions, revised operational procedures, or safety advice to staff, students, and parents/carers.

All persons are expected to exercise caution during severe weather and follow all academy instructions and safety advice.

**Smoking**

The Board and Principal have adopted a no smoking or vaping policy throughout Trust premises.

All Trust staff and parents will be informed and signs will be on display at main entrances to Trust buildings in accordance with the **Health Act 2005**.

### **Staff training and development**

The Principal is responsible for annually assessing the health and safety training needs of all staff and for arranging any identified training. The central capital & infrastructure function will identify and arrange mandatory job training for site staff in key technical and regulatory areas.

Safety induction must be given to all new employees on the first day of employment. This induction should take the form of a checklist and new staff should be clearly informed of The Trust's Health and Safety provisions e.g. Action to be taken in the event of a fire, fire exits and knowledge of first aid arrangements.

Training must also be given to all key staff and staff with special responsibilities, such as the Site Manager, First Aid staff and staff taking students on trips.

The academy will keep a record of all staff who have been trained and the expiry dates of any certificates.

### **Stress Management**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is committed to promoting a healthy and supportive working environment and to preventing work-related stress. We recognise stress as an adverse reaction to excessive pressure or demands and will manage risks in compliance with the **Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999** and the **Health and Safety Executive's Stress Management Standards**.

#### **The Academy will:**

- Proactively identify and assess workplace stressors to understand and manage their potential impact on employee health.
- Implement effective control measures to eliminate or reduce the risks of work-related stress so far as is reasonably practicable.
- Consult with employees on issues relating to the prevention and management of work-related stress.
- Provide appropriate information, instruction, and training to managers and employees on stress awareness and management practices.
- Offer access to confidential support and guidance for employees experiencing stress.
- Regularly review the effectiveness of stress management strategies and risk assessments.

Employees are encouraged to raise any concerns about work-related stress with their line manager or Business Manager / HR where they will be addressed promptly and confidentially.

### **Transport - see also separate Minibus Policy**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is committed to ensuring the safe provision and use of all vehicles, particularly academy minibuses, to protect the health and safety of all occupants (employees, students, and others) and other road users. This commitment aligns with relevant road traffic legislation, **PUWER**, and specific guidance for minibus operations.

**The Academy will:**

- Conduct risk assessments for all transport activities to identify and manage associated hazards.
- Ensure all academy vehicles are safe, roadworthy, properly maintained, and routinely inspected in accordance with legal requirements and manufacturer guidelines.
- Ensure all drivers of academy vehicles are appropriately licensed, competent, and have received necessary training for the specific vehicles and journeys undertaken.
- Establish clear procedures for safe loading, supervision, and passenger conduct during transport.
- Develop and communicate emergency procedures for transport-related incidents, including breakdowns or accidents.

**All staff involved in transport activities must:**

- Comply with all traffic laws and academy transport procedures, including pre-journey checks.
- Immediately report any vehicle defects, damage, or concerns to the designated responsible person.
- Never drive if they feel unwell, are fatigued, or are otherwise unfit to drive.

A comprehensive Minibus Policy details specific operational procedures and responsibilities for minibus use.

**Visitors, Contractors, and Site Security**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is committed to ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of all visitors, contractors, and other non-employees whilst on academy premises, in accordance with the **Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974** and the **Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999**.

**The Academy will:**

- Implement and maintain clear procedures for visitor and contractor access and registration to ensure appropriate site management and accountability.
- Conduct risk assessments to identify and manage potential hazards to visitors and contractors.
- Ensure visitors and contractors are made aware of relevant health and safety procedures, site rules, and emergency arrangements, including fire evacuation and first aid.
- Require contractors to adhere to their own robust health and safety management systems for work undertaken on site, ensuring coordination with academy procedures.
- Maintain appropriate security measures to protect all persons from unauthorised access or aggressive behaviour.

**All visitors and contractors are required to:**

- Adhere to all academy health and safety rules, including signing in/out and wearing identification.
- Comply with all instructions from academy staff regarding their safety.

- Report any incidents, hazards, or concerns immediately to their academy contact or a member of staff.

Detailed procedures regarding visitor management, safeguarding requirements, and site-specific security protocols are outlined in the academy's separate Safeguarding Policy and security protocols.

### **Working at height and roof access**

The school will take all reasonable steps to provide a safe working environment for all employees who may be affected by work at height activities.

The school will ensure that:

- All work activities that involve work at height are identified and assessed.
- The need to undertake work at height will be eliminated whenever it is reasonably practicable to do so.
- All work at height is properly planned and organised.
- All employees required to use stepladders or ladders are competent.
- Regular inspections of all stepladders and ladders are undertaken.
- Any contractors on school property comply with this policy.
- Ladders and stepladders are secured to prevent unauthorised use.
- Ensure that working at height permits to work are issued complying with the **Working with Contractors** policy

Standing on desks, chairs or other furniture is **not** permitted. If decorations or displays are to be hung then a step stool or step ladder of appropriate height must be used.

The Trust strictly prohibits any staff member from accessing roof areas due to the high-risk nature of this activity. All work requiring roof access must only be undertaken by contracted personnel. These contractors must be deemed competent and are required to provide suitable and sufficient risk assessments and method statements before commencing any work and complete a permit to work for this activity.

### **Work Experience Placements (students) – to be read in conjunction with the 'Work Placement policy'**

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is committed to ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of students undertaking work experience placements, in compliance with the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999.

#### **The Academy will:**

- Assess the suitability of work placement providers and the health and safety risks associated with each placement.
- Ensure that host employers have appropriate health and safety arrangements in place to protect students.
- Provide students with necessary information and instruction on health and safety relevant to their placement.

- Establish clear procedures for monitoring placements and for responding to any health and safety incidents or concerns.

Detailed procedures and responsibilities for work experience placements are outlined in the separate 'Work Placement Policy'.

## **9. RELATED POLICIES AND DOCUMENTS**

- Anti-bullying Policy
- Asbestos Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Electrical Safety Policy
- Fire Safety Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Lone Working Policy
- Manual Handling Policy
- Minibus Policy
- School Visits Guidance
- Supporting Students with Medical Conditions Policy
- Work Placement Policy
- Working with Contractors on Academy Sites Policy