



Lancaster
High School

Ambition • Kindness • Service

Health and Safety Policy

2025–26



Document Control

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Compliance

1. This policy has been prepared with due regard to the following statutory provisions and guidance:
 - Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
 - Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
 - The Department for Education's, "Health and safety: responsibilities and duties for schools", April 2022.

About this policy

2. Lancaster High School is committed to ensuring the health and safety of employees, pupils and to providing a safe and suitable environment for all those attending our site.

The purpose of this policy is to confirm the Lancaster High School commitment to:

- 2.1. the assessment and control of health and safety risks arising from work and learning activities in order to provide a safe and healthy working and learning environment;
- 2.2. preventing accidents and work-related ill health;
- 2.3. consultation with employees and their representatives on matters affecting their health and safety;
- 2.4. compliance with statutory requirements as a minimum;
- 2.5. the provision and maintenance of a safe workplace and equipment;
- 2.6. providing effective information, instruction, training and supervision in safe working methods and procedures;
- 2.7. providing clear emergency procedures in cases of fire or another major incident;
- 2.8. monitoring and reviewing internal systems and prevention measures to ensure they are effective;
- 2.9. assessing and controlling risks that may arise from curriculum and non-curriculum work activities;
- 2.10. ensuring adequate welfare facilities exists throughout Lancaster High School and,
- 2.11. recognising that Trade Union Safety Representatives play a valuable role and Lancaster High School recognises the mutual benefit that arises from supporting their work. This policy does not form part of any employee's contract of employment and Lancaster High School may amend it at any time.

- 2.12. This policy applies to all pupils, employees, supply staff, consultants, contractors and visitors.

Roles and responsibilities

- 3.1. The Board of the Bay Learning Trust has overall responsibility for the effective operation of this policy and for ensuring compliance with any statutory framework.
- 3.2. The Trust Board has the responsibility to ensure that:
- 3.2.1. it develops and regularly updates an appropriate health and safety policy which promotes the correct attitude towards the safety of its employees and pupils;
 - 3.2.2. responsibilities for health, safety and welfare are allocated to specific people and that those persons are informed of their responsibilities;
 - 3.2.3. persons have sufficient experience, knowledge and training to perform the tasks required of them;
 - 3.2.4. clear procedures are created which assess the risk from hazards and produce safe systems of work;
 - 3.2.5. sufficient funds and resources are set aside with which to operate safe systems of work;
 - 3.2.6. health and safety performance is appropriately measured; and,
 - 3.2.7. this policy and related performance is reviewed annually.
- 3.3. The Trust Board has delegated responsibility to the Headteacher of Lancaster High School for ensuring that:
- 3.3.1. this policy is communicated adequately to all relevant persons;
 - 3.3.2. appropriate information on significant risks is given to visitors and contractors;
 - 3.3.3. appropriate consultation arrangements are in place for employees and their Trade Union Safety Representatives;
 - 3.3.4. all employees are provided with adequate information, instruction and training on health and safety issues;
 - 3.3.5. risk assessments of the premises and work practices are undertaken;
 - 3.3.6. safety systems of work are in place and identified from risk assessments;
 - 3.3.7. appropriate health and safety notices are displayed on site;

- 3.3.8. emergency procedures are in place;
- 3.3.9. machinery and equipment is inspected and tested to ensure it remains in safe condition;
- 3.3.10. records are kept of all relevant health and safety activities such as assessments, inspections and accidents;
- 3.3.11. appropriate arrangements are in place to monitor the health and safety on the premises and performance of health and safety responsibilities;
- 3.3.12. reported accidents are investigated and any remedial actions required are taken or requested;
- 3.3.13. a report to the Trust Board on the health and safety of Lancaster High School is completed annually.

3.4. At Lancaster High School, the identified Health and Safety Officers are:

Andy McGirl – School Business Manager

Andrew McIntosh – School Site Manager

The Health and Safety Officers are responsible for:

- 3.4.1. co-ordinating and managing the risk assessment process for Lancaster High School.
- 3.4.2. co-ordinating the termly general workplace monitoring inspections and performance monitoring process and report findings to the Headteacher and/or Trust Board
- 3.4.3. making provision for the inspection and maintenance of work equipment on site;
- 3.4.4. advising the Headteacher of situations or activities which are potentially hazardous to the health and safety of employees, pupils and visitors;
- 3.4.5. ensuring that all managers and supervisors have a thorough understanding of health and safety and how to maintain control measures in their work area.
- 3.4.6. ensuring that all employees are adequately instructed in safety and welfare matters in connection with their specific work place and Lancaster High School generally;
- 3.4.7. carrying out any other function devolved to him/her by the Headteacher or the Trust Board; and,

3.4.8. unsafe conditions being reported and dealt with to agreed timetables.

3.5. Teaching/Non-Teaching employees holding posts of special responsibility (this includes the Deputy Headteachers, Assistant Headteachers, Heads of Department, Year / Phase Leaders, Office and Finance Managers and Site Agents) are required to:

3.5.1. apply this Health and Safety Policy to their own phase/department or area of work and be directly responsible to the Headteacher for the application of the health and safety procedures and arrangements;

3.5.2. carry out regular health and safety risk assessments of the activities for which they are responsible and submit reports to the Headteacher or Health and Safety Officers any problems to which they cannot achieve a satisfactory solution within the resources available to them;

3.5.3. ensure that all employees under their management are familiar with the health and safety procedures for their area of work;

3.5.4. resolve health, safety and welfare problems that members of employees refer to them, or refer to the Headteacher or Health and Safety Officers any problems to which they cannot achieve a satisfactory solution within the resources available to them;

3.5.5. carry out regular inspections of their area of responsibility to ensure that equipment, furniture and activities are safe and record these inspections as required;

3.5.6. ensure, as far as reasonably practicable, the provision of sufficient information, instruction, training and supervision to enable other employees and pupils to avoid hazards and contribute positively to their own health and safety;

3.5.7. ensure all accidents, including near misses, are investigated in an appropriate manner and reported to the Headteacher;

3.5.8. on request contribute information for the annual health and safety report to Directors

3.6. The nature of the role of classroom teachers is such that classroom teachers are expected to:

3.6.1. exercise effective supervision of the pupils for whom they are responsible and to know the procedures in respect of fire, first aid and other emergencies, and to carry them out as and when required;

3.6.2. follow the health and safety procedures applicable to their work;

3.6.3. give clear oral and written health and safety instructions and warnings to pupils as often as necessary;

- 3.6.4. ensure the use of personal protective equipment and guards where necessary;
 - 3.6.5. make recommendations to their Headteacher or Health and Safety Officers on health and safety equipment and on additions or necessary improvements to plant, tools, equipment or machinery;
 - 3.6.6. integrate all relevant aspects of safety into the teaching process and, where necessary, give special lessons on health and safety in line with National Curriculum requirements for safety education;
 - 3.6.7. ensure that personal items of equipment (electrical or mechanical) or proprietary substances are not brought on site without prior authorisation; and,
 - 3.6.8. report all accidents, defects and dangerous occurrences to their Headteacher or Health and Safety Officers.
- 3.7. Apart from any specific responsibilities that may be delegated to an individual employee, all employees must:
- 3.7.1. act in the course of their employment with due care for the health, safety and welfare of themselves, other employees, pupils and other persons;
 - 3.7.2. observe all instructions on health and safety issued by the Headteacher or any other person with delegated responsibility for health and safety matters;
 - 3.7.3. act in accordance with and health and safety training received;
 - 3.7.4. report all accidents and near misses in accordance with current procedures;
 - 3.7.5. inform their line manager of all potential hazards to health and safety and of any other potential health and safety issues they identify;
 - 3.7.6. exercise good standards of housekeeping and cleanliness; and;
 - 3.7.7. know and apply the procedures in respect of fire, first aid and other emergencies.
- 3.8. All employees who authorise work to be undertaken or authorise the purchase of equipment will ensure the health and safety implications of such work or purchases are considered and relevant standards met.
- 3.9. Employees entrusted with responsibilities for specific aspects of health and safety or welfare must satisfy themselves that those responsibilities are re-assigned in an appropriate manner in their absence. Such re-assignments must be approved by the Health and Safety Officers.

- 3.10. Pupils in accordance with their age and aptitude, are expected to:
- 3.10.1. exercise personal responsibility for the health and safety of themselves and others;
 - 3.10.2. observe standards of dress consistent with safety and/or hygiene;
 - 3.10.3. observe all of the health and safety rules of Lancaster High School; and in particular comply with the instructions provided to them by employees in the event of an emergency; and,
 - 3.10.4. use and not wilfully misuse, neglect or interfere with things provided for their health and safety.
- 3.11. Failure to comply with this policy may be treated as misconduct and dealt with under the Disciplinary Procedure (or Behaviour Policy for pupils).
- 3.12. The Directors and the Headteacher recognise the role of Health and Safety Representatives appointed by a recognised Trade Union. Health and Safety Representatives are permitted by law to investigate accidents and potential hazard, pursue employee complaints and carry out inspections when directed wherever practicable. However, they are not part of the management of the Trust and are not carrying out health and safety duties on behalf of the Trust Board or the Headteacher.
- 3.13. Health and Safety Representatives are also entitled to paid time off to train for and carry out their health and safety functions. Time off for training Health and Safety Representatives will be provided in accordance with negotiated agreements. Representatives will be given full access to the information on health and safety which they have the right to have under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

Health and safety arrangements and procedures

- 4.1. Training
- 4.1.1. Lancaster High School will ensure that all employees are given adequate training and supervision to perform their work competently and safely.
 - 4.1.2. Employees will be given a health and safety induction and provided with appropriate safety training, which may include manual handling, control of substances hazardous to health (COSHH), working at height, asbestos awareness, gas safety, electrical safety and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) as required depending upon the nature and requirements of their individual role.
 - 4.1.3. Each member of staff is also responsible for drawing the relevant line manager's attention to their own personal needs for training and for not undertaking duties unless they are confident that they have the necessary

competence. All employees shall undertake work tasks as instructed and trained.

4.2. Equipment

- 4.2.1. Employees must use equipment in accordance with any instructions given to them. Any equipment fault or damage must immediately be reported to the relevant line manager.
- 4.2.2. No employee should attempt to repair equipment unless trained to do so.
- 4.2.3. The Health and Safety Officers are responsible for ensuring equipment safety and maintenance.
- 4.2.4. Pupils must also be given guidance on safely using any equipment used during their time at Lancaster High School.

4.3. Accidents, first aid and Incident reporting

- 4.3.1. Details of first aid facilities and the names of trained first aiders are displayed on the notice boards.
- 4.3.2. All accidents, injuries and near misses, however minor, should be reported to Health & Safety Officer and recorded in the Accident Book which is kept in a secure location.
- 4.3.3. All after school clubs/activities should adhere to the accident reporting and first aid procedures in place. Any accidents, injuries or near misses that take place at such clubs or activities should be recorded in the accident log and reported to the Health and Safety Officers as soon as possible on the next working day.
- 4.3.4. The Health & Safety Officer is responsible for investigating any injuries or work-related disease, preparing and keeping accident records, and for submitting reports to the relevant authorities if required under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR). This will be undertaken through direct liaison with the central operations team and the appointed competent person.
- 4.3.5. An accident report identifying trends in accidents/incidents is provided to the Directors on a **termly** basis.

4.4. Administration of medicines

- 4.4.1. The administration of medicine must be done in accordance with the Lancaster High School and Bay Learning Trust's Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy.
- 4.4.2. Specific training will be given based on requirements i.e. EpiPen training etc

4.5. Asbestos

- 4.5.1. The Health and Safety Officers are responsible for the Asbestos log book which is held by Lancaster High School's Site Manager.
- 4.5.2. Under the arrangements for contractors all contractors working on site are required to sign the asbestos log prior to starting any work on the premises.
- 4.5.3. The arrangements for the management of asbestos on individual sites are detailed in the Asbestos Management Plan (AMP). This is located in the Asbestos Register folder held in the Site Office at Lancaster High School. Please contact the Site Manager in the first instance.
- 4.5.4. The Asbestos Register will be made available to all staff and contractors prior to any work commencing on the fabric of the building or fixed equipment containing asbestos e.g. boilers. No work can commence until permission to work has been given by the authorising manager named in the AMP. The authorising manager shall ensure:
 - 4.5.4.1. The AMP is reviewed annually and that any changes are approved by the employing body
 - 4.5.4.2. That the Asbestos Register is consulted at the earliest possible opportunity in the planning process and that all work on the fabric of the building or fixed equipment is approved via the completion of the relevant form
 - 4.5.4.3. A visual inspection of those asbestos containing materials remaining on site is conducted and recorded in the Register according to the frequencies identified in the AMP. Any subsequent changes to asbestos containing materials on site will be recorded in the Register
- 4.5.5. All parties will ensure that any damage to materials known or suspected to contain asbestos is reported to the Premises manager at the earliest opportunity. If a party suspects such damage involves asbestos, they should remove children from the vicinity pending investigation.
- 4.5.6. Employees are not permitted to drill or affix anything to walls, ceilings etc, without first obtaining approval from the Site Agent or Health and Safety Officers.
- 4.5.7. All employees will be made aware of the existence of asbestos documents and management plans and will have appropriate training.
- 4.5.8. Employees should report any damage to the fabric of the building to the Site Manager or Health and Safety Officers. If they suspect that such damage

involves asbestos, they should remove children from the vicinity pending investigation.

4.6. Contractors

- 4.6.1. Contractors are selected following effective procurement and tendering with due regard to Health and Safety. The Health & Safety Officer and Site Manager are responsible for liaison with contractors to exchange health and safety information, agree safe working practices and exchange risk assessments.
- 4.6.2. All contractors must sign in and out using the Inventory system.
- 4.6.3. All contractors are required to wear an Identification Badge at all times.
- 4.6.4. Employees must report any concerns regarding contractors to the Health and Safety Officers or **Headteacher** immediately.

4.7. Curriculum Safety

- 4.7.1. Within Lancaster High School, employees are required to have appropriate training in order to teach all areas of the primary curriculum.
- 4.7.2. A number of generic risk assessments for routine school activities are held on the EVERY system. Teachers are responsible for considering the risks associated with activities undertaken within Lancaster High School and should complete a written risk assessment for unusual activities or those undertaken for the first time. These assessments should be submitted to the Health and Safety Officers for inclusion in Lancaster High School's risk assessment file.
- 4.7.3. Employees teaching PE are guided by the Association of Physical Education guidance.

4.8. Computers and display screen equipment

- 4.8.1. If an employee uses a computer screen or other display screen equipment (DSE) habitually as a significant part of his/her work he/she should:
 - 4.8.1.1. try to organise his/her activity so that he/she takes frequent short breaks from looking at the screen;
 - 4.8.1.2. be entitled to a workstation assessment;
 - 4.8.1.3. be entitled to an eyesight test by an optician at Lancaster High School's expense; and,

- 4.8.1.4. should contact his/her manager or the School Business Manager, Andy McGirl, to request a workstation assessment or an eye test. Eye tests should be repeated at regular intervals as advised by the optician, usually every two years. However, if the employee develops eye problems which may be caused by DSE work (such as headaches, eyestrain, or difficulty focusing) he/she can request a further eye test at any time.

4.9. Electrical Equipment and Testing

- 4.9.1. The inspection and testing of portable electrical equipment is carried out on an annual basis by a qualified person, who provides records of inspection and testing. This record is kept securely and is available when required.
- 4.9.2. All staff will conduct a visual inspection of plugs, cables and electrical equipment prior to use. Defective equipment should be reported to the **Site Manager**.
- 4.9.3. Personal electrical equipment should not be used in school without prior authorisation and must be subjected to the same inspection process as school-owned equipment.

4.10. First Aid

- 4.10.1. The names of Lancaster High School's first aiders are displayed around site in prominent positions.
- 4.10.2. First aid boxes are located in locations specific to each school. The Health & Safety Officer is responsible for checking and restocking the boxes at required and at least once a term. In an emergency, office employees will summon an ambulance.
- 4.10.3. Where a parent is unable to accompany a child to hospital an employee, preferably one known to the child, will accompany them. In the case of an emergency in a before or after school setting the manager of the relevant club or activity will be responsible for calling an ambulance, contacting parents and arranging for someone appropriate to accompany the child.

4.11. National health alerts

- 4.11.1. In the event of an epidemic or pandemic alert Lancaster High School will organise its business operations and provide advice on steps to be taken by employees, in accordance with official guidance, to reduce the risk of

infection at work as far as possible. Any questions should be referred to the Headteacher.

- 4.11.2. It is important for the health and safety of all employees and pupils that instructions issued in these circumstances are complied with.
- 4.11.3. Lancaster High School may issue a new policy to deal with any procedures to be followed in the event of a pandemic or epidemic.

4.12. Fire safety

- 4.12.1. All employees and pupils must familiarise themselves with the fire safety instructions, which are displayed on notice boards and near fire exits in classrooms and offices as appropriate. All fire exits have appropriate signage.
- 4.12.2. If a fire alarm is heard, the building must be immediately evacuated by the nearest fire exit and everybody in the building must go to the fire assembly point [shown on the fire safety notice]. Belongings should not be collected during an evacuation. Lifts must not be used during this time. Fire wardens will assist in the evacuation of the building and their instructions must be followed. The building should not be re-entered until clearance has been given.
- 4.12.3. If a fire is discovered attempts should not be taken to tackle it unless it is safe or the person attempting to tackle the fire has been trained or feels competent to do so. The nearest fire alarm should be operated and, if there is sufficient time, reception contacted, and the location of the fire reported.
- 4.12.4. Nominated individuals will be trained in the correct use of fire extinguishers. Fire extinguishers are checked annually by Site Manager.
- 4.12.5. The Site Manager should be notified if there is anything (for example, impaired mobility) that might impede the evacuation in the event of a fire. A personal evacuation plan will be drawn up and brought to the attention of the relevant fire wardens and colleagues working in the vicinity.
- 4.12.6. Fire drills will be held at least every **term** and must be taken seriously. Evacuation times and any issues which arise are reported to **Directors**
- 4.12.7. The fire alarm is tested weekly by Site Manager and their team.
- 4.12.8. The Health & Safety Officer is responsible for ensuring fire risk assessments are undertaken and implemented, and for ensuring regular checks of fire extinguishers, fire alarms, escape routes and emergency lighting.

- 4.12.9. Procedures for other critical incidents and off-site emergencies are contained within the Emergency Management Plan which is located in the main office and will be reviewed annually. Emergency contact and key holder details are held in the main office.

Outdoor Play Equipment

5. Employees on duty during breaks and when outdoor equipment is otherwise in use are responsible for ensuring pupils are properly supervised or for making the decision to 'close' the equipment should there be insufficient supervision or if inclement weather (damp/icy conditions) means that equipment becomes unsafe to use on a particular day.

- 5.1.1. All employees are responsible for reporting concerns about the equipment, items for repair, or potential hazards to the Site Manager or Health & Safety Officer.

PE Equipment

- 6.1.1. PE equipment is checked annually.
- 6.1.2. It is the responsibility of the PE employees to undertake risk assessments and visual checks on such equipment. PE employees are also responsible for reporting any concerns about the equipment, items for repair, or potential hazards to the Site Manager or Health & Safety Officer.

School Transport

- 7.1.1. For policy and guidance on school minibus, please refer to the Trust **Minibus and Commercial Vehicles policy**
- 7.1.2. Employees should not routinely transport pupils in their own vehicles. Where this has been agreed, the adult transporting a child is required to have relevant permission, to hold a current driving licence, have appropriate insurance to cover the transportation of children under business use and a roadworthy car with an appropriate MOT certificate in place.

Security

- 8.1.1. Gates are opened to allow parental access to the site at the start of the school day and at the end of the school day. Outside these times gates to the site are locked and access is via the main entrance. It is the responsibility of the Site Manager to ensure gates are locked.
- 8.1.2. Staff should wear their identification badge / Lanyard at all times. Where applicable, pupils should wear their identification as well.

- 8.1.3. The Site Manager, or person designated key holder by the Headteacher is responsible for securing the site at the end of each day, at weekends or during the end of term holidays.
- 8.1.4. Lancaster High School is alarmed.
- 8.1.5. The Trust has appointed a competent person to be responsible for undertaking a risk assessment for site security in order to identify and implement control measures in this area

Site Maintenance

- 9.1.1. The Site Manager is responsible for ensuring the day-to-day maintenance of Lancaster High School buildings and site.
- 9.1.2. A planned preventative maintenance schedule is in place for all sites. It is the responsibility of the Site Manager to ensure that the schedule is adhered to and to inform the Headteacher of any delays or issues.
- 9.1.3. All employees are responsible for reporting hazards or maintenance issues to the Site Manager or Health & Safety Officer. Any issues of significant concern/danger should be reported to the Site Manager, Health & Safety Officer or other member of the SLT immediately.
- 9.1.4. Safety signage is used on site in line with statutory requirements. All employees have responsibility for reporting any missing signage or any concerns about the signage to the Site Manager or Health & Safety Officer.
- 9.1.5. Regular inspection and testing of school equipment must be conducted to ensure that work equipment is maintained in a safe and efficient state. Records of such monitoring will be kept by the site manager. All staff are required to report any problems found with plant/equipment to the Headteacher and site team. Defective equipment will be clearly marked and taken out of service or storing in a secure location pending repair/ disposal.
- 9.1.6. A programme for the specific statutory inspections and tests will include:
 - 9.1.6.1. Annual gas appliance inspection and maintenance
 - 9.1.6.2. Electrical installation inspection every 5 years (3 years for sports hall

Visitors, Volunteers and Work Experience

- 10.1.1. All visitors, volunteers and work experience students are required to sign in on arrival. Visitors and volunteers will be given a badge which they must wear/display at all times whilst on Lancaster High School premises.
- 10.1.2. On a first visit to Lancaster High School volunteers are given a copy of the school's safeguarding information and made aware of the fire evacuation arrangements. Visitors to Lancaster High School are allowed to park in the car park. It is the responsibility of the employee who is supervising the visitor to ensure that they are aware of any particular health and safety matters related to their visit and to ensure that the visitor receives appropriate supervision, guidance and chaperoning.
- 10.1.3. Volunteers are subject to enhanced DBS checks. It is the responsibility of the class teacher to ensure that the school business manager, Andy McGirl, is given details of all volunteers in order that the checks can be carried out.
- 10.1.4. Volunteers and work experience students are inducted in line with Lancaster High School's induction arrangements.
- 10.1.5. If Lancaster High School hosts a work experience placement, any significant hazards within the planned work tasks will be risk assessed and findings will be communicated to the student and their parents/guardians via the student's secondary school.
- 10.1.6. A signed documented contract/job description will be in place between Lancaster High School and the work experience provider prior to any student commencing work based on the risks and limitations of any role i.e. working hours, restrictions of role (COSHH exposure etc)
- 10.1.7. This policy should be implemented within the context of the vision, aims and values of each of our academies.
- 10.1.8. Lancaster High School collects and uses personal information about staff, pupils, parents and other individuals who come into contact with the school. This information is gathered in order to enable it to provide education and other associated functions. In addition, there may be a legal requirement to collect and use information to ensure that the school complies with its statutory obligations.

Working at Height

- 11.1.1. Work at height will be avoided wherever possible. Work carried out at height where a significant injury could result will be risk assessed by the relevant line manager in order to identify and implement control measures.
- 11.1.2. All employees should use the appropriate equipment e.g. kickstools to affix displays etc above head height and have due regard to their own health and safety and that of others. Employees should never use chairs or tables in place of the appropriate equipment.
- 11.1.3. Employees undertaking work at height should have undertaken the appropriate training. A risk assessment should be undertaken prior to such work being carried out.
- 11.1.4. Contractors working at height are required to complete appropriate paperwork and are dealt with under the contractor management arrangements.

Hazardous substances

- 12.1.1. Where it is consistent with the effective performance of the task in hand, every attempt will be made to choose the least harmful chemical possible.
- 12.1.2. The responsible manager shall ensure that:
 - 12.1.2.1. an inventory of all hazardous substances used within their area of responsibility is compiled and kept up to date
 - 12.1.2.2. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) are obtained from the relevant supplier for all such materials
 - 12.1.2.3. risk assessments are conducted by the Premises Manager or competent person to identify the safe working method and appropriate emergency procedures
 - 12.1.2.4. all chemicals are appropriately and securely stored out of the reach of children
 - 12.1.2.5. all chemicals are kept in their original packaging and never decanted into unmarked containers.
 - 12.1.2.6. Appropriate training is provided to staff as identified in the individual academies training matrix.

- 12.1.3. For full details relating to the control of hazardous chemicals, reference should be made to the HSA0010 Control of Substances Hazardous to Health COSHH Guidance Note.

Legionella

- 13.1.1. A Legionella risk assessment must be completed by an external provider. The site manager is responsible for ensuring that the identified operational controls are being conducted and recorded in the water hygiene log book. This risk assessment will be reviewed where significant changes have occurred to the water system. The majority of schools have regular checks and monitoring visits provided by a provider recommended through their competent person.

Lettings/shared use of premises

- 14.1.1. The employing body will ensure that the hirer/tenant has public liability insurance and will share with the hirer/tenant all relevant information.
- 14.1.2. Please see the Bay Learning Trust Lettings Policy (Appendix G of the Financial Framework) for further guidance
- 14.1.3. The hirer/tenant will be required to provide a copy of their risk assessment where their activities present a significant hazard either to the building itself or to the safety or health of the occupants within it.
- 14.1.4. The hirer/tenant will be given a copy of Lancaster High School's health and safety information / evacuation procedures and must abide by these at all times including the participation of fire drills if and when required.

Lone working

- 15.1.1. All staff should avoid lone working wherever possible by arranging for a colleague to also be on site. Where lone working is unavoidable staff should ensure that all outside doors are locked and curtains/blinds are closed when it is dark.
- 15.1.2. Fire doors must be unlocked when staff are working on the premises, e.g. out of school hours.
- 15.1.3. Anyone lone working should ensure they have access to a personal mobile phone.
- 15.1.4. When two or more people work late, they should try to leave the building together.
- 15.1.5. Cars should be parked as close to the access doors as possible.

- 15.1.6. Where possible staff should let family know if they will not be home at their usual time and what time they can be expected.
- 15.1.7. Any persons identified as lone workers should have an appropriate risk assessment undertaken.

Monitoring

- 16.1.1. The Headteacher will put in place procedures to monitor compliance with the arrangements described in this policy. The central component of this process is the 3 yearly Health & Safety Review process undertaken by the Central Operations Team.
- 16.1.2. A general inspection of the site will be conducted at least twice per year and be undertaken by the local H&S representative and site manager. The Trust central operations team will undertake at least an annual visit to review the site.
- 16.1.3. Other processes employed to monitor compliance with this policy and health and safety performance in general are included in the Headteacher's Report.

Moving and handling (pupils)

- 17.1.1. The risk assessment of significant manual handling tasks is undertaken as described in the risk assessment section above. Staff engaged in these activities will be provided with information on safe moving and handling techniques and will receive specific training where the need is identified in the risk assessment.
- 17.1.2. All moving and handling of pupils will be risk assessed by Headteacher/SENCO and recorded in a specific Handling Plan for the individual concerned. All staff who move and handle students will receive appropriate training both in the controls listed in the Handling Plan and specific training on any lifting equipment that they may be required to use.

Offsite visits

- 18.1.1. Lancaster High School will adopt the relevant Local Authority document for Outdoor Education, Visits and Off-site Activities Health & Safety Policy as its own policy. In order to support this process Lancaster High School makes use of an online educational visits system (Evolve). In line with this policy, the Evolve Educational Visit Adviser has been engaged to endorse arrangements for higher risk activities. The Educational Visit Adviser will therefore be notified of all Category B and C visits (residential, overseas and hazardous activities) via the Evolve online system or equivalent.

- 18.1.2. For lower risk Category A visits Lancaster High School's Educational Visits Co-ordinator, will check the documentation and planning of the proposed activity and initially approve the visit before referring to the Executive Headteacher/Headteacher for final approval. For full details relating to educational visits, reference should be made to the Outdoor Education, Visits and Off-site Activities Health & Safety Policy.

Personal safety and security

- 19.1.1. Lancaster High School believes that staff should not be expected to put themselves in danger and will not tolerate violent / threatening behaviour to its staff. A separate specific Allegation of Abuse made Against Staff Policy is in place. Staff will report any such incidents in accordance with agreed accident/incident reporting procedures.
- 19.1.2. Working alone will be avoided wherever possible. Work carried out unaccompanied or without immediate access to assistance will be risk assessed by the Headteacher (or representative) in order to identify and implement control measures. The requirement to undertake a lone working risk assessment will also extend to working alone off-site where staff conduct home visits.
- 19.1.3. Staff working outside normal school hours must obtain permission of the Headteacher.

Smoking/drugs/alcohol

- 20.1.1. Please see the Trust No Smoking Policy and the Alcohol and Drugs at Work Policy for further guidance
- 20.1.2. Smoking is not permitted anywhere across the school estate; this includes all forms of e-cigarettes.
- 20.1.3. Drugs are not permitted on the site unless it is prescribed.
- 20.1.4. Alcohol is not permitted on the site unless during a licenced event run by staff. All events must have been cleared by the Headteacher and/or Trust.
- 20.1.5. If staff attend for work under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be treated as a case of gross misconduct.

Stress/well-being

- 21.1.1. Lancaster High School is committed to promoting high levels of health and well-being and recognises the importance of identifying and reducing workplace stressors through risk assessment in line with the HSE's

management standards. Arrangements for responding to individual concerns and monitoring staff workloads e.g. return to work procedures following absence the school buys back occupational health support, participates appraisal management arrangements, undertakes relevant risk assessments.

Risk assessments and measures to control risk

- 22.1. Lancaster High School carries out general workplace risk assessments periodically. It is the responsibility of the Health & Safety Officer to ensure that risk assessments are carried out, recorded and reviewed annually. Class teachers are responsible for ensuring that the appropriate risk assessments are undertaken for specific or new activities relating to the curriculum and activities inside and outside the classroom while the pupils are in their care. Risk assessments linked to SEND pupils are the responsibility of the SENCo. Risk assessments linked to pupils with individual Healthcare Plans are the responsibility of the Class teacher. Risk assessments for pregnant employees are the responsibility of the individual's line manager.
- 22.2. The purpose of risk assessments is to assess the risks to health and safety of employees, pupils, visitors and other third parties as a result of Lancaster High School's activities, and to identify any measures that need to be taken to control those risks.
- 22.3. All risk assessments are reviewed on an annual basis (except risk assessments for school trips or internal event days which should be reviewed each time the trip or event takes place).
- 22.4. Measures will be taken to avoid or reduce the need to lift or carry items which could cause injury (manual handling) and to provide training on manual handling as necessary.
- 22.5. All lifts and hoists for use by disabled employees and/or pupils are inspected by a competent engineer on a six-monthly basis. Lifting equipment not used to lift people is inspected on an annual basis.
- 22.6. When working alone in the premises a suitable lone working risk assessment should be carried out for the task being undertaken. This assessment should give particular attention to contact information and how to deal with emergency situations. Suitable arrangements must be made for potentially hazardous tasks.
- 22.7. The use of hazardous substances at work will be avoided wherever possible and less hazardous alternatives will be used where available. Training on the control of substances hazardous to health (COSHH) will be provided as necessary. The Site Manager is responsible for ensuring that hazard data sheets are completed and

retained on site. With reference to cleaning products the Site Manager should undertake the necessary risk assessments and ensure employees are properly trained in the use and storage of hazardous substances and on the use of protective equipment. In Science and Design Technology CLEAPSS guidance is applied.

- 22.8. All off site trips and educational visits will be subject to risk assessment. Parental permission is required before pupils participate in off-site visits in most cases. During trips medication can only be administered by designated employees as identified in the risk assessment pertinent to that trip. A standard consent form will be provided by the Educational Visits Co-ordinator.
- 22.9. Personal protective equipment (PPE) is provided where there are risks that cannot be adequately controlled by other means e.g., gloves, goggles, ear defenders and suitable attire for working during winter. It is the responsibility of the Site Manager to ensure that there is suitable protective equipment for site employees and that it is used. All employees have responsibility for ensuring that they have and use the appropriate PPE. Any concerns or queries regarding PPE should be drawn to the attention of the Health & Safety Officer.