

Security Policy

The Green Room School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Date Created	Date 1st Review Due	Date Reviewed	Version	Next Review Due
March 2014	March 2015	May 2015	2	May 2016
		October 2015	3	October 16
		October 2016	4	October 17
		January 2018	5	January 19
		January 2019	6	January 20

Introduction

The most common crimes against schools are malicious damage, arson, theft and burglary. Hence the importance of ensuring the security of the premises with regard to both people and property cannot be stressed enough. Good security allows both staff and young people to feel safe and confident in their surroundings. It is also a reassurance that property and occupants (including animals) are safe within their surroundings at all times.

This document identifies the key elements of the security management systems within The Green Room Schools and the ways in which we seek to improve security for our pupils, staff, volunteers and visitors.

Objectives

This policy promotes a collaborative and coordinated response to risk management, and the management team will constantly identify improvements in security culture and accountability within the establishments.

All staff are consulted and informed about security and receive appropriate training where required whether new or existing members.

Parents/Carers and pupils are informed of the security policy which encourages them to help ensure that it is effective.

Responsibilities

The Senior Management Team:

- Will oversee that a comprehensive process is in place including providing training, advice, inspection visits and monitoring the establishment.
- Will ensure the security policy is in place and is monitored and reviewed annually.
- Will ensure that staff are aware of, and adhere to security and participate in training where appropriate (existing or new staff).
- Staff training needs are kept under review and training arranged as and when necessary.
- Advice will be sought from the police where necessary.
- All crimes will be reported to the police.

Administrative Staff:

- Will maintain the security systems in place
- Record security lapses, bring these promptly to the attention of the property maintenance list and review security procedures as and when required.
- Raise awareness of security issues with Head of School

Staff:

There is a clear message that good security involves everyone within the establishment. Staff should be aware of and conform to operational procedures that affect security e.g.

- Key control procedures
- Visitor monitoring
- External door/gate monitoring
- New employees will be informed of this during their induction training.

Pupils:

Must report any persons on site that are not familiar to them and are not wearing either the official visitor badge. Pupils should not approach any stranger who is not wearing a badge but report all strangers immediately to the nearest member of staff.

Security on Site (see also risk assessment G11)

Trespass may give rise to a criminal offence under section 547 of the Education Act 1996 (see section 6.2 and 6.4 of the Head's Legal Guide) and section 206 of the Education Act 2002 (see section 6).

The School is a private place. Any person who is not included in the following categories, and enters without permission, is a trespasser and may be asked to leave:

- Members of staff - unless suspended for health or disciplinary reasons
- Registered pupils - unless excluded for disciplinary reasons
- Parents or Carers responsible for a pupil at the School - unless prevented for legal reasons.
- Others - suppliers, contractors and authorised users of the premises for 'out of hours' activities.

Security off site educational visits (see also risk assessment 01)

- A risk assessment is carried out before each new visit to assess any risk to security.
- Registers are taken before and after each visit.
- All parents/carers are informed of each visit.

Visitors to school (including Parents) (see also risk assessment G15)

The School operates a simple workable access control system and therefore:

- Considers everyone who is not a member of staff, pupil or volunteer as an intruder until they have gone through the visitor reception procedure.
- Provides visitors with a reception area until they can be dealt with.
- Identifies legitimate visitors and monitors:
 - Their arrival and reason for their visit by requiring them to sign in and complete the visitors log book
 - Movement around the establishment and Departure time
- All visitors will be given a visitor badge, which they will wear as long as they are on site.
- Staff and Volunteers are also issued with badges to be worn whilst on site.
- Where possible, visitors and contractors should arrive by appointment only. Visitors/

contractors should not be allowed to roam the premises unescorted.

Violence against staff (See risk assessment G9)

Offences Not Involving Assault

Section 154 of the Public Order Act 1994 makes it an offence to use threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour, or disorderly behaviour, within the hearing or sight of a person to whom it is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress, even when no intent is involved.

The Green Room School may decide that incidents that occur in or around the establishments, which might technically amount to committing the offences listed above, are best dealt with internally without involving the police.

The Green Room School is aware of, and will act on where appropriate, the criminal offences contained in the Protection from Harassment Act 1997.

Should any visitor to each establishment behave in a verbally abusive manner, they will be asked to leave the building and grounds or the police called.

An incident that involves physical force (see also risk assessment G9)

In the event of any person assaulting another person, (staff, pupil, other adults or children involved in school activities):

- The School may restrain the assailant with reasonable force to protect the victim.
- In all but minor cases the School will refer to the police any assaults which appear to involve bodily harm. The School will also report to the police incidents which take place in a public place off School premises, but in circumstances where the School has responsibility for any of those involved whether they be members of staff or pupils.
- Where possible those involved should make an immediate note of witnesses or others in a position to provide evidence of the assault.
- The School will be ready and willing to provide a substantive account of what led up to the incident.

Offensive Weapons

It is now an offence under Section 139A of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (as inserted by Section 4 of the Offensive Weapons Act 1996) for anyone to carry an offensive weapon or knife on the School premises.

When it is reasonable to believe that a pupil is carrying an offensive weapon it may be appropriate for a senior member of staff to search the pupil if the pupil agrees to co-operate. In such an event there should be a witness present. Searches must be undertaken by a member of staff who is of the same gender as the pupil being searched.

When a pupil declines to co-operate, the parents / carers must be summoned after the matter has been referred to the Head of School followed, if necessary, by referral to the police.

Under any other circumstances a search for offensive weapons should not be undertaken by anyone other than the police.

Personal Property

Pupils are discouraged from bringing valuable items to school and in the event that they do so the School accepts no liability. If this is unavoidable on some occasion then special arrangements should be made in advance with the School Office regarding temporary safe keeping. Mobile phones are kept handed in and kept in a locked cupboard during the school day.

All Staff are responsible for their personal property.

Theft, Petty Vandalism, Minor Criminal Damage and Burglary

Vandalism or arson is usually found in areas like recesses and doorways, which offer concealment or which is not under regular surveillance.

Criminal incidents of this sort require reporting to the police, and are likely to require an emergency response where an intruder is still present on the premises. This is when the establishment is unlocked and the persons opening the premises finds a break-in.

When an intruder is thought to be present on the premises police help must be sought immediately, by calling 999. (See also Emergency Evacuation Policy)

Reporting and Recording Incidents

Each establishment will maintain an Emergency Incident Record. This will contain simple but accurate details of all events, which, while quite minor in nature, could be significant if they recurred and became persistent. All staff are expected to record on an Incident Form:

- Trespass
- Aggressive behaviour by persons other than pupils around the premises
- Matters reported by pupils
- Incidents involving pupils
- Any other incidents giving cause for concern
- The Administrators will retain the completed forms in an Emergency Incident Record
- Office staff will check the Emergency Incident Record regularly to see if any patterns are developing and to consider the need for consequent action

Site Security (see also risk assessment G11)

All staff are responsible for the security of buildings and property.

- At the end of the day each member of staff should ensure that all windows and external doors are securely fastened.

- All staff are responsible for keeping buildings clear of all materials that can be used for arson or vandalism. Adequate storage facilities are provided.
- Risk assessments are in place and are reviewed by the health and safety representatives annually.
- Property of the school is marked clearly and permanently.

Contractors (see also risk assessment G8)

Contractors on site are required to observe the Health & Safety Policy. This is overseen by the relevant staff. All contractors are required to sign in daily. Also;

- Building materials and equipment must not be left lying around.
- When not in use scaffolding should not be given access.
- Alarm systems must not be disrupted.
- As far as possible, contractors and workers called to the site to undertake specific tasks are screened in the same way as staff.

School Transport (see also risk assessment G2)

- The school transport should be checked using the pre journey sign in especially when checking the door locks.
- Doors are locked whilst travelling
- Only staff and pupils allowed on the mini bus unless previously agreed by the Head of School
- See also Vehicles and School Journeys Policy

Mini Bus Drivers (see also risk assessment G3)

See above

COSHH (see also risk assessment G5)

- A current up-to-date safety data sheet provides important information on many aspects of the substance in use. It is important that a current up-to-date version (conforming to CHIP) is attached to the risk assessment
- The Green Room School is committed to only buy products that are not hazardous to health, however if there are no alternative products –the products will be safely stored under lock and key or padlock.

Accidents (see also risk assessment G7)

- The Green Room School is committed to reduce accidents on the premises. Therefore risk assessments are in place so that they occur rarely.
- Security within the establishments will stop any intruders to come into contact with pupils, staff and volunteers which should in turn prevent any accidents occurring.

Fire Safety (see also Fire Safety file)

The Green Room is committed to reduce Arson around the premises.

- To prevent any intruders on site by controlling visitors as above
- By locking up the premises at night.

Lettings (see also risk assessment G12)

- Each letting signs a contract or lease agreement
- They also provide liability insurance to cover the premises for any damages that might occur.
- Only rooms on hire are available at the time of letting.
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Smoking / Vaping (see also risk assessment G14)

- Smoking is not allowed anywhere on the School site
- Staff or pupils are not allowed off site to smoke. The school is committed to a healthy lifestyle. Pupils may face a temporary exclusion if they smoke/vape during school.

Storage (see also risk assessment P19)

- Safe storage of maintenance and cleaning equipment to stop any pupils from harming themselves.

This policy is approved by the Head of The Green Room School

Date_____

Head of School_____