

Health and Safety Policy

for both the Junior School and Senior School

Version number	2.0
Name and appointment of owner / author	Joanne Moore, Bursar
Review Body	SLT, Health & Safety Committee and Full Board of Governors
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Next Governor review due	June 2022
Where available	Staff Handbook, School web-site (unrestricted area)



HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

Under both Paragraph 11 of the *Independent School Standards Regulations 2014* and Paragraph 6.1 of the *National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools 2015*, City of London Freeman's School is obliged to have a written Health and Safety Policy. This Policy is designed to demonstrate the School complies with relevant health and safety laws, principally the *Health and Safety At Work Act 1974* and regulations made under that Act. It is also mindful of the non-statutory DfE advice *Health and Safety: responsibilities and duties for schools (2018)* and the Health & Safety Executive's advice *Sensible Health and Safety Management in Schools*.

This Policy is updated by the author as events or changes to legislation demand. It is reviewed biennially by the Senior Leadership Team, Health & Safety Committee and Full Board of Governors. It should be read in conjunction with the following whole-school documents:

- *Boarding Handbook*
- *Boarding Policy*
- *First Aid Policy*
- *Safeguarding Policy*
- *Trips and Visits Policy*
- *Vehicles Policy*

This Policy is also informed by and is in line with the City of London's Corporate Health and Safety Policy.

1. GENERAL STATEMENT OF HEALTH AND SAFETY BY THE CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNORS

As Governors of the City of London Freeman's School, we fully recognise our collective responsibility for providing a safe and healthy school for all of our employees, students, parents, visitors, contractors and anyone else affected by our activities. On behalf of the City of London Corporation as employer, we attach the highest priority to ensuring that all the operations within the school environment, both educational and support, are delivered in a manner that is safe and healthy for all. The Governors are committed to promoting the welfare of all in our community so that effective learning can take place.

We fulfil our responsibility as Governors by appointing Nicholas Goddard as Governor with responsibility for overseeing Health and Safety.

Day to day responsibility for the operation of health and safety at the school is vested with the Bursar reporting to the Head. The Bursar has overall responsibility for monitoring health and safety within the school and for reporting any serious breaches to me through the Head. With the City Surveyor, she is responsible for ensuring compliance with Construction (Design and Management) (CDM) Regulations 2015. As Governors, we have specified that the school should adopt the following framework for managing health and safety:

- That the Governor overseeing health and safety, attends the termly meetings of the school's Health and Safety Committee whenever possible and receives copies of all relevant paperwork;
- That full compliance is all accorded to the City's Corporate Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy (Version 01 03 December 2018) including the requirement for monitoring, safety assurance and inspections;
- That a report on health and safety covering: statistics on accidents to students, staff and visitors; staff training; fire practices and all new or revised related policies and procedures is reported at each term's Governors' meeting;
- That the minutes of the Health and Safety Committee's termly meeting are provided at each meeting of the full Board of Governors, together with any other issues on health and safety that the Bursar as Chairman of the Health and Safety Committee considers need to be brought to the Board's attention.
- That the school will take reasonable steps to ensure that staff and pupils are not exposed to risks to their health and safety. This applies to activities on or off school premises, in and out of the classroom.

- That the external fabric of the school, its plant, equipment and systems of work are surveyed and inspected regularly by competent professionals and that their recommendations and cyclical planning form the basis of the school's routine maintenance programmes;
- That robust arrangements including adequate monitoring is in place for the control of contractors working anywhere on the school site / premises;
- That the school's adherence to health and safety in catering and cleaning of the food preparation and eating areas is subject to external inspection by the Environmental Health Officer. In addition, the Catering Manager arranges for an independent hygiene and safety audit of food storage, meal preparation and food serving areas three times a year, together with regular external deep cleaning and pest control services, and that these are reported to the Health and Safety Committee;
- That the school has a fire risk assessment, carried out by a suitably competent external risk assessment consultant, and that this is updated every three years or more frequently if significant changes are made to the interior of buildings or on significant change of usage. The Health and Safety Committee should review this risk assessment every time it is amended;
- That safety assurance inspection reports showing action required and timescales should be monitored by the Health and Safety Committee;
- That a suitable and sufficient risk assessment for legionella/water hygiene management is periodically completed (frequency based on risk assessment) and that a suitable scheme of control is developed, implemented and monitored including monthly water temperature testing regimes;
- That suitable arrangements are in place for the day to day management of any asbestos containing materials (ACMs) so as to prevent them from being disturbed, forming part of our duty to manage asbestos;
- That the school has a comprehensive policy in place for the training and induction of new staff in health and safety related issues, which should include basic manual handling and working at height training where appropriate. Health and safety training that is related to an individual member of staff's functions, such as a science technician, will be provided in addition to the "standard" induction training. An adequate number of staff, teaching and non-teaching will be trained and qualified in first aid.

All members of staff are responsible for taking reasonable care of their own safety, that of students, visitors, temporary staff, volunteers and contractors. They are responsible for cooperating with the Head, the Bursar and other members of the Senior Leadership Team in order to enable the Governors to comply with health and safety requirements. Finally, all members of staff are responsible for reporting any risks or defects to the Bursar or the Facilities Manager.

All employees are briefed on the availability of this statement on the school's Shared Area. They will be advised as and when it is reviewed, added to or modified. Details of the organisation and arrangements for carrying out the policy are to be found in Parts 2 and 3 of this document. This policy will be displayed on the school's website.

Signed:..... Philip Woodhouse
Chairman Board of Governors

Date:

2. ORGANISATION FOR HEALTH & SAFETY

The School is aware of its duty to appoint one or more 'competent persons' who has the necessary skills, knowledge and experience to give sensible guidance about managing the health and safety risks at the school. The School's competent persons are Justin Tyas, City of London Health and Safety Manager (People) and Peter Dempsey, City of London Health and Safety Manager (Property).

Although the Governors of the School are accountable for the health and safety of school staff and pupils, day-to-day responsibility is delegated to the Headmaster and other school leaders as follows.

The Headmaster will:

- Implement the requirements of this Policy and ensure compliance with all health and safety legislation within the school;
- Demonstrate a personal commitment to health and safety by providing visible and active leadership and leading by example;
- Ensure a positive health and safety culture is evident and a proactive approach to health and safety management is adopted within the school;
- Ensure all school decisions (including new projects, procurement decisions, contractor selection, office moves etc.) fully take into account health and safety considerations;
- Ensure that health and safety is adequately resourced with both time and finances and that managers make adequate provision in their budgets for managing health and safety;
- Ensure suitable persons are nominated to undertake key health and safety functions within the school and to ensure these individuals are adequately supported and suitably trained;
- Appoint persons to assist him with meeting the safety objectives, standards and checks detailed in this policy.

I have the delegated responsibility for ensuring compliance with the School's Health and Safety Policy. I have delegated day-to-day responsibility for organising health and safety to the Bursar. This policy document consists of three parts: the General Statement by the Chairman of Governors; this description of the organisation for health and safety and, lastly, the detailed arrangements for health and safety.

All employees of the School have a duty to look after their own and others' health and safety. More specifically, all staff have a duty in common law, while acting *in loco parentis*, to look after pupils in the same way that a prudent parent would do so.

Delegated duties include:

2.1 Safety and Security

- Building security (including alarms, CCTV, locking external doors and windows) – the Bursar, who in turn has delegated day to day management to the Head of Operations;
- Preventing unsupervised access by students to potentially dangerous areas, such as the swimming pool, the science laboratories, the Gym and the design and food technology rooms –Facilities Manager;
- Testing the chemical levels in the swimming pool water on a daily basis – Facilities Manager and team.
- Controlling lone working after hours – Bursar and Facilities Manager;
- Ensuring that all visitors sign in at Reception and wear visitors' badges – all staff, following guidelines published by Head of Operations;
- Permits to Work implemented, where necessary, for physical works to the fabric of the buildings or on plant and equipment by contractors – Facilities Manager.

2.2 Vehicles/Transport

- Control of loading bays, car parks and site traffic management – Facilities Manager;
- Compliance with City of London Corporation Transport Policy including vehicle management – Bursar.
- Safe procedures for escorting pupils in minibuses: Deputy Head and Head of Operations
- Maintenance of fleet: Sodexo General Manager

2.3 Accidents/Incidents

- All reportable accidents/incidents/near misses should be reported in accordance with the City's Guidance on School's Accident and Incident Reporting by the member of staff present at the time via the CoL ReportLine (**020 7332 1920**);;
- Investigation of reportable accidents/incidents/near misses: Line Manager of reporting member of staff
- Reporting notifiable accidents etc. to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) under RIDDOR 2013 –Bursar in consultation with the CoL Corporate Health and Safety team;
- Arrangements for checking defibrillators and peripheral equipment – School Nurse Managers
- Checking that all first aid boxes and eye washes are kept replenished – First Aiders who last used the equipment.

2.4 Fire Prevention

- Keeping fire routes and exits clear - Bursar, who in turn has delegated to Head of Operations and all staff;
- Fixed Electrical Safety Testing – City Surveyor who will provide the school with a copy of current electrical installation certificates;
- Regular portable appliance testing – City Surveyor/Suitably qualified on-site testers.
- Testing all fire alarms weekly and recording results – Facilities Manager;
- Arranging an annual service and maintenance of alarms, smoke detectors, emergency lights, fire extinguishers and panic buttons – City Surveyor;
- Implementation of robust permits to work for all physical works on the fabric of the buildings / associated equipment including hot works – Facilities Manager;
- All gas appliances and installations (boilers, kitchen equipment etc.) are regularly inspected, maintained and serviced by Gas Safe Registered Engineers – City Surveyor;
- Ensuring that flammable rubbish and combustible materials are stored away from buildings – Facilities Manager and all staff;
- Termly fire practices and emergency evacuation drills, combined with a programme of inducting new staff and students with emergency escape procedures and the presence of trained Fire Marshals help to ensure that the school can be safely evacuated in the event of a fire – Bursar.
- Carbon Monoxide (CO) detectors will be installed, tested and maintained wherever there is sleeping accommodation – Facilities Manager and all staff;
- Switching off all kitchen equipment at the end of service – Catering Manager;
- Checking that all Scientific and DT equipment is switched off at the end of the school day – Heads of Science and Head of Design and Technology;
- Securing flammable materials used in teaching or maintenance in purpose-made, flame-proof and secure containers – Heads of Science, Art and Design and Technology and Facilities Manager.

2.5 Water, Drainage etc

The City Surveyor, together with the Facilities Manager, is responsible for:

- Maintaining water quality. A sampling regime, using external contractors, is in place;
- Ensuring that drains, gutters etc are kept unblocked. Checking that all drain runs are clear using external contractors where necessary.

2.6 Risk Assessments

Responsibility for the maintenance of up-to-date and compliant risk assessments is as follows:

- Fire – Bursar/Head of Operations (external fire risk consultant used);
- Legionella / Water Hygiene– City Surveyor/Facilities Manager;
- Educational visits – Deputy Head (prior to trip departure) / Trip Leader (during trips)
- Catering and cleaning functions including Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) system of food hazard awareness and Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) risk assessments and procedures – General Services Manager;
- Medical waste and sharps – School Nurse Manager
- Maintenance functions (including working at heights, electricity, manual handling, and building work, use of power tools, COSHH and flammable substances) - Facilities Manager;
- Medical gases, manual handling, first aid and management of medications – School Nurse Managers
- Asbestos Register/Surveys - City Surveyor;
Note: Local Asbestos Management Plans (AMPs) are developed in consultation with the City Surveyor. The duty to manage asbestos in school is shared between the school and the City Surveyor. Asbestos surveys and re-inspections are completed by the City Surveyors department. The Facilities Manager has the day to day responsibility to ensure that anyone liable to disturb asbestos including staff and contractors are made aware of its presence, and what to do if they have any concerns;
- Lifting Equipment – Facilities Manager/City Surveyor;
- Pressure vessels – Facilities Manager/City Surveyor;
- Construction Works / Management of Contractors– Head of Operations/City Surveyor;
- Reprographics machines and copiers – Interim Director of Technical Services;
- Boarding accommodation – Head of Boarding;
- Residential Accommodation – City Surveyor/Facilities Manager.

Responsibility for the maintenance of up-to-date risk assessments for teaching in the following areas:

- Science– Heads of Science;
- All outdoor and indoor games and activities – Director of Sport;
- Swimming – Director of Sport;
- Fencing – Director of Sport;
- Duke of Edinburgh Award - Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator;
- Drama / Theatre– Director of Drama;
- Art (including COSHH and flammable materials) – Head of Art;
- Music – Director of Music;

- Design Technology (including machinery, COSHH and flammable materials) – Head of Technology;
- All visits and trips – Deputy Head.

Full details of the School's procedures for identifying, assessing, recording, reducing and reviewing risks can be found in our dedicated *Risk Policy*.

2.7 Training

Staff at Freeman's receive appropriate training in health and safety and the assessment of risk. Responsibility for organising and maintaining records of training is as follows:

- Whole-staff refresher training - Bursar
- Science-related health and safety training – Heads of Science;
- Design Technology related training – Head of Technology;
- Health and safety training for catering and cleaning staff – Catering and Cleaning contractor;
- Briefing new students on emergency fire procedures – Head of Boarding/Form Tutors;
- Briefing new staff on emergency fire procedures – line managers in induction process;
- Inducting new staff in health and safety – line managers in induction process;
- Identifying specific health and safety training needs of staff – Heads of Department and Line Managers or Supervisors;
- First aid training- School Nurse Managers.

2.8 Fault Reporting

All members of staff are responsible for promptly reporting faults, deficiencies and anything that might present a significant risk to the welfare of pupils, staff and visitors. Other than in the most serious / urgent cases, this should be done through the ServiceDesk reporting system via [this link](#). School Council Representatives also have access to the system and are encouraged to use on behalf of the pupils whom they represent.

External Advisors for Health and Safety

The City Surveyor's Department, including the City Corporation's Health and Safety Manager, Property (Peter Dempsey), Head of Health, Safety and Wellbeing (Justin Tyas) and Fire Safety Adviser (Terence Short), and external consultants provide advice on matters of health and safety as required:

- The City Surveyor gives advice on the external fabric of the school;

- The City Surveyor monitors and services the school's plant, equipment and lifts as required;
- All gym and fitness equipment and machinery used in sport is serviced annually as arranged by the Facilities Manager;
- Adherence to health and safety in catering and cleaning is subject to external inspection by the Environmental Health Officer.

In addition, the catering contractor arranges for:

- An external professional to take swabs of all knives, chopping boards and other kitchen equipment three or four times a year, and report on those findings;
- An independent hygiene and safety audit of food storage, meal preparation and food serving areas three times a year;
- Professional advice from a dietician on healthier food, menu planning and special diets as needed.
- The professional deep cleaning of all equipment, high level cleaning of all cooking, food preparation and storage surfaces, areas etc once a year;
- Appropriate pest control measures to be in place;
- The Bursar/Facilities Manager has a professional fire risk assessment which is updated at least every 5 years;
- In addition to the weekly fire alarm tests, the alarm system, together with all smoke detectors, carbon monoxide alarms, emergency lighting, extinguishers and panic buttons are tested quarterly by a qualified contractor;
- The City Surveyor arranges for a professional risk assessment for water/legionella;
- The Radiation Protection Supervisor (RPS) (Schools) is the Head of Physics. He is responsible for ensuring compliance with the Ionising Radiation Regulations 1999 including the requirement for appointing a suitable Radiation Protection Adviser (RPA) to provide competent advice;
- All work on gas boilers, appliances and installations is carried out by suitably competent Gas Safe registered engineers;
- All lightning protection and earthing conform to BS EN 62305. It is tested annually by a specialist contractor;
- NICEIC qualified Electrical Engineers inspect and maintain electrical installations all of which are RCB protected and meet the requirements of BS7671 IEE wiring regulations. Current electrical test certificates are held for all areas of the school.

The City of London Corporation's competent person for advice on water hygiene/asbestos is **David Renshaw**, Health and Safety Adviser (Property).

The Radiation Protection Officer (RPO) is **Justin Tyas**, Health, Safety and Wellbeing Manager, City of London Corporation

Compliance information is available from the CoL Micad Portal.

Micad Portal: follow this link to self-register for access <https://col2portal.micadipr.net/>

Responsibility for liaison with the Freeman's School Association (FSA) on health and safety matters lies with the Bursar.

Health & Safety Co-ordinator

The HR Manager is the school's Health and Safety Co-ordinator. In this capacity she is responsible for the submission of the CoL Annual Certificate of Assurance (ACA) the results of which are to be reported to the Health and Safety Committee.

Termly safety assurance inspections of curriculum areas

Termly safety assurance inspections are undertaken by the Deputy Head (Academic), the results of which are to be reported to the Health and Safety Committee.

Periodic site inspections

The Deputy Head, Head of Operations and Facilities Manager conduct termly 'walkaround' inspections of the site to identify anything unsafe or which, if left unremedied, could become unsafe.

Health and Safety Committee

I have set up a school Health and Safety Committee which meets once a term under the chairmanship of the Bursar. The Governor who is responsible for health and safety attends these meetings whenever possible. The members of the Committee are:

- Roland Martin, Headmaster;
- Nicholas Goddard, Governor;
- Joanne Moore, Bursar (Chair);
- Anna Atkins, HR Manager;
- Ed Kennedy, Head of Operations;
- Stuart Bachelor, Deputy Head;
- Kate Barron and Liz Holmden, School Nurse Managers;
- Steve Sarsfield, Staff Representative, Head of Technology, Engineering and Design;
- Andrew Chapman, General Services Manager (Sodexo).
- James Hallam/Sarah Pinniger/Judy Vatcher - Heads of Science (on rotation)
- Alex Truelove – Contingent Commander CCF

The role of the Committee is to:

- Discuss matters concerning health and safety including changes in regulations and guidance;
- Monitor the effectiveness of health and safety within the school;
- Review accidents and near misses and discuss preventative measures;
- Review and update risk assessments;
- Review safety assurance inspection reports;
- Discuss training needs / requirements;
- Monitor the implementation of professional advice;
- Assist in the development of safety rules and safe systems of work;
- Monitor communication and publicity relating to health and safety in the workplace;
- Encourage suggestions and reporting of defects by all members of staff.

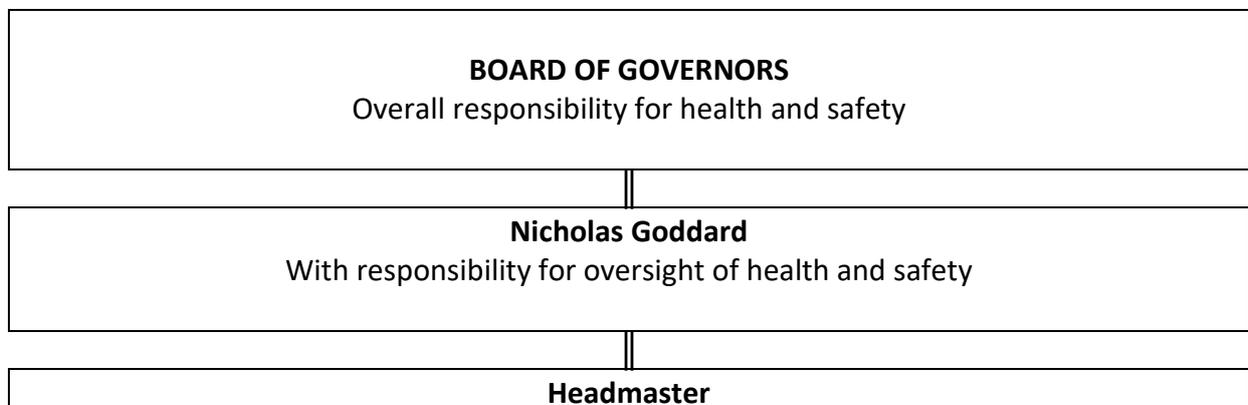
Signed:..... Roland Martin

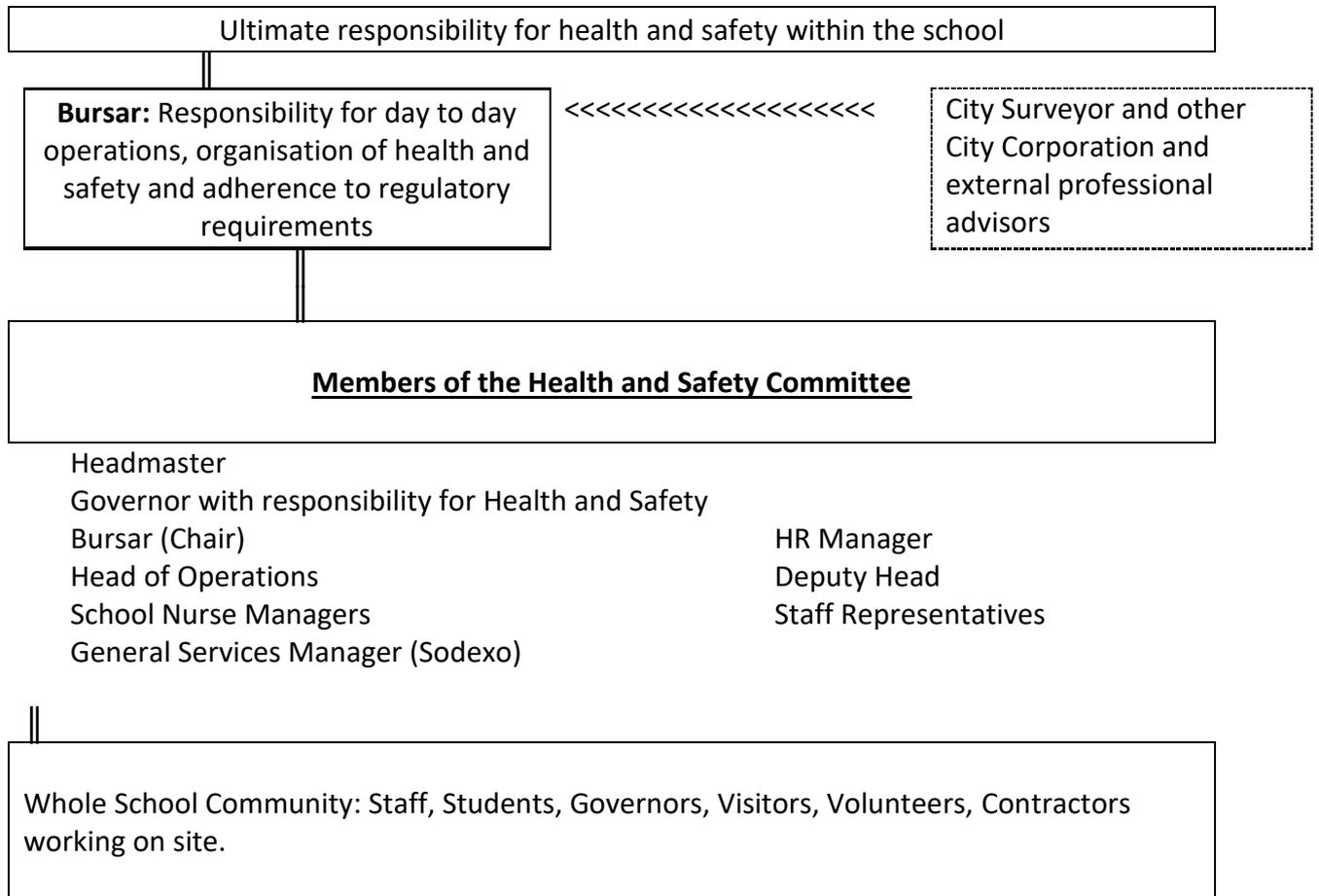
Headmaster

Date:

ANNEX TO PART 2

DIAGRAM SHOWING THE ORGANISATION FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY





3. SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY

The following areas and activities present identified and significant risks. As a consequence, students are not allowed unsupervised access to:

- PE: where the Director of Sport keeps risk assessments for: all outdoor and indoor games, swimming, gymnastics, dance and fencing. Records of training and qualifications in life-guarding and other subject specific training are kept;
- Science: where the Heads of Science subjects keep risk assessments for all experiments and the use and storage of equipment. CLEAPSS (Consortium of Local Authorities for the Provision of Science Services) Hazcards are kept on the use and safe storage of all chemicals. Science HODs keep records of all subject-specific training by teachers and technicians;
- Design and Technology: where the Head of DT keeps risk and COSHH assessments for all activities, the use of all equipment and machinery and the safe storage of flammables. Records of staff training are kept;
- Art: where the Head of Art keeps risk and COSHH assessments. Records of staff training are kept;
- Drama/Theatre: where the Head of Drama keeps risk assessments for the lighting box, the safe construction, movement, building and dismantling of scenery, props and staging. Records of staff training are kept;
- Kitchen Area: where the General Services Manager keeps risk assessments for all activities, safe use and storage of equipment and flammables, COSHH procedures of chemicals and other products. Records of staff training are kept;

We draw on a range of policies at corporate and local level to address the different areas of health and safety:

- Accident investigation, including statutory reporting under RIDDOR 2013- *Guidance on Reporting Schools Accidents, Incidents and Dangerous Occurrences*
- Asbestos- *City of London Asbestos Policy*
- Chemical Plume- *Marauding Terrorist Attack and Lockdown Policy*
- Contractors on site- *City of London Control of Contractors Policy; Freeman's Contractors on Site Policy*
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH)- *City of London COSHH Guidance*
- Dangerous dog loose on site- *Marauding Terrorist Attack and Lockdown Policy*
- Display Screen Safety- *City of London Display Screen Equipment Policy*
- Electrical Safety- *City of London Building Compliance Standards*

- Emergencies involving health and safety- *Business Continuity Plan and Critical Incident Management*
- Fire safety- *City of London Fire Safety Policy; Freeman's Fire Risk (Prevention) Policy*
- Gas Safety; *City of London Building Compliance Standards*
- Health and Safety (general)- *Corporate Health and Safety Policy*
- Infection Control- *City of London Draft Infection Control*
- Influenza Pandemic Contingency Plan- *Emergency Management Plan*
- Legionella/Water Hygiene- *City of London Building Compliance Standards and Control of Legionella Policy*
- Letting and Hiring- *Freemen's Safeguarding Policy; City of London Procurement Code*
- Lightning Protection- *City of London Building Compliance Standards*
- Lifting Equipment- *City of London Building Compliance Standards*
- Lone working and Preventing Violence- *City of London Lone working and Preventing Violence / HSG 19 Lone Working; Freeman's Security, Access Control, Workplace Safety and Lone Working Policy*
- Manual handling- *City of London Manual Handling Risk Assessment*
- Marauding Terrorist Attack- *Marauding Terrorist Attack and Lockdown Policy*
- Occupational Health- *Occupational Health and Welfare policy*
- Pesticides- *City of London COSHH Guidance*
- Portable Appliance Testing (PAT)- *City of London Building Compliance Standards*
- Pressure vessels- *City of London Building Compliance Standards*
- Risk- *Risk Policy*
- Security- *Security, Access Control, Workplace Safety and Lone Working Policy*
- Slips and Trips- *City of London Health and Safety Policy Guidance on Prevention of Slips, Trips and Falls*
- Swimming pool safety- *Corporate Pool Water Quality*
- Vehicles and on-site movements- *City of London Transport Policy; Freeman's Vehicles Policy*
- Work Experience for Students- *City of London Managers' Guide to Work Experience and Work Experience Health and Safety*
- Working at Height- *Working at Height*

Signed:.....

Bursar

Date:

References:

- A. Reference Guide to the key standards in each type of social care service inspected by Ofsted (Reference 080117).
- B. The Handbook for the Inspection of Independent Schools: Part 3: The Regulatory Requirements of Independent Schools, April 2015.
- C. Responsibility for the Management of Health and Safety in Schools Section H of the ISBA Model Staff Handbook, by Rickerbys Solicitors LLP of March 2009.
- D. Health and Safety and Welfare at Work, Chapter N of the Bursars' Guide by Pinsent Masons LLP of 2014.
- E. Health and Safety: Advice for Schools 2013.
- F. Incident Reporting in Schools: Accidents, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences, HSE Leaflet of 2013 (Rev1).
- G. Leading Health and Safety at Work, a joint IOD/HSE Guidance Document.
- H. Health & Safety Design and Technology in Schools and Similar Establishments – Code of Practice (British Standard 4163).
- I. CLSF Safeguarding Policy.
- J. CLSF Accessibility policy.
- K. CLSF Anti-Bullying Policy.
- L. CLSF Drugs & Substance Abuse Policy.
- M. CLSF Educational Visits Policy.
- N. CLSF First Aid Policy.
- O. CLSF Special Educational Needs Policy.
- P. CLSF School Nurse Guidelines.
- Q. City of London Corporate Health and Safety Policy.
- R. City of London Display Screen Equipment Policy
- S. CLEAPSS Guidance including Science and Design & Technology