

Hamsterley Primary School



School Security Policy and Procedures

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Hamsterley Primary School Security Policy and Procedures

1. Policy statement

- The Governors recognise and accept their corporate responsibility to provide a safe and secure environment for children, employees and visitors to Hamsterley Primary School. The school's security procedures will operate within the framework described in this policy.
- Where appropriate the Governors will seek any necessary expert advice to determine the security risks and precautions required to deal with them.
- The Governing Body will provide staff with enough resources, information and training to implement the security procedures.
- The Governing Body will, where appropriate, be informed of breaches and failures of the policy to enable them to take any corrective action as is necessary to ensure the safety of children and staff.

2. Organisation

The following groups and/or individuals have responsibilities for ensuring the security of the school.

2.1. Governors

- The Governors will ensure that the school has a security policy and that this has been implemented.
- Governors will monitor the performance of the school security measures. This will be achieved –
 - By the health & safety governor monitoring performance on their special interest visits
 - Via the head teachers reports to governors
 - By all governors observing its implementation when they visit the school.
- Governors will periodically review the school's security policy.
- Governors will delegate the day to day implementation of the policy to the Head Teacher.

2.2 Head Teacher

The head teacher will:

- Set up arrangements in school that comply with the security policy agreed by governors.
- Ensure that all staff within the school receive information, instruction and training in the security policy and procedures.
- Establish a system for the reporting, recording and investigation of breaches of the policy and take reasonable steps to prevent reoccurrence.
- Ensure that all visitors, contractors and agency staff adhere to the security policy.
- Monitor the implementation of the policy and security arrangements.

2.3 Staff

- All staff will comply with this policy and the arrangements made by the Head Teacher to ensure the safety of children, employees and others on the school site.
- Those listed below have been given specific responsibilities for school security.

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Security issue	Name	Specific Duties
Agreeing and reviewing the school security policy	Premises Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree policy • Review every 12 months
Day to day implementation and management of policy.	Head Teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform staff • Monitor performance • Review arrangements
Securing school entrance/exits as detailed in this policy	Caretaker / Head Teacher	Lock gates 8.40-9.35am and 3.10-3.40pm
Checking the condition and maintaining the safe operation of physical and electrical security devices (locks, gates, key pads, fences).	Caretaker	Part of normal duties to check physical integrity of security devices.
Control of visitors	Admin staff	Issue badges
Control of contractors	Caretaker / Head Teacher	
Security of money etc	Admin staff	
Security risk Assessment	Head Teacher	Review annually and inform govs of findings to use as part of policy review

2.4 Children

- Children will be encouraged to exercise personal responsibility for the security of themselves and others.
- Children will cooperate with the arrangements made for the security of the school. Breaches of the school security arrangements are a breach of the school's Behaviour Policy.

3. Arrangements

The school has agreed the following arrangements to ensure the safety and security of staff, pupils and other persons using the school premises.

3.1 Information and Communication

All staff must be aware of the school's security procedures, especially staff that have been given a specific role to play.

All staff inductions will include the school's security policy and will be recorded on the employees training profiles. Records of which are kept in the school's Risk Register.

These arrangements will be communicated to all third parties that use the premises and grounds. All will be expected to comply with the school's security arrangements as a condition of shared use of the building.

Parents will be informed about the school security arrangements and what is expected of them, e.g. when visiting the school or at handover times.

3.2 Controlled access and egress during the school day

Controlled access is a combination of measures to ensure that unauthorised visitors do not present an unacceptable risk to pupils or staff.

The extent of physical controls, such as fences, has been decided by a robust risk assessment of the likelihood of visitors presenting a risk and the reasonableness of the control measures needed to reduce this risk. Hamsterley Primary School has, through risk assessment, balanced the need to remain a welcoming environment to the community and safeguarding pupils. The risk of pupils absconding and the potential for injury while doing so should be taken into account when designing, installing and maintaining physical controls.

EXAMPLES -

Are there any trees growing through or close to any fences which make the fences easy for a child to climb across?

Are there any posts or street furniture such as road signs or litter bins located so close to any of your fences / gates which make them easy for a child to climb across?

Are there any risks associated with barbed wire, chain link fences or broken glass on any of your boundary walls or fences which you can identify, and are they in sound condition, without breaches or other defects.

Are there any gaps under fences / that would enable a pupil to crawl or roll underneath them?

Buildings

The school will take all reasonable efforts to restrict access to the building to prevent unauthorised access to children and ensure the personal safety of staff.

The access control procedures for the building are

- The main building has a reception desk and access control. Only authorised visitors are allowed access via door bell or intercom and a visual check from office staff. Signage directs all visitors to this entrance. Unauthorised visitors will be challenged by staff. All doors (except the main entrance which has a code) can only be opened from the inside.

Grounds

The following areas are accessible by the public but the risk is controlled with our school's supervision arrangements and how the school deals with visitors.

The access arrangements for the grounds are –

- There is no access to the school grounds unless via main entrance.
- School playground/field – Gate to playground/field is locked during school hours – area is always under control of staff. Staff would professionally challenge any person not wearing a school visitor badge.

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3.3 Early Years Outside Areas

As pupils require access to the outside areas at all times the governors have ensured that a secure outside area has been provided that has a suitable perimeter fence at least 4ft high. This has fixings that prevent an early years pupil opening the gate to exit this area without adult supervision.

Where this area is adjacent to where members of the public have unsupervised access consideration has been given to improved fencing where required. The extent of fences will be decided by risk assessment.

3.4 Control of Visitors

The control of visitors is a fundamental part of our school's security policy for the safeguarding of both people and property.

Our policy is that –

- All visitors report to the reception desk on arrival.
- All visitors are issued with a badge to be worn at all times. This includes parents, helpers, contractors, LA staff and any other person that is not school staff.
- Any person on site without a badge will be asked to accompany a member of staff to the reception desk or asked to leave the site.
- Any refusal will be reported immediately to the Head Teacher. Any aggression will be reported to the police.
- Visitors will not remove any items of school property without the express permission of school staff.
- For their own safety any authorised visitors will be given appropriate information on the school's health & safety procedures such as parking, fire safety and first aid.

3.5 Supervision of pupils

The school's overall safeguarding strategy requires that at times the security of pupils is achieved by competent supervision by authorised school staff.

Locations where supervision is part of our safeguarding procedures –

- School driveway/ car park – the main school gate is closed at the beginning and end of the school day and access to vehicles during these times is prohibited. Staff accompany children to the playground gate at the end of the school day and supervise them until collected by an adult or released if permission to walk home has been granted by a parent.

Times of the day when supervision is part of our safeguarding procedures –

- Start of school day – the main school gate is closed at 8.40am and vehicle access is prohibited. The playground is supervised 8.45am to 9.00am. Parents have been informed of these arrangements and that supervision does not start till 8.45am.

Playtime and Lunchtime – playground/field and EYFS area at rear of building are supervised when children are present – see rota for details.

Our security arrangements also include the handover arrangements for the start and end of the school day.

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- Drop off procedures – A member of staff will supervise at the gate to the playground ensuring that pupils enter the grounds / building safely and that parents who need access to the building are directed to the main entrance.
- Collection procedures – Each class is led outside to the playground gate via the relevant exit by the class teacher or member of staff supervising the class. Pupils remain with member of staff until their parent/guardian has been identified. Class teachers are aware of pupils who have their parent’s permission to walk home alone. Where a parent/guardian is not present to collect a pupil, the pupil is escorted back inside the school building and attempts are made to contact their parent. The pupil may be sent to after school care whilst contact is being made.

3.6 Cooperation with third parties, extended services and community groups

Our school security arrangements have taken into account any other third parties that use the school building or grounds. In most circumstances the arrangements for the school in general will be equally applicable for the third parties involved. Below are the additional security measures that apply to the groups listed.

Breakfast club - supervise access to school via main entrance from 7.30am and know not to allow visitors into the rest of the school building.

After school care - supervise access to school via main entrance from 4.30pm if office staff and Headteacher are not present and know not to allow visitors who are not parents collecting pupils from after school care into the rest of the school building.

3.7 Supervision of contractors

Contractors and maintenance personnel will not always have been DBS checked as they should not have unsupervised access to children. They will therefore be controlled as follows –

- All will be given school badges and be expected to wear them.
- They will only park where authorised to do so.
- Will only carry out work agreed at the start of the contract and at the times agreed.
- Will be supervised at all times by school staff. This does not mean watched continuously but in a way proportionate to their location and proximity to unsupervised children.

3.8 Lone Workers

Our school has Lone Working Risk Assessments for staff where there is a security risk due to the need to work alone.

3.9 Physical security measures

The governing body has considered the need to use physical measures such as fencing and electronic access controls to ensure the safety of staff and pupils. The governors will review the provision of physical security measures on a regular basis in the form of a security risk assessment.

The risk assessment will take into account –

- The location and layout of the school
- Past incidents related to security
- The performance of other security measures already in place or that could be implemented.
- The cost of physical security improvements and the availability of funding.

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Where justified by consideration of the risk governors will ensure that physical security measures are installed. Where physical controls are not justified the governing body will ensure that other controls are implemented by the school to ensure the safety of staff and pupils.

Where electronic controls are installed, for example alarm systems, they will be maintained as recommended by the manufacturer.

3.10 Locking arrangements.

At different times of the day the school security arrangements require the locking of various entrances and exits as detailed below.

Main gate – Unlocked by the Caretaker at 7.15am and locked again at 6pm. They remain locked all night and at weekend. During the school day the gate is locked at 8.40am and unlocked at 9.15am, locked at 3.10pm and unlocked at 3.40pm. The main gate has a double padlock to allow access to the pumping station by Northumbrian Water when the school is closed.

Main Building – All entrances except main reception locked by member of staff on door duty at 9.00am and only unlocked at break and lunchtimes to allow access and egress to playgrounds.

3.11 Cash Handling

Schools should avoid keeping cash on the premises wherever possible. Safes should be used and kept locked. Avoid handling cash in visible areas, any money requiring banking should be done at irregular times, particularly where substantial sums are involved.

3.12 Valuable equipment

All items above the value of £25 will be recorded in the school stock book. Items of valuable portable equipment with a value above £250 will not be left unattended in rooms where there is public access. In such locations the room will be locked when it is vacated. Wherever possible valuable items will also not be left where visible from outside.

The security risk assessment will take into account the location and security arrangements for high value equipment, for example ICT equipment.

3.13 Personal Property

Personal property will remain the responsibility of its owner. This includes both staff and pupil personal property. Both are discouraged from bringing to school any valuable personal property. Small lockable cupboards are made available to staff in the staff room.

Lost property of high value should be handed to the school office where it will be kept for 6 months before disposal.

3.14 Medicines

There are occasions when pupils may be prescribed treatment where medicines are needed during school time. Parents will provide such medicines in suitable and labelled containers. These containers will be locked in the schools medicine cabinet in the school office or kept in the staffroom fridge if refrigeration is required.

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Arrangements for the administration of medicines are detailed in the medication in school policy.

4. Risk Assessment

A security risk assessment will be completed annually by the Head Teacher. The findings will be used in the review of this security policy.

The risk assessment will use the format in the Health and Safety Team School Health & Safety Policy & Procedures Manual.

5. Monitoring and Review

The Head Teacher will monitor the performance of this policy and report breaches, failings or security related incidents to the Finance and Premises Committee.

Governors will monitor performance via the Head Teachers termly report to governors and when visiting school.

This policy will be reviewed annually by S. Kitching Headteacher.

<p>Signed - </p> <p>(Chair of committee)</p> <p>Date – 13.10.20</p>	<p>Signed - </p> <p>(Head Teacher)</p> <p>Date – 13.10.20</p>
<p>Review completed by -</p> <p>Date -</p>	<p>Review Completed by -</p> <p>Date -</p>
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