

Written by:	Mr Clinton
Date:	June 2024
Checked by:	Mr Clinton
Date:	June 2024
Approved by:	Governors
Date:	September 2024
Next Review date:	September 2025

Health and Safety Policy



HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

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SECTION ONE – HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

1.1 Introduction

Archbishop Ilsey Catholic School is committed to maintaining a healthy and safe place of work for employees, as well as taking all reasonable steps to ensure that students, parents, members of the public and the environment (that may be affected by its work) are exposed to the lowest practicable level of risk.

The Governing Body recognizes that:

- It has a moral duty to take all reasonable steps to prevent people being harmed.
- Accidents cost money, particularly in terms of lost time, repairs and investigations, and increasingly such costs have to be met from limited budgets;
- It has a legal duty imposed by the Health and Safety At Work Act and other Regulations to provide a safe place of work, safe plant and equipment, safe systems at work, a safe working environment, adequate facilities, safe methods of handling, storing and transporting goods, information, instruction and training; and take reasonable care of the health and safety of others.
- The Every Child Matters agenda stipulates the entitlement of Students to a healthy and safe environment

High Standards of health and safety reduce harm and losses, improve our overall performance and make good business sense.

1.2 General Statement of Policy

This is a policy statement for the Health and Safety Arrangements, and the subsequent implementation of these at Archbishop Ilsey Catholic School.

Aims

We aim to:

- Provide and maintain a safe and healthy environment throughout the School Site and safe means of entry and exit from it
- Establish and maintain safe working procedures amongst Staff, Students, Volunteers and all those on the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School site.
- Ensure safe measures of using, storing and transporting articles and substances
- Provide safe systems for the control of noise, toxic and corrosive substances dust and vapors under the control of Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School
- Formulate effective procedures for use in case of fire and other emergencies and for evacuation at Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School premises.
- Lay down procedures in case of accidents and medical treatments

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The governing Body at Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School will meet its responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work Act and other health and safety legislation to provide safe and healthy working conditions for employees, and to ensure that their work does not adversely affect the health and safety of other people such as Pupils, Students, Visitors and Contractors. Details of how this will be done are given in this health and safety statement.

The Governing Body will ensure that effective consultation takes place with all employees on health and safety matters and that individuals are consulted before allocating particular health and safety functions to them.

Where necessary the Governing Body will seek specialist advice to determine the risks to health and safety in the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School and the precautions required to deal with them.

The governing Body will provide sufficient information and training in health and safety matters to all employees in respect to the risk to their health and safety.

The Governing Body requires the support of all staff to enable the maintenance of high standards of health and safety in all the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School activities.

This statement includes a description of the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School organization and its arrangements for dealing with different areas of risk. Details of how these areas of risk will be addressed are given in the arrangements section.

..... Headteacher

..... Chair of Governors

..... Date

SECTION TWO: ORGANISATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 Who is responsible?

The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, requires governors, and employees according to their particular roles, to take the initiative on certain matters.

Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School will use its established lines of responsibility and organisation to authorize and give executive direction to its policy for health and safety. Specific responsibilities cannot be evaded by delegation to others.

The Headteacher has the day-to-day responsibility for Health and Safety matters in the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School. More detailed responsibilities are set out below.

2.2 Responsibilities of the Governing Body

The Governing Body is responsible for:

- Complying with the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School Health and Safety policy and Arrangements;
- Formulating and ratifying the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School Health and Safety Statement and health and safety plan;
- Regularly reviewing health and safety arrangements (at least once annually) and implementing new arrangements where necessary;
- Ensuring that the site and premises are maintained in a safe condition and that appropriate funding is allocated to this end from the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School delegated budget;
- Ensuring that risk assessments are made and recorded of all the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School work activities including those off site which could constitute a significant risk to the health and safety of employees or other persons;
- Prioritising action on health and safety matters where resources are required from the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School Budget, seeking further advice where necessary and ensuring that action is taken;

- Seeking specialist advice on health and safety which the Archbishop Ilsley School may not feel competent to deal with;
- Promoting high standards of health and safety within Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School
- Active and reactive monitoring health and safety matters within the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School including health and safety inspection reports and accident reports.

2.3 Responsibilities of the Headteacher

The Head Teacher has overall responsibility to the Governing Body for health and safety at Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School. However, the day to day management of health and safety matters may be delegated to the Deputy Head Teacher, Office Manager (HT PA) and

Premises team who is to ensure that the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School health and safety is managed in accordance with the health and safety policy and ensuring the health and safety arrangements are carried out in practice; the Headteacher leads on all operational health and safety issues and is appointed as the “Health and Safety Director”.

The Business Manager will:

- Ensure competent people are appointed to provide advice and guidance on health and safety.
- Ensure arrangements are in place to monitor, inspect, audit and review health and safety activities.
- Ensure there are effective arrangements for consulting with employees on health, safety and welfare issues and for promoting collaborative working with trade Unions appointed Health and Safety Representatives
- Ensure that a suitable programme is maintained that addresses the needs of staff at all levels.

2.4 Responsibilities of the Headteacher

Responsible for:

- The day to day management of health and safety within their areas of line management responsibilities in accordance with the health and safety policy;
- Ensuring follow up and remedial action is taken following health and safety inspections;
- Passing on health and safety information received to the appropriate people;
- Acting on health and safety reports from above and below in the hierarchy;
- Identifying health and safety training needs through performance management when appropriate;
- Ensuring that planning and Curriculum reflects Health and Safety of all stakeholders

2.5 Heads of Department / Service Managers

Responsibility for implementing operational health and safety rests with service managers who ensure that policies, procedures and safe systems of work are implemented on a daily basis. Managers are responsible for health and safety in their particular area of responsibility and will:

- Promote a positive and proactive approach to Health and safety
- Implement and communicate the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School Health and Safety policies and safe systems of work.
- Ensure that contractors, customers and visitors are aware of safety procedures. This includes ensuring that contractors are competent to carry out their work safely with minimal risk to themselves and others
- Ensure risk assessments are undertaken for work activities they control, in consultation with their employees.
- Develop, implement and review safe working practices to satisfy themselves that appropriate and sufficient control measures are in place to remove or reduce the risks to as low a level of reasonably practicable.
- Ensure that they and their staff have adequate levels of training, instruction and supervision to work safely with minimal risk to themselves or others, paying particular attention to young employees and new starters.
- Ensure induction training is provided for all new staff, including temporary staff to ensure that they are aware of the emergency procedures and any significant risks within the work place.
- Make sure all work- related accidents or incidents, including near misses are investigated and reported and any necessary remedial action is taken.
- Ensure that work place inspections are carried out, at reasonable intervals, to ensure that the working environment and equipment are safe and adequately maintained.
- Make sure that emergency procedures are effective, practiced and communicated to anyone who may be affected.

2.6 Premises Team

Health and Safety law requires the appointments of one or more “competent” persons to help employers to comply with legislation. At Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School this role is fulfilled by the Headteacher.

This Includes acquiring advice from a competent Health and Safety professional body – at this time it will be Birmingham City Council.

The Premises Team will:

- Act as their first point of contact for the Health and Safety executive (HSE)
- Maintain the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School health and safety management system, providing advice, support and guidance on all aspects of the Health and Safety
- Develop H&S policies, procedures and standards to ensure that consistent and effective health and safety practices exist across the School.

- Maintain up to date knowledge of health and safety legislation and best practice and how this affects the school
- Carry out a programme of audits and inspections to ensure that the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School Healthy and Safety policies are complied with.
- Undertake specialist risk assessments, where appropriate
- Review reports of any accidents and compile statistics to identify causes and trends and make recommendations to improve performance.
- Where appropriate, conduct impartial accident investigations and prepare reports of such investigations, with recommendations to prevent recurrence.
- Assist in the development of health and safety awareness and training.
- In an emergency / potentially dangerous situation intervene and stop activities where unsafe practices, methods or processes present an immediate danger of serious injury. Any such action will be reported to the appropriate head of department as soon as possible.
- Monitor purchasing and maintenance of equipment and materials and ensuring that it complies with current health and safety standards;
- Monitor contractors and ensuring that only competent, approved contractors are engaged to work on the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School site;
- Ensure that the Statutory testing Log and Asbestos Log are kept up to date;
- Ensure that emergency drills and procedures are carried out regularly and monitored for effectiveness;
- Monitor contractors on site and ensuring they consult the asbestos log.

2.7 Responsibilities of Risk Assessors

Although a management responsibility, nominated Risk Assessors will usually undertake workplace risk assessments. A Risk Assessor is a member of staff who has undergone training to give them the required knowledge and skill to undertake health and safety risk assessments i.e. they are competent. Risk Assessors will:

- Attend appropriate training before carrying out any risk assessments
- Carry out risk assessments as directed by their Manager
- Make a record of the risk assessment using a written record of the risk assessment using Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School documentation.
- Communicate the findings of the risk assessment to the relevant Manager
- Where risks are not adequately controlled, develop an action plan with the appropriate Manger.
- Conduct inspections of the workplace at least once per term, to ensure that the working environment and equipment are safe and adequately maintained.
- Inform Managers of any additional hazards they become aware of.
- Seek further advice / support and expertise where required.

2.8 The Responsibilities of all Employees in School

Whilst it is acknowledged that the ultimate responsibility for Health and safety matter in Archbishop Ilsey Catholic School rest with the Head Teacher and Governing Body all staff in Archbishop Ilsey Catholic School have a clear responsibility in ensuring the effective delivery of this policy.

Health and safety laws requires all employees, wherever they work, to do certain things to help Archbishop Ilsey Catholic School maintain and improve health and safety standards. This means that employees must:

- Take reasonable care of the health and safety of themselves, fellow employees and other person who may be affected by their acts or omissions
- Co-operate with and support Archbishop Ilsey Catholic School managers and other employees, in meeting with health and safety legal responsibilities.
- Undertake any required training and only use tools, machinery, plant, vehicles or equipment that they are trained to use.
- Take all suitable safety precautions and carry out work in accordance with the information, instruction and training they have received (written or verbal)
- Make use of protective wear and take good care of anything (including equipment and protecting clothing) provided for the purposes of health and safety
- Maintain tools, machinery, plant, vehicles and equipment in a good condition, only use them for the purpose intended and withdraw from use anything that is considered unsafe.
- Report defects, malfunctions, hazards, accidents, incidents, “near misses” and anything thought to be dangerous to their Manager and /or Health and Safety Representative without delay.
- Be sensibly and safely dressed for their particular working conditions.
- Follow laid down emergency procedures and be aware of the position of fire alarms, first aid equipment and the identity of First Aid Officers.
- Tell their line manager (in confidence) about any personal conditions, which could increase the likelihood or impact of an accident or incident.
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Employees should not undertake potentially hazardous tasks for which they have not been trained. If anyone feels that they have received inadequate training or information before being exposed to new or increased risks, the matter should be raised with their line manager who will bring it to the attention of the Headteacher.

SECTION THREE – HEALTH AND SAFETY ARRANGEMENTS

The following section explains the day to day arrangements that are in place for the management of health and safety across Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School.

3.1 Health and Safety policies

This overall Health and Safety Policy is supported by a number of other operational policies, which provide more detailed guidance on certain aspects of health and safety. These documents do not supersede this overall Policy, but should be read in conjunction with it.

Further policies and guidance will be produced as required by changes in legislation or in line with best practice.

All health and safety policies will be reviewed by the Headteacher who will, where appropriate, ensure that any Governing Body approval is obtained, prior to publication.

3.2 Organisation

3.2.1 Roles and Responsibilities

Specific health and safety roles and responsibilities are detailed in Section 2 of this document.

Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School supports and encourages employee participation in health and safety. We recognise that active employee involvement helps to:

- Promote a positive health and safety culture;
- Develop effective risk control measures and realistic safe systems of work;
- Reduce accidents and work related ill health.

3.3 Consultation

To achieve this participation we will promote open and constructive consultation with employees and their nominated representatives. This includes the requirements as set out in the safety Representatives and Safety Committees regulations 1977 (as amended).

3.4 Information, Instruction and Training

So far as is reasonably practicable, Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School will provide suitable and sufficient information, instruction and training to all employees. This includes the following:

- Induction information and training for new employees;
- Provision and dissemination of health and safety information in team briefings, newsletters, leaflets, posters and other appropriate methods;
- Training, as appropriate, on a range of health and safety issues;

Additionally, every opportunity will be taken to raise awareness and understanding of health and safety. This will include opportunities that arise through undertakings audits and inspections, involvement in accident investigations and face to face communication in other meetings.

This Health and Safety Policy (and any future revisions) will be communicated as appropriate, to ensure that all managers and staff are aware of its existence and their responsibilities.

3.5 Policy Implementation

Heads of Department have operational responsibility for ensuring that Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School health and safety policies are implemented.

All Managers have a responsibility to implement and communicate Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School Health and Safety Policies, Health and Safety procedures and safe systems of work. This includes ensuring that inspections of premises, plant and equipment are undertaken in line with statutory guidance and best practice, to provide assurance that the agreed safety arrangements are being followed and are appropriate and effective.

On a day-to-day basis all employees have responsibility to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that work is carried out in accordance with the Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School policies.

The Senior Management team may undertake a risk-based programme of audits and inspections to ensure that heads of department fulfill their responsibilities.

3.6 Measuring Performance

Health and safety performance will be measured by:

- Monitoring performance standards;
- Regular auditing and undertaking inspections
- Accident / incident reporting and investigations
- Liaising with HRE and Occupational Health to check the effectiveness of health surveillance and detect early signs of risks to health.

3.7 Reviewing / Monitoring Performance

Performance will be measured against health and safety performance indicators and targets and reported at Management Team meetings, health and safety meetings and to Governors on a regular basis.

The Governing Body recognises the importance of monitoring health and safety matters. Monitoring will be carried out in a number of ways.

The Governors may call for reports on:

- Accident / Incidents
- Results of internal or external health and safety inspections
- Maintenance reports
- Complaints, hazards and defect reports
- Reviews of any procedures carried out by the Head Teacher
- Analysis of First Aid Accident books

The head teacher shall provide reports as required by the Governing Body as part of his management of Archbishop Ilesley Catholic School. Health & Safety is an Agenda Item at

Governors' Meetings.

The Governing Body will ensure that all reasonable inspection facilities and information are provided on request to the officers of the Authority, Inspectors of the Health and Safety Executive and to any other bona fide health and safety officials.

3.8 Auditing

The Senior Leadership Team undertake a risk based programme of audits as required by all areas of Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School to ensure that health and safety policies are implemented and that (as far as is reasonably practicable) safe working practices operate.

The Annual Statutory Testing return will be submitted to the Local Authority by the requested dates and is available for inspection.

3.9 Equalities

This Policy has been subject to an Equalities Assessment.

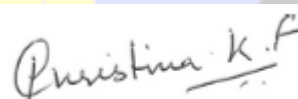
3.10 Planned Date of Review

This Policy will be reviewed annually.



C. Clinton

Mr Ciaran Clinton
Headteacher



Christina K.F.

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