

Health and Safety Policy

Statement of Intent



The Merchant Company Education Board as employers, acting by the George Watson's College Governing Council and senior management team of the School, recognise their responsibility to ensure so far as is reasonably practicable the safety, health and welfare of all its employees, pupils and others that may be affected by School activities in respect of United Kingdom Health and Safety law and best safety practice and have nominated the undersigned to ensure implementation of this policy.

The School commits to promoting excellent standards of health and safety by providing:

1. A constantly changing and evolving health and safety and risk control system;
2. An effective Health and Safety Management System aligned to the School's Health and Safety arrangements;
3. A framework of objectives and improvements to enhance the School strategy, Charter, values and mission goals;
4. Sustainable and achievable objectives and targets to achieve 'best practice' for health and safety and continuous improvement;
5. Information, instruction, supervision and training as are necessary to ensure the health and safety of all staff, pupils visitors and others;
6. Good communication systems including an effective consultative framework;
7. Sufficient resources to ensure the requirements of all current legislation are maintained;
8. Adequate resources for planning, maintenance and safe working conditions (including welfare) across the School to minimise injury to staff, pupils visitors and others;
9. Maintenance, care and attention to all plant and equipment;
10. Safe use, handling, storage and transportation of articles and substances;
11. Safe systems of work to address and manage the School's risk profile;
12. Safe places of work that are without risk to health and prevent injury and ill health from the School's activities, tasks and processes;
13. Sufficient planning and resources to ensure that school trips and other out of school activities are managed to minimise the risk of injury to staff, pupils and others;
14. A positive health and safety culture across the School.

In pursuance of this policy a Health and Safety Manual (HSM) has been produced. The HSM details: the Introduction to the Health and Safety Strategy in Section 1; the School Health and Safety Policy Statement of Intent in Section 2; the Health and Safety Organisation and Responsibilities in Section 3; the General Arrangements for the Management and Control of Health and Safety in Section 4; the subject specific arrangements in Section 5 which provides an A-Z Health and Safety Procedures Manual detailing policies, procedures, systems of work, information and risk control measures; and an Integration Plan / Road Map in Section 6 which tracks the school's progress to achieving HS(G)65 best practice.

The HSM is regularly reviewed and will be amended to comply with any new legislation, changes in the School risk profile or other health and safety requirements.

Chairman of Governing Council

Principal

Date: 13 February 2017

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