

# Accident Policy



## WARREN FARM PRIMARY SCHOOL

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| <b>Approved by:</b>        | Simon Taylor | <b>Date:</b> 08/04/2024 |
| <b>Last reviewed on:</b>   | 08/04/2024   |                         |
| <b>Next review due by:</b> | 08/04/2025   |                         |

## General Statement

This policy outlines the procedures that are to be adopted in this school when anybody experiences an accident, injury, near miss or dangerous occurrence either on school premises or during the course of school activities, such as on school trips.

For the purposes of this policy:

- an accident is defined as an unplanned event that causes injury to persons, damage to property or a combination of both
- a near miss is defined as an unplanned event that does not cause injury or damage, but could do so.

Suitable information and training will be given to all personnel regarding accident management, emergency response and incident reporting.

All accidents should be reported, recorded and reviewed. Unless the school is informed of incidents, it will be unable to identify what is wrong and take remedial action.

This policy covers reporting and recording procedures for all school staff and managers, temporary staff such as agency workers, and non-employees such as pupils, parents and visitors.

## Accident/Incident Management

In any potentially dangerous accident or unforeseen event the key priority must be people's safety and welfare.

Incidents and accidents should be managed in an appropriate manner to contain and eliminate any danger and minimise risk. Immediate first aid or emergency medical treatment should be sought where there are injuries. In all cases appropriate first-aid should be delivered if needed. Pupils who are injured should be accompanied to the medical room. Any pupil with a head injury should be sent to hospital for assessment.

If a danger or risk of further injury exists staff or managers attending the incident should ensure that people are removed to a place of safety. Appropriate assistance should be called for.

Incidents should be escalated to the senior leadership team or Headteacher as appropriate to their perceived severity.

## The Accident Book

All accidents resulting in personal injury must be recorded in the accident book. This should be available in the central office in reception. It contains information that must be recorded under the law.

The School Business Manager has the role of managing the accident book and associated reporting systems.

The accident book will be reviewed regularly by school governors, by the Headteacher and by the senior leadership team in conjunction with staff health and safety representatives.

All near misses must also be reported as soon as possible so that action can be taken to investigate the causes and to prevent recurrence.

## Reporting Procedures

As part of the incident management process all accidents and near misses experienced by a member of school staff or to a temporary agency worker should be reported to their line manager or to a senior member of staff and recorded. In the case of a pupil, parent or visitor accidents should be reported to any member of staff present. They should provide the necessary assistance and escalate the incident as required.

School staff have a duty to ensure that all accidents and near misses are reported as soon as is practicable, however minor. Reporting should be completed after any assistance or first-aid has been delivered and once the safety of people involved in any incident has been ensured.

Any incident which constitutes a serious incident or an emergency must be reported to the senior person in charge of the site immediately. This will usually be the Headteacher or their appointed deputy.

Injuries which occur while carrying out work duties off site, such as on school trips, must be reported and recorded in the same way.

If an injury renders an employee unable to make an accident report, a colleague, witness or someone who is able to enter an account of the incident should make the entry for them. The victim's account of the incident must be entered as soon as possible after the event.

Line managers must ensure that all school staff, including temporary staff, are aware of accident reporting procedures.

Where an accident results in absence from work, line managers, departmental managers and the senior leadership team must be informed. Employees who are absent as a result of an accident at work must keep the school informed of their progress, up to and including a return to normal duties.

Injuries to pupils and visitors should be recorded in the accident book in the same way as for staff. Teachers and other school staff who witness an accident should carry out the reporting after any assistance or first-aid has been delivered and once the safety of people involved in any incident has been ensured.

Injuries to contractors that occur on the school site should be recorded in the accident book. Contractors should also notify their own employer where applicable.

## First Aid Procedures

There must always be a first aider on site to be available should the need arise. Early Years must also have Paediatric trained staff available. Lunchtime staff will also have first aid training to allow them to deal with minor incidents. The First Aid room which has an adjustable bed is located by the Key Stage 1 toilets. A minimum of 5 staff with first aid qualifications will be maintained by the school (at least 3 of these must have paediatric training). We strive to have many more than this number to allow for staff turnover and absence. This training will be renewed every three years as a minimum.

## RIDDOR Requirements

The school understands that it has legal duties under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR) to report certain serious accidents and incidents to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

The following must be reported under RIDDOR:

- accidents resulting in death or major injury must be reported immediately
- any incident that results in over seven consecutive days of incapacity for work (excluding the day of the accident) must be reported within 15 days.
- Certain dangerous occurrences, including physical acts of violence to staff, and certain reportable diseases and medical conditions must also be made as specified in Schedule 1, Part 2 of RIDDOR.

Over-three-day injuries are not subject to RIDDOR reporting but a record of them must be kept in the accident book.

All incidents that might require RIDDOR notification should be escalated to the Headteacher and the senior leadership team immediately. RIDDOR reports should be made in person by the Headteacher or by the designated lead for health and safety.

Fatal and specified incidents only should be made by calling the HSE RIDDOR Incident Contact Centre on 0345 300 9923 (opening hours Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 5 pm). All other reports should be made using the RIDDOR online reporting facility on the HSE website at [www.hse.gov.uk/riddor](http://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor).

Records/copies of RIDDOR reports must be saved by the person making the report and kept with the accident book.

The school understands from HSE guidance that injuries to pupils and visitors who are involved in an accident at school or on an activity organised by the school are only reportable under RIDDOR if the accident results in:

- the death of the person, and arose out of or in connection with a work activity or
- an injury that arose out of or in connection with a work activity and the person is taken directly from the scene of the accident to hospital for treatment (examinations and diagnostic tests do not constitute treatment).

When an incident is reported using RIDDOR's online form, pupils should be entered as members of the public unless they are on a recognised work experience or training scheme.

In addition to the above, the school understands that it is also required to report any work-related deaths and certain injuries that take place to self-employed people while they are working at the premises. This includes contractors.


## Review and Investigation

All accidents and incidents that occur in this school will be investigated by a responsible person to ascertain the exact circumstances and the root causes. Lessons should be learnt and recommendations from accident investigations included in future safety procedures, risk assessments and standard operating procedures as appropriate. All investigations will be conducted in collaboration with staff health and safety representatives.

Accident records will be reviewed regularly by the Headteacher, the senior management team and by school governors, in conjunction with staff health and safety representatives, to ascertain the nature of incidents that have occurred in the school and whether there are any trends, patterns or identifiable outstanding risks. This review will be in addition to an individual investigation of the circumstances surrounding particular incidents.

## Policy Review

As part of its monitoring of safety and risk assessment this policy will be subject to periodic review by school governors.

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| Signed:             |  |
| Date:               | 08/04/2024  |
| Policy review date: | 08/04/2025  |