

WORCESTER SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLBEING

POLICY

September 2019



Worcester Sixth Form College

GENERAL STATEMENT

Health and Safety at work is the responsibility of everyone at Worcester Sixth Form College. The College on behalf of Heart of Mercia Multi-Academy Trust (the employer) accepts its responsibility to develop and pursue a policy and procedures, so far as is reasonably practicable, that will ensure the health, safety and welfare of employees whilst working on behalf of Worcester Sixth Form College and all other persons whilst on the premises. All employees, with the appropriate support, training and supervision, are required to operate safe working practices and procedures and to work with due consideration for the safety of others.

Ed Senior
Principal

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

To ensure a positive approach to Health, Safety and Wellbeing, the College will undertake to develop and implement the following:

1. To undertake all of the College's activities in such a way as to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of all users of the College including governors, employees, students, members of the general public and all other individuals or groups who work in or visit the College's premises.
2. Ensure that where equipment, machinery or hazardous substances etc. are used or where staff are concerned with the handling, storage or transport of goods, safe working practices are established and adhered to in order to avoid risk. This will include the provision of safety equipment as required.
3. Ensure by the establishment of effective procedures that the risk of accident and all forms of violence are minimised and, if they do occur, they are properly examined and recorded and relevant action is taken to reduce or prevent a recurrence.
4. Provide appropriate training, information and supervision for employees at all levels to ensure they are able to meet their responsibilities within the policy.
5. To establish meaningful arrangements for joint consultation on Health and Safety issues and through appropriate consultation with representatives promote health, safety and wellbeing arrangements.
6. To establish procedures to inspect, monitor and audit the effectiveness of the safety policy and to make recommendations for any improvement and revisions necessary.
7. Ensure that grievances or disciplinary matters concerning health and safety are dealt with using the existing employment procedures.
8. Ensure and promote the wellbeing of all staff employed by the College.

RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of the Principal, in conjunction with the governors to ensure that all reasonably practicable measures are taken to comply with health and safety legislation.

The Governors

The governors will be responsible for maintaining high standards of health, safety and wellbeing for the benefit of all staff, students and visitors to the College. In particular they will:

- Collectively and individually exercise their role in providing Health and Safety leadership.
- Co-ordinate their responsibilities through the work of the Finance and Resources Committee and its Chair.
- Create a management structure for implementing the Health, Safety & Wellbeing Policy.
- Accept responsibility for implementing the policy.
- Monitor, review and revise the policy statement.
- Promote awareness of health and safety issues.
- Engage the active participation of all members of the College in improving Health and Safety.
- Ensure there are codes of practice for work activities.
- Ensure necessary health, safety and wellbeing information is available and implemented.
- Routinely report to the Trust Board on health and safety matters.

The Principal

The Principal is accountable to the Executive Principal of the Trust and the College's Local Governing Body for the implementation of the Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy. He will also discharge the Local Governing Body's overall duty as delegated by the Trust. The discharge of these duties will be through line managers. The Principal will be responsible in particular for:

- Co-ordinating the development and implementation of the policy.
- Monitoring the implementation of the policy.
- Reviewing and updating the policy and its supporting arrangements, the communication of any changes to all staff.
- Communicating the requirements of the policy to all staff.
- Ensuring provision of appropriate consultative arrangements with staff and their Union representative.
- Ensuring all other requirements are met under current health and safety legislation.

The Principal, supported by the PA to the Principal, also has responsibility for:

- Chairing the College Health, Safety and Wellbeing Committee and determining its agenda.
- Co-ordinating all aspects of Health, Safety & Wellbeing Policy and practice.
- Ensuring that all statutory and College policy requirements are met as far as is practicable and all staff receive training so as to perform their work activity without risk to themselves and others.
- Requiring current and effective risk assessments for all aspects of College work for which significant hazards are known.
- Ensuring arrangements are in place for dealing with health and safety matters such as:
 - the dissemination of health and safety information to all staff
 - first aid
 - accident reporting
 - emergency evacuation procedures
 - fire procedures including the fire register
 - ensuring accidents are investigated
 - ensuring health and safety matters raised by staff are dealt with

Senior Leaders, Heads of Department, other Line Managers and Supervisors

Senior Leaders, Heads of Department, Managers and Supervisors are responsible, so far as is reasonably practicable, for implementing the safety policy within the department/area of activity.

As a general rule managers' direct responsibility for health, safety and wellbeing is determined by the extent to which they have authority to take executive action. In other words, if they have the responsibility to make the general decision about some aspect of their work, they are responsible for the health, safety and wellbeing implications of that decision.

Senior Leaders, Heads of Department, Line Managers and Supervisors will be responsible for:

- effective implementation of College policy in the areas of work for which they have control
- contributing to the development and the implementation of the specific areas of policy and legislation that apply to their area of responsibility, ensuring they are translated into practical terms to enable the work to be carried out
- undertaking risk assessments for all aspects of their department's or section's work for which significant hazards are suspected and providing a copy for the PA to the Principal
- ensuring all staff for which they are responsible understand and receive appropriate support, training and supervision to undertake their work safely
- reporting all accidents, hazards and incidents

Employees

All members of staff employed at Worcester Sixth Form College are required to:

- observe the Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy at all times
- take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and anybody who may be affected by what they do or fail to do
- raise health, safety and welfare issues with their supervisor, manager or safety representative, the Principal or PA to the Principal.

- co-operate with management and other employees so far as is necessary to fulfil their duties in health and safety requirements
- comply with the health and safety instructions and directions issued by managers
- report all accidents and damage at work to their manager or supervisor and complete the appropriate accident reporting procedures
- use properly the means and facilities provided for health and safety at work including safety equipment provided for their use
- refrain from any activity that may endanger themselves or others or which contravenes the prescribed practices and procedures developed in support of the policy
- participate in any required training or training provided that enables them to undertake their work in a safer manner
- report any potential hazards or risks to management for the appropriate action to be taken
- refer to the Safeguarding Policy and follow its requirements as appropriate.

Students

- To take reasonable care to ensure the health and safety of themselves and others within the College who may be affected by what they do or fail to do whilst in the College.
- To co-operate with all College managers, teaching staff and safety staff on health and safety issues.
- To ensure that they are familiar with and act in accordance with any procedures or instructions issued to them or which have been brought to their attention in some or other way.
- To act in accordance with any safety training which they have received.
- To make full and proper use of any personal protective equipment provided for their use in accordance with any instructions given or training received. Any loss of equipment or any obvious defect should be reported immediately to the teacher responsible for the activity.
- Not interfere intentionally or recklessly with or misuse anything provided in the interests of health and safety.
- To report any accident to themselves no matter how insignificant by contacting the teacher responsible for the activity.
- To report to a member of staff any situation which they consider may represent a health and safety risk and not use any equipment which appears to them to be unsafe.

Visitors

Whilst on the premises all visitors must observe the College's health and safety rules and procedures. The following procedures must be followed:

- All visitors **MUST** sign in (and out) at Reception.
- Visitors must be accompanied by an employee. Visitors should only be allowed access to those areas they are authorised to enter.
- Should a fire occur, the person who is responsible for the visitor will take him/her to the respective fire assembly point.
- Should an incident occur involving the visitor which results in injury, this will be recorded in the Accident Book and a thorough investigation carried out as soon as possible.
- If the injury is of a serious nature or is fatal, the incident **MUST** be reported to the enforcing authority in addition to following the College's accident reporting system.

All visitors must:

- follow the fire procedures displayed on the premises
- adhere to the 'no smoking' policy
- park their vehicles in such a way as not to obstruct fire escape routes, roads, access or other vehicles
- either be accompanied or authorised to enter the premises
- not take anything from the premises without permission
- report all incidents and/or injuries to the host
- when necessary, wear protective clothing which will be supplied

The College reserves the right to request to search visitors' bags, packages and vehicles. A refusal to do this would require the visitor to leave the premises and remove the potential source of risk.

Contractors

Any contractor undertaking work for, or on behalf of, the College must:

- Observe the Health, Safety & Wellbeing Policy and any safety instructions given by persons enforcing the policy.
- Not work on College premises until the relevant aspects of the safety policy and its practices are understood and accepted and all written instructions will be complied with.
- Not work on behalf of or on College premises unless covered by insurance against risk.
- Significant contractors will be asked to supply copies of their employer's or public liability insurance policies and, if necessary, their health and safety policy too.
- Abide by the College's Safeguarding procedures and arrangements.

HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLBEING COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Health, Safety and Wellbeing Committee is to devise and recommend policy and procedures to the Principal and Local Governing Body that will ensure the practical minimisation of risk to those working at or visiting Worcester Sixth Form College and of students, staff and other members when working or travelling elsewhere on College business, and to monitor these on its behalf.

Its Terms of Reference are subject to regular review by the Local Governing Body and the Principal. It will normally meet once per term and copies of the minutes will be available to all staff.

EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

- The College will devise and publish in all appropriate rooms, emergency evacuation procedures which will be reviewed annually.
- Instruction and practice for emergency evacuation will be provided at regular intervals.
- Staff should be aware of the correct use of the fire fighting or emergency equipment in their departmental area or for general use and should request instruction or training for this if necessary.
- There are qualified first aid staff and first aid boxes available to deal with accidents and emergencies at key locations. All staff should be familiar with this provision and should refrain from administering first aid unless qualified to do so.
- All staff should be conversant with procedures for reporting accidents, whether during the day or in the evening and ensure these are completed in the correct manner.

HEALTH & SAFETY POLICIES

This Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy is supported by specific policy statements for those areas of College work which require additional explanation and procedure. A list of these or individual copies are available from the PA to the Principal and can be found in the Repository under Health & Safety. The Safeguarding Policy (saved in Repository\College Policies\Management), should be considered and any guidelines adhered to as appropriate.

MONITORING & REVIEW

This policy will be monitored by the Local Governing Body and responsible staff at the College. It will be reviewed regularly and at least once per year.

Ed Senior
September 2019