



Hartington C of E Primary School

A Christian Community - Teaching, Learning, Caring

Fire Safety Policy

March 2018

Aims of this Policy:

To identify procedures which are in line with the guidance from the D.C.C and which the school will follow in the case of an emergency. This will include appropriate training for the Head Teacher and staff to ensure knowledge of procedures are updated in line with recommendations set by the D.C.C.

What to do:

It is the responsibility of the Head Teacher and Governing Body of the premises to ensure that fire evacuation drills are carried out.

The fire routine must be based upon a simple, efficient procedure which is specifically designed for the premises in which it has to operate. At Hartington School fire drills are scheduled to take place at least once per term. The alarm system is to be tested once a week by the School Business Officer or Cleaner in Charge and recorded appropriately on a register then placed in the Red Fire Safety folder.

The Purpose of the Fire Drill:

Fire drills are intended to ensure, by means of training and rehearsal, that in the event of fire:

- The people who may be in danger act in a calm and orderly manner.
- Those people who may have designated responsibilities carry out their tasks to ensure the safety of all concerned.
- The escape routes are used in accordance with a predetermined and practiced plan.
- Evacuation of the building is achieved in a speedy and orderly manner.
- To promote an attitude of mind whereby persons will react rationally when confronted with a fire or other emergency at school.
- To familiarise all parties in the building with the sound of the fire alarm bell.

Fire Drill Routine: - A fire routine is based on a critical sequence of events, these being:

Alarm Operation:

- Anyone discovering an outbreak of fire must, without hesitation, sound the alarm by operating the nearest fire alarm call point.

Calling the Fire Brigade:

- All outbreaks of fire or any suspected fire, however small, should be reported immediately to the Fire Brigade by the quickest means available. This can be done on the phone in the school office or on a mobile phone by the designated member of the schools senior leadership team – Head Teacher or Second in Charge.

Evacuation:

- On hearing the fire alarm, pupils must be instructed to leave the building in a calm, orderly manner.
- The person in charge of each class must indicate the exit route to be used and everyone must be directed to a Predetermined Assembly Point.
- Specific arrangements must be made for pupils with physical or mental disabilities to ensure that they are assisted during evacuation.
- No running is to be permitted to avoid panic.
- Overtaking of classes or individuals must not be permitted.
- Anyone who is not in class when the fire alarm sounds must go immediately to the assembly point.
- No one must be allowed to re-enter the building until told to do so by the Fire Service in attendance, **or**, in the case of a fire evacuation drill the senior person in charge.
- The adult in charge of the classroom, when the fire alarm sounds is responsible for ensuring all pupils and adults have vacated the room via the appropriate fire exit.
- The School Business Officer (Staff member at the entrance to the building) will 'sweep' the areas in the school which have no class teacher present, i.e. hall, corridors, toilets.

Assembly:

- An area outside the school premises must be designated as an assembly point.
- It must be clearly marked and easily identified by any person who must be expected to be in the school premises.
- The assembly point must be far enough away from the school premises to afford protection from the heat and smoke in a fire situation.
- The assembly point must be in a position that does not put pupils and staff at risk by emergency vehicles responding to the incident.
- At Hartington the emergency assembly point is the large playground standing by the fence or in case of the school being evacuated awaiting the fire brigade then the pupils will be taken to the village hall and parents contacted by the designated member of staff.

Roll Call:

- The Head Teacher or Senior Member of Staff that day has overall responsibility to ensure that a roll call is conducted in the event of evacuation of the premises.
- Immediately those classes have assembled at the assembly point, a roll or count must be made to ascertain that no one remains in the premises. Each class teacher conducts a roll count.
- Any visitors or contractors in the premises at that time must be included.

- Attendance registers, visitors book, Asbestos File and Fire Safety Book (Red Box) must be brought to the assembly point when the alarm sounds. This is done by the Schools Business Officer (When at work) or the Class 2 Teacher.
- The count at the assembly point must be checked with the attendance registers and visitors book to verify that everyone is out of the building. This is conducted by class teachers (registers) and the Head Teacher (Visitors Book).
- Each teacher must report to the nominated person in charge of the evacuation procedure to verify that everyone in their charge is accounted for or to inform him/her of the number of persons missing.

Meeting the Fire Brigade:

- The person in charge of the roll call must identify him/herself to the Fire Brigade on their arrival. In doing so vital information can be relayed to the Fire Officer which will dictate the necessary actions to be carried out by the Fire Brigade. The Fire Safety Book should be given to the Lead Officer of the Fire Brigade.

Instruction, Training and Recording:

During the first week of term or as soon as practically possible thereafter, all new entrants being pupils, staff or support staff, should be conducted around the primary escape routes of the school. They should also receive instruction on the school fire evacuation routine.

All members of the staff shall receive instruction and training appropriate to their responsibilities in the event of any emergency.

All members of staff shall receive two periods of verbal instructions given by a competent person in each 12 month period. Such instruction shall include details of how to call the Fire Brigade. In the case of newly engaged staff, instruction shall be given as soon as possible after appointment. A record of the training and instruction given and fire drills held shall be entered in the log book and will include the following:

- Date of the instruction of fire drill
- Duration
- Name of person giving the instruction
- Names of persons receiving instruction
- Nature of instruction or fire drill

Fire drills, which may be combined with the instruction given above, shall be carried out at least once per term. During the year a fire drill should simulate that one escape route is not available.

Each fire drill should be started by a pre-determined signal and the whole premises checked as if any evacuation was in progress.

Regular service / maintenance of firefighting equipment i.e. extinguishers should be checked yearly and recorded appropriately in the fire manual kept in the red box in the hall.

Supplementary Notes

Notices:

- Each fire alarm point shall, where necessary, be clearly indicated '**Fire Alarm**' in accordance with the Health and Safety (Safety Signs and Signals) and all fire exits identified.

Regulations followed by the appropriate operating instructions:

- A notice should be displayed adjacent to the telephone or switchboard giving clear instructions for calling the Fire Brigade in case of fire.
- Notices should be displayed for staff detailing their actions in an emergency.
- Links should be made to the schools Accessibility Plan and Procedures which should be placed on the schools website and the Critical Incident Plan.

Firefighting:

- Any attempt to fight the fire must always be secondary to life safety.
- Circumstances will clearly dictate whether firefighting should be attempted.
- Any attempt to fight the fire must be based upon the type and degree of training received in the use of firefighting equipment employed in the premises.
- Regular fire drills will ensure that the evacuation procedure applying to a premise meets its aim satisfactorily and will highlight any area of the procedure which may need to be reviewed.

Policy Reviewed: March 2018

Health and Safety Governor: _____

Chair of Governors: _____

To be reviewed: March 2010