



Risk Assessment Policy

With reference to -

Health and Safety at Work Act 1974

*Health and Safety: advice on legal duties and powers, For local authorities, school leaders,
school staff and governing bodies, February 2014*

HSE: Enforcement Policy Statement October 2015

HSE: School trips & outdoor learning activities Tackling the health and safety myths, June 2011

Working at Height: A Brief Guide INDG401(rev2), published 01/14

*Public Health England: Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and other Childcare Settings,
May 2016*

Aims

At Alamiyah, we believe that the health and safety of pupils, staff and visitors is of paramount importance. The School Board take reasonable steps to ensure that staff and pupils are not exposed to risks to their health and safety whilst engaging in activities both on or off school premises in compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. Priority lies in ensuring that all operations within the school environment, both educational and support, are delivered in a safe manner that complies fully not just with the law but with best practice. It is recognised that risks are inherent in everyday life and that the need is to identify them and adopt systems for minimising them. It is important for our pupils to be educated to cope safely with risk.



Approach

- all staff are trained in health and safety issues, risk management and hazard/risk reporting
- all risks on site and activities on and off site are assessed, mitigated and managed responsibly by staff who have been inducted into undertaking these assessments
- Reviewing performance and risk assessments on a termly basis
- all governors are provided with adequate training in order to be able to perform a critical analysis of systems for health and safety and risk management

What is a risk assessment?

A risk assessment is a tool for conducting a formal examination of the harm or hazard to people (or an organisation) that could result from a particular activity or situation:

- A hazard is something with the potential to cause harm;
- A risk is an evaluation of the probability (or likelihood) of the hazard occurring;
- A risk assessment is the resulting assessment of the severity of the outcome (for example, loss of life, destruction of property);
- Control measures are the measures and procedures that are put in place in order to minimise the consequences of unfettered risk (for example, staff training, clear work procedures, preliminary visits, warning signs and insurance);

Risk assessments can be used to identify potential hazards to people (slipping, falling) and property (fire) and strategic hazards (reputation, loss of pupils, impact on development), financial hazards (falling pupil rolls), compliance hazards (Child Protection issues) and environmental hazards (asbestos, legionella). It is recognised that accidents and injuries can ruin lives, damage reputations and cost money, and it is recognised that preventative measures can often be surprisingly simple and cost effective, for example, the application of hazard warning tape to a trip hazard, or ensuring that chemicals are properly stored behind locked doors. Risk assessments are reviewed and updated annually by the School Administrator.



What areas require risk assessments?

There are numerous activities carried out at the school, each of which requires its own separate risk assessment. Areas in which risk assessments are of particular importance are:

- Asbestos Control
- Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) activities
- Educational Visits and Trips
- Fire safety
- Health and Safety
- Water safety

Risk assessments are also needed for:

- The Classroom
- The entire premises
- Woodwork
- Science (when using chemicals or high risk equipment)
- Sports and PE (High Risk Activities like Archery, Swimming)

Pastoral

The focus of our pastoral care is to ensure that each pupil becomes a confident, articulate young adult capable of keeping him/herself safe whether at home or outside the home. Our curriculum is directed towards promoting an increasing understanding as the pupil develops, of the risks that exist in both the real and the electronic worlds, and of sensible precautions that should be taken.



Medicines and First Aid

There are written procedures for First Aid and Administering Medicines. The school ensures there are sufficient people trained to a 'First Aid at Work' or equivalent qualification and complies with the EYFS requirement for sufficient staff to hold a paediatric first aid qualification.

Safeguarding

Our Safeguarding & Child Protection Policies as well as the training received by staff form the core of our Safeguarding risk management. Safe recruitment policies and procedures ensure that the school is not exposed to the risk of employing staff who are barred from working with children, or who are not allowed to work in the UK. School Governing Board and Volunteers all have enhanced DBS checks, Early Years staff sign a declaration stating they do not live with or live where a person works and has been barred from working with children. All teaching and support staff receive regular Child Protection training. The combination of these measures helps us manage the risk.

Support Areas

Catering Risk assessments and training cover all significant risks concerning catering.

Maintenance

Risk assessments and training cover all significant risks including, manual handling, working at height, lone working, asbestos, control of contractors on site, electricity, gas, water and the control of substances hazardous to health (COSHH).



Administrative Staff

The Display Screen Equipment assessment is required for all staff who spend the majority of their working day in front of a screen.

Conducting a Risk Assessment

The school's policy is not to carry out any high risk activity. Activities involving pupils are normally low risk. We undertake some medium risk activities but use only specialist/qualified instructors. Pupils are always given a safety briefing before participating in these activities, and pupils are expected to wear protective equipment where appropriate and follow instructions. Should the situation arise we would always employ specialists for any high-risk tasks. Staff may carry out medium rated activities only if they have been specially trained and follow best practice. All members of staff and all pupils are expected to wear personal protective equipment for tasks that have been assessed as requiring its use.

In summary, all health and safety issues are logged on risk assessments, arising risks or maintenance issues are logged in the maintenance book and daily hazard checks are logged on daily checklists. All of these issues are reviewed periodically on a:

- Daily basis prior to a session, staff use checklists (based on risks highlighted in the school's risk assessments) to ensure key areas are free of hazards
- Weekly basis in staff meetings, Health and Safety issues are raised and resolved;
- Termly basis all risk assessments are reviewed
- Annual basis full risk assessments are carried out.