



Southfields Primary School

School Security Policy

Date agreed: March 2023

Review Date: March 2025

This policy, having been presented to, and agreed upon by the whole staff and Governors, will be distributed to:

- All teaching staff
- School governors

A copy of the policy will also be available in:

- The Staffroom
- The Head's office
- School web site

This will ensure that the policy is readily available to visiting teachers, support staff and parents.

Southfields Primary is totally committed to social justice and improving life chances for potentially vulnerable children. It is dedicated to sharing its work and findings beyond the school to improve outcomes for as many children as it can reach and has a particular specialism in Speech and Language development.

1. Introduction

This document identifies the key elements of the Southfields Primary School's security management system and the ways in which we seek to improve security of our pupils, staff, governors and other adults and children who may be affected by school activities.

Southfields Primary School staff and pupils are a key resource and it is essential that risks to their security are properly controlled through an effective security management system and commitment at all levels.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the LA Disciplinary Policy, Child Protection Policy, Data Protection Policy, Codes of Conduct as well as Visits and Visitors to the school Policy, E Safety Policy as well as the school Safeguarding Policy.

2. Objectives

- Enabling strategic leadership to promote a collaborative and coordinated response to risk management
- Identifying improvements in security culture and accountability across the school and from school to school in support work
- Implementing ongoing improvements in the effectiveness of security measures and controls, monitoring and reviewing security measures.
- Ensuring that staff are consulted and informed about security and receive appropriate training where required whether new or existing.
- Informing parents and pupils of the security policy and encouraging them to help to ensure that it is effective.

3. Southfields Primary School Security Procedure

3.1 Responsibilities

3.1.1 Local Authority (LA):

- The LA will provide strategic direction and leadership through providing training, advice, inspection visits and monitoring the School.

3.1.2 The Governing Body:

- The Governing Body will ensure a security policy is in place and is monitored and reviewed bi-annually.
- The Governing Body will ensure that staff are aware of, and adhere to school security and participate in training where appropriate.
- All members of the Governing Body will be issued with ID badges and will display them whilst on the premises.

3.1.3 The Headteacher:

Will have delegated responsibility for the day to day security of the School and for ensuring such things as:

- All staff appreciating the importance of security and understand the School's policy/procedures and their own responsibilities.
- Staff training needs are kept under review and training arranged as and when necessary.
- New staff are informed of the School's security policy/procedure.
- Parents and pupils are informed of the security policy/procedure and encouraged to help ensure that Southfields Primary School has a safe school culture.
- Regular reports will be made to the Governing Body.
- Advice will be sought from the police where necessary.
- All crimes will be reported to the police.

3.1.4 School Business Manager/Site Officer will:

- Maintain the security systems and equipment.
- Carry out regular routine security checks.
- Maintain a record of all security checks.
- Record security lapses, bring these promptly to the attention of the Headteacher, and review security procedures as and when required.
- Raise awareness of security issues.

3.1.5 Staff:

- Whatever the arrangements for delegating certain functions, there is a clear message that good security involves everyone in the School.
- Staff should be aware of and conform to operational procedures that affect security e.g.:
 - Key control procedures
 - Visitor monitoring
 - External door monitoring
 - New employees will be informed of this during their induction training.
 - All staff will be issued with ID badges and will display these whilst on the premises.

3.1.6 Pupils:

- Must report any persons on site that are not familiar to them and are not wearing either the official school ID badge or a visitor ID badge. Students should not approach any stranger who is not wearing a badge but report all strangers immediately to the nearest member of staff.
- Signs and assemblies/meetings will regularly remind them of their role.

3.2 Trespass

- Trespass may give rise to a criminal offence under section 547 of the Education Act 1996 (see section 6.2 and 6.4 of the Head's Legal Guide) and section 206 of the Education Act 2002 (see section 6).
- The School is a private place. Any person who is not included in the following categories, and enters without permission, is a trespasser and may be asked to leave:
 - Members of staff - unless suspended for health or disciplinary reasons
 - Registered pupils - unless excluded for disciplinary reasons
 - Parents or guardians responsible for a student at the School - unless prevented for legal reasons.
 - Others - Governors, suppliers, contractors and authorised users of the premises for 'out of hours' activities.

3.3 Visitor Access Control

The School operates a simple workable access control system and therefore:

- Considers everyone who is not a member of staff or student as an intruder until they have gone through the visitor reception procedure.
- Provides visitors with a waiting area until they can be dealt with
- Identifies legitimate visitors and monitors:
 - Their arrival and reason for their visit by requiring them to sign in and complete the safeguarding documentation.
 - Movement around the School and
 - Departure time
 - All visitors will be given an ID badge, which they will wear as long as they are on site and carry the safeguarding documentation with them.

4. Offences Not Involving Assault

- Section 154 of the Public Order Act 1994 makes it an offence to use threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour, or disorderly behaviour, within the hearing or sight of a person to whom it is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress, even when no intent is involved.
- The School may decide that incidents in or around School, which might technically amount to committing the offences listed above, are best dealt with internally without involving the police.
- The School is aware of, and will act on where appropriate, the criminal offences contained in the Protection from Harassment Act 1997.

- Should any visitor to the school behave in a verbally abusive manner, they will be asked to leave the building and grounds or the police called.

5. An incident that involves physical force.

- In the event of any person assaulting or battering another person, (staff, pupil, governor, other adults or children involved in school activities):
 - The School may restrain the assailant with reasonable force to protect the victim.
 - In all but minor cases the School will refer to the police any assaults which appear to involve bodily harm. The School will also report to the police incidents which take place in a public place off School premises, but in circumstances where the School has responsibility for any of those involved whether they be members of staff or pupils.
 - Where possible those involved should make an immediate note of witnesses or others in a position to provide evidence of the assault.
 - The School will be ready and willing to provide a substantive account of what led up to the incident.

6. Offensive Weapons

- It is now an offence under Section 139A of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (as inserted by Section 4 of the Offensive Weapons Act 1996) for anyone to carry an offensive weapon or knife on the School premises.
- When it is reasonable to believe that a pupil is carrying an offensive weapon it may be appropriate for a senior member of staff to search the pupil if the student agrees to co-operate. In such an event there should be a witness present. Searches must be undertaken by a member of staff who is of the same gender as the student being searched.
- When a student declines to co-operate, the parents / guardians must be summoned after the matter has been referred to the Headteacher, followed if necessary by referral to the police.
- Under any other circumstances a search for offensive weapons should not be undertaken by anyone other than the police.

7. Personal Property

- Pupils are discouraged from bringing valuable items to school and in the event that they do so the School accepts no liability. If this is unavoidable on some occasion then special arrangements should be made in advance with the Headteacher regarding temporary safe keeping.
- Staff are responsible for their personal property.

8. Theft, Petty Vandalism, Minor Criminal Damage and Burglary

- Vandalism or arson is usually found in areas like recesses and doorways, which offer concealment or which is not under regular surveillance.
- Criminal incidents of this sort require reporting to the police, and could possibly be likely to require an emergency response where an intruder is still present on the premises. This is when the school is locked and the alarm is set off.
- When an intruder is thought to be present on the premises police help must be sought immediately.

9. Reporting and Recording Incidents

The School will maintain an Incident Register. This will contain simple but accurate details of all events, which, while quite minor in nature, could be significant if they recurred and became persistent. All staff are expected to record on an Incident Form (App 1):

- Trespass
- Aggressive behaviour by persons other than students around the School building
- Matters reported by pupils
- Any other incidents giving cause for concern
- The School Business Manager will retain the completed forms in an Incident Register
- The Headteacher and Designated Health and Safety Leads as well as the Governors will check the Incident Register regularly to see if any patterns are developing and to consider the need for consequent action

10. Site Security

All staff are responsible for the security of buildings and property:

- At the end of the School day each member of staff should ensure that all windows and external doors are securely fastened prior to a check by site staff.
- All staff are responsible for keeping buildings clear of all materials that can be used for arson or vandalism.
- Adequate security lighting is installed and maintained/monitored by site staff.
- Risk assessments are in place and are reviewed by the health and safety representatives annually.
- Property of the School is marked clearly and permanently and this is publicised.

11. Contractors

- Contractors to complete the paper work available from school reception

- Contractors on School site are required to observe the School's security policy/procedure, and this is overseen by the relevant site staff.
- Building materials and equipment must not be left lying around.
- When not in use scaffolding should not be given access to previously secure roof areas.
- Alarm systems must not be disrupted.
- As far as possible, contractors and workers called to the site to undertake specific tasks are screened in the same way as School staff.

12. Use of CCTV

- The school uses CCTV to monitor all areas of the grounds and buildings except for bathrooms and changing areas.
- Please see the CCTV Policy for further clarification.

Appendix 1: Incident Report Form

INCIDENT REPORT FORM

Includes trespass, nuisance or disturbance on school premises, verbal abuse, sexual or racial abuse, threats, aggression, physical violence and intentional damage to personal property.

This form should be completed as fully as possible. A member of staff should complete the form for an incident involving or witnessed by a pupil. Please use continuation sheets if necessary.

1. Member of staff reporting incident

Name:	Work Address:	Position:

2. Personal details of person assaulted/verbally abused (if appropriate)

Name:	Work Address:	Position (if member of staff):
Ethnicity:	Age:	Gender:

3. Details of trespasser/assailant(s) (if known)

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4. Witness(es) (if any)

Name:	Address:	Gender:
	Postcode:	Age:

Other information:

Relationship between member of staff/pupil and trespasser/assailant:

Name:	Address:	Gender:
	Postcode:	Age:

Other information:

Relationship between member of staff/pupil and trespasser/assailant:

5. Details of Incident

Type of incident (e.g. if trespass, was the trespasser causing a nuisance or disturbance and how; if assault, give details of any injury suffered, treatment necessitated, etc.)

Location of Incident (attach sketch if appropriate)

Other details (describe incident, including, where relevant event leading up to it; relevant details of trespass/assailant not given above; if a weapon was involved, who else was present.

6. Outcome

(e.g. whether police called; whether trespasser was removed from premises under section 547; whether parents contacted; what happened after the incident; any legal action)

7. Any further information/sketches, etc. (as attachments)

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Signed:

Date:

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