



**Alder Grove**  
Church of England Primary School



# Risk Assessment Policy

## Version Control

Version	Date	Description
1	Summer 2020	New Policy
2	Spring 2023	Review
3	Summer 2025	Review – no update

Date: Summer 2025  
Review: Summer 2027

## **Christian Vision at Alder Grove**



Our vision for Alder Grove School is about the importance of roots. Just as a tree cannot grow to be healthy and strong without good roots, so we believe that children need the right conditions to grow and flourish.

Our school community at Alder Grove is rooted in the following values:

**Kindness**

**Service**

**Truthfulness**

**Forgiveness**

**Courage**

**Perseverance**

We see these values in the life of Jesus, and Christians choose to live their lives rooted in him. At Alder Grove, we want to help all our children, whatever their faith background, to grow deep roots which will enable them and the whole community to be strong and healthy learners, and to care for each other.

As we live out these values, we help each other to flourish and grow. Our vision is not just about individuals but about a whole community, so we emphasise the importance of serving each other, and treating each other as we would like to be treated, and we also believe in the importance of caring for the world around us.

When the roots are healthy, we will see fruit growing:

*'They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season' (Psalm 1.3).*

The right roots will allow our children to fulfil their potential in all areas of life.

**Aims:**

The school aims to ensure that:

- All risks that may cause injury or harm to staff, pupils and visitors are identified, and all control measures that are reasonably practicable are in place to avoid injury or harm
- Risk assessments are conducted and reviewed on a regular basis

**Legislation and statutory requirements**

This policy is based on the following legislation and Department for Education (DfE) guidance:

- Paragraph 16 of part 3 of [The Education \(Independent School Standards\) Regulations 2014](#), which requires proprietors to have a written risk assessment policy
- Regulations 3 and 16 of [The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999](#) require employers to assess risks to the health and safety of their employees, including new and expectant mothers
- Regulation 4 of [The Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012](#) requires employers carry out an asbestos risk assessment
- Employers must assess the risk to workers from substances hazardous to health under regulation 6 of [The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002](#)
- Under regulation 2 of [The Health and Safety \(Display Screen Equipment\) Regulations 1992](#), employers must assess the health and safety risks that display screen equipment pose to staff
- Regulation 9 of [The Regulatory Reform \(Fire Safety\) Order 2005](#) says fire risks must be assessed
- Regulation 4 of [The Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992](#) requires employers to conduct a risk assessment for manual handling operations
- [The Work at Height Regulations 2005](#) say employers must conduct a risk assessment to help them identify the measures needed to ensure that work at height is carried out safely
- [DfE guidance on first aid in schools](#) says schools must carry out a risk assessment to determine what first aid provision is needed
- [DfE guidance on the Prevent duty](#) states schools are expected to assess the risk of pupils being drawn into terrorism
- [The Health and Safety Executive \(HSE\)](#) say schools that manage their own pools must conduct a risk assessment
- DfE guidance on [health and safety: responsibilities and duties for schools](#) says schools must identify the measures needed to reduce the risks from public health incidents, including COVID-19, so far as is reasonably practicable

A table of all the risk assessments schools are required to have in place can be found in appendix 1 of this policy. This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

**Definitions**

Risk assessment	A tool for examining the hazards linked to a particular activity or situation, and establishing whether enough precautions have been taken in order to prevent harm from them based on their likelihood and their potential to cause harm
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Hazard	Something with the potential to cause harm to people, such as chemicals or working from height
Risk	The chance (high or low) that people could be harmed by hazards, together with an indication of how serious the harm could be
Control measure	Action taken to prevent people being harmed

## **Roles and responsibilities**

### **The local governing body**

The local governing body has ultimate responsibility for health and safety matters in the school, but will delegate day-to-day responsibility to the Head of School.

The local governing body has a duty to take reasonable steps to ensure that staff and pupils are not exposed to risks to their health and safety. This applies to activities on or off the school premises.

The trust as the employer, also has a duty to:

- Assess the risks to staff and others affected by school activities in order to identify and introduce the health and safety measures necessary to manage the risks
- Inform employees about risks and the measures in place to manage them

### **The Head of School**

The Head of School, or in the Head of School's absence the Operations Manager, is responsible for ensuring that all risk assessments are completed and reviewed.

### **School staff and volunteers**

School staff are responsible for:

- Assisting with, and participating in, risk assessment processes, as required
- Familiarising themselves with risk assessments
- Implementing control measures identified in risk assessments
- Alerting the Head of School to any risks they find which need assessing

### **Pupils and parents**

Pupils and parents are responsible for following the school's advice in relation to risks, on-site and off-site, and for reporting any hazards to a member of staff.

### **Contractors**

Contractors are expected to provide evidence that they have adequately risk assessed all their planned work.

### **Risk assessment process**

When assessing risks in the school, we will follow the process outlined below.

We will also involve staff, where appropriate, to ensure that all possible hazards have been identified and to discuss control measures, following a risk assessment.

**Step 1: identify hazards** – we will consider activities, processes and substances within the school and establish what associated-hazards could injure or harm the health of staff, pupils and visitors.

**Step 2: decide who may be harmed and how** – for each hazard, we will establish who might be harmed, listing groups rather than individuals. We will bear in mind that some people will have special requirements, for instance pupils with special educational needs (SEN) and expectant mothers. We will then establish how these groups might be harmed.

**Step 3: evaluate the risks and decide on control measures (reviewing existing ones as well)** – we will establish the level of risk posed by each hazard and review existing control measures. We will balance the level of risk against the measures needed to control them and do everything that is reasonably practicable to protect people from harm.

**Step 4: record significant findings** – the findings from steps 1-3 will be written up and recorded in order to produce the risk assessment. A risk assessment template can be found in appendix 2 of this policy.

**Step 5: review the assessment and update, as needed** – we will review our risk assessments, as needed, and the following questions will be asked when doing so:

- Have there been any significant changes?
- Are there improvements that still need to be made?
- Have staff or pupils spotted a problem?
- Have we learnt anything from accidents or near misses?

**Step 6: retaining risk assessments** – risk assessments are retained for the 3 years after the length of time they apply. Risk assessments are securely disposed of.

### **Monitoring arrangements**

Risk assessments are written as needed and reviewed by Head of School.

This policy will be reviewed by the Head of School every three years and approved by the Local Governing Body.

### **Links with other policies**

This risk assessment policy links to the following policies:

- Health and safety
- First aid
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions

## Appendix 1: statutory risk assessments checklist

Statutory or mandatory risk assessment	✓	Completed by	Date of review
Workers under the age of 18			
Asbestos			
Substances hazardous to health			
Display screen equipment			
Fire			
First aid			
Manual handling			
Working at height			
Children being drawn into terrorism			
Swimming pools (if applicable)			

Appendix 2: risk assessment template

<b>LOCATION/ACTIVITY/ISSUE BEING ASSESSED:</b>	
<b>SCHOOL:</b>	Alder Grove CofE Primary School
<b>NAME OF ASSESSOR(s):</b>	
<b>DATE OF ASSESSMENT:</b>	
<b>DATE FOR REVIEW:</b>	
<b>APPROVED BY:</b>	<div>Signature: _____ Date: _____</div> <div>Name: _____</div>

<b>SUMMARY (* delete as appropriate)</b>
Risk level <b>without</b> additional controls:
Additional control measures required:
Risk level <b>with</b> additional controls:

What are the significant hazards?	What could go wrong? Who could be harmed and how?	What's already being done to control risks?	What additional controls are needed?	By who?	By when?	Date completed

REVIEWS AND REVISIONS					
Review date	Name of Assessor	Is assessment still valid?	If not, list adjustments with details of who will action and by when	Approved by Headteacher	Date of next review