

**The Acorn Federation**

**CRITICAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT PLAN**

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| **Date of issue** | January 2024 | **Date of next review** | January 2026 |
| **Person responsible for updating this plan** | | Mrs Teresa Bosley | |

**Copies of this plan are held by:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **NAME** | **DESIGNATION** |
| Teresa Bosley | Head Teacher |
| Amanda Lovett | School Business Officer |
| Kirsty Murby | School Business Assistant |

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***INTRODUCTION***

This plan has been prepared and agreed by the staff and Governors of The Acorn Federation to assist in dealing with an emergency situation that affects the school community.

This plan relates to an event which may involve:

* the safety of children and/or staff
* the school premises
* a serious accident involving children and/or school personnel on or off the premises
* the death of a child, staff member or governor
* a violent intrusion onto school premises (e.g. an armed intruder or a bomb alert)
* extensive damage to school premises
* cyber-attack disabling systems or resulting in a significant loss of information.
* the release of hazardous substances near or on the school site
* a crisis which might affect the public reputation of the school

It also considers where the headteacher believes that the school will benefit from receiving additional support or, where the community in which the school is based is affected by an emergency.

The school emergency plan aims to:

* maintain the safety of, and provide support to, all children and staff affected by an incident
* maintain the normal running of any parts of the school not affected
* return the whole school to normal as soon as possible

The plan provides generic guides to actions that should be considered by the headteacher, his/her nominated deputy, and the critical incident management team (CIMT) in case of an emergency in school or the local community, or on an educational visit.

The plan covers procedures for an incident occurring in school time and out of school hours, weekends and during school holidays.

***Important Action Points***

* Review the plan and its content at least once each year
* Keep the plan up-to-date regarding personnel
* Ensure staff know their roles
* Keep the school's contact list near to the phone in case it becomes necessary to activate the plan

***ACTIVATION***

Information about an incident may come from a staff member, pupil, parent, the emergency services or the local authority.

Whoever receives the alert should ask for, and record, as much information as possible:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of the person informing of the incident** |  |
| **Details of the incident** |  |
| **Who else has been informed**  **(eg emergency services etc)** |  |
| **Exact location of the incident** |  |
| **Details of any casualties** |  |
| **Any action taken so far** |  |
| **Name of contact at the scene** |  |
| **Number of contact at the scene** |  |
| **What assistance is needed** |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Immediately inform the Headteacher or Deputy/nominee** |

***Responsibilities/Checklist of Initial Action by Headteacher or Nominee***

**RESPONSIBILITIES**

* take charge of events
* draw up an action plan for the specific incident
* delegate responsibilities and give task sheets to the chosen person
* consult with the Police and the person responsible for liaison with the media about the release of information to students, staff, parents/carers, general enquiries and the media
* establish a crisis team meeting place, close to the incident control point

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Action to be taken** | **✓ when complete** |
| Ascertain details of incident |  |
| Take immediate action to safeguard pupils and staff where necessary |  |
| Alert relevant emergency services (Police, Fire, Ambulance) via 999 system  Be prepared to give the following information:   * Emergency Service(s) required * Exact location of the incident * Number of casualties * Nature of injuries * Location and telephone number where call is being made from * Hazards which may be encountered by the Emergency Services at the site |  |
| Log all communications and actions |  |
| Notify:  Derbyshire Emergency Planning Team  Office hours: 01629 538364  Out of office hours: 01629 533085 (ex-dir)  Ask for the Duty Emergency Planning Officer  THESE NUMBERS SHOULD ONLY BE USED IN AN EMERGENCY - DO NOT GIVE THEM TO THE PRESS, PARENTS/CARERS OR PUBLIC  THE EMERGENCY PLANNING TEAM CAN PROVIDE RESOURCES TO ASSIST DURING EMERGENCIES |  |
| Assemble a critical incident management team from pre-identified staff |  |
| Refer to the list of emergency contact numbers in Appendix 1 for additional support if required |  |
| Where possible, avoid closing the school and try to maintain normal routines |  |

***Critical Incident Management Team (CIMT)***

The CIMT will comprise:

* Headteacher – Mrs Teresa Bosley
* Lead Teacher – Mrs Linda Norcross (LLPS) or Mrs Louise Thomas (MMPS)
* Chair of Governors – Miss Rachel Yemm
* (Others as determined by school)

**Base for Critical Incident Management Team**

**LLPS:** The base for the CIMT will be the school office where it is still possible to use this. The reserve on-site location will be the Meadow Classroom. In cases where it is not possible to use the school premises as a base, the CIMT will make use of the Church.

**MMPS:** The base for the CIMT will be the Headteacher's office where it is still possible to use this. The reserve on-site location will be the Ocean Room / Bluebell Room. In cases where it is not possible to use the school premises as a base, the CIMT will make use of the Village Hall.

NB: (In schools where it is not possible to designate a base for the CIMT, contact should be made with the County Council's Emergency Planning Team who can help to arrange temporary accommodation, where necessary).

***IMPLEMENTATION***

***Headteacher or Nominee***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Action to be taken** | **✓ when complete** |
| Ensure that accurate, factual information is available for those arriving at the scene |  |
| Liaise with the local authority, police, fire and ambulance services, and other agencies who may become involved |  |
| Act as the main contact to co-ordinate the response |  |
| Inform the chair of governors |  |
| Inform all staff, and parents/carers of injured pupils |  |
| Decide how to inform other parents/carers of injured pupils |  |
| Ensure all staff maintain a log of actions and decisions |  |
| Allocate tasks to members of the CIMT as appropriate |  |
| Provide regular briefings for staff |  |
| Continue to liaise with the local authority and the emergency services |  |
| Try to maintain normal routines as far as possible |  |
| Inform staff involved to prepare a written report of their involvement, noting events and times |  |
| Inform the LA health and safety consultant who will advise on reporting procedures, and inform trade unions if necessary |  |
| In the event of serious injuries or a fatality, the Health and Safety Executive should be informed by the quickest practicable means in line with the departmental accident reporting guidance. |  |
| Continue to allocate tasks to members of the CIMT as appropriate |  |

***Welfare***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Action to be taken** | **✓ when complete** |
| Secure the immediate safety of pupils and staff - this may include evacuation or keeping pupils and staff inside the building (sheltering) |  |
| Establish the location of all pupils, staff, and visitors using timetables, registers and the visitor’s book, and make a list of those unaccounted for |  |
| Establish a staff rota and ensure that staff take regular rest periods |  |
| Identify those pupils and/or staff who are badly affected, and who need extra support |  |
| Make arrangements for reuniting pupils with their parents/carers |  |
| Take account of religious and cultural factors, and consider contact with leaders of local faith communities |  |

***Communications***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Action to be taken** | **✓ when complete** |
| Consider emergency communications needs |  |
| Dedicate lines for incoming and outgoing calls and arrange extra support for reception.    Line to be used for incoming calls only:  Line to be used for outgoing calls only: |  |
| Arrange for the staffing of switchboard/telephone |  |
| Inform pupils, in groups as small as practicable, considering the best way to impart worrying or tragic news (advice is available from the educational psychology service) |  |
| Inform parents/carers of children not directly involved in the incident, as decided by the headteacher or nominee - use any existing arrangements for contacting parents/carers quickly and efficiently |  |
| Receive visitors to the school, ensuring they sign in and out and are issued with identification badges |  |
| Ensure that staff are fully briefed on facts and are aware of what information can be released |  |

***Media***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Action to be taken** | **✓ when complete** |
| Ensure that any media access to the site, staff and pupils is controlled  In a major emergency, the police will deal with the press and prevent access to the school |  |
| Liaise with and co-operate with the media and to answer their queries, as appropriate |  |
| Liaise with the LA communications division to prepare a press statement, to be agreed by the headteacher and Executive Director of Children’s Services, and to decide the ongoing strategy for dealing with the press |  |
| Be aware of the potential problems caused by the spread of misinformation through pupil and/or staff use of mobile phones |  |
| Provide basic information about the school (see Appendix 2) |  |
| Be prepared to be interviewed by the press if necessary and agreed |  |
| Liaise between the press and those affected about interviews - seeking permission from parents/carers/guardians of any students involved in interviews. Any students involved in interviews should be supported |  |

**Advice for Official Spokesperson(s)**

🗶 DO NOT speculate - your interpretation or understanding can and probably will be exaggerated or quoted as hard fact

🗶 DO NOT give any fact unless you are certain it is correct

🗶 DO NOT say "NO COMMENT" - it can be taken as a negative answer which could be inaccurate and lead to difficulties later

🗶 DO NOT be afraid to say "I DO NOT KNOW"

✓ DO have the confidence in yourself and your command of the situation to take a positive attitude towards the media

✓ DO inform the Press Officers of any development which may assist them and of any journalist you suspect of acting inappropriately.

✓ If you know that everyone is safe and well, or those parents/carers of injured children have been told - say so as soon as possible - it stops other panicking.

NB: PUPILS SHOULD NOT TALK TO THE MEDIA UNLESS ARRANGED BY STAFF/PARENTS/CARERS AND THEN ONLY WITH WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM PARENTS/CARERS

***Resources***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Action to be taken** | **✓ when complete** |
| Ensure access to site for emergency services |  |
| Open/close parts of school as required, and turn off water, gas and electricity supplies if necessary |  |
| Ensure the security of the school premises |  |
| Establish a safe and secure base for the CIMT |  |
| Check that all available communications and office equipment are working (phones, fax, copiers), in:   * School Office * CIMT Base * CIMT Alternative Base |  |
| Arrange a place to receive parents/carers and children involved |  |
| If necessary, evacuate the building in accordance with the School Fire Procedures |  |
| Ensure that parents/carers do not take students away, unless directed to do so |  |
| Consider relocation to other premises |  |

***All other teaching and non-teaching staff***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Action to be taken** | **✓ when complete** |
| Respond to instructions given by members of the Critical Incident Management Team |  |
| Be ready to respond to any potential hazard in and about the site |  |
| Maintain a calm atmosphere |  |
| Do not speak directly to the media but refer all enquiries to the Headteacher or other person designated as being responsible for contact with the media |  |

***EMERGENCIES DURING EDUCATIONAL VISITS***

The Emergency Contact (member of senior leadership) should be informed by the visit leader as soon practicably possible

***Initial Action by Headteacher or Nominee***

* Maintain a written record of your actions using this check list and attached log sheet

* Offer reassurance and support.
* Be aware that all involved in the incident, those at the school and you, may be suffering from shock or may panic.
* Find out what has happened. Obtain as clear a picture as you can - who informed you of the incident? (Usually the group leader)
* Remind the visit leader to follow the checklist or Emergency Action Card for visit leaders on educational visits (see Appendix 7/ or OEAP Emergency Action Card <https://oeapng.info/download/1252/>)
* Remind the visit leader that restricting student phone use may be necessary
* Record the details of the off-site activity/visit during which incident occurred

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Location and nature of activity/visit** |  | | | |
| **Name of person in charge of visit** |  | | | |
| **Telephone number(s)** |  | | | |
| **Number of people on the visit** | **Pupils** |  | | |
| **Teachers** |  | | |
| **Other adults** |  | | |
| **Date and time of incident** |  | | | |
| **Location** |  | | | |
| **What has happened?** |  | | | |
| **People affected** | **Name** | | **Injury** | **Where they are / will be taken** |
|  | |  |  |
| **Emergency Services involved and advice they have given** |  | | | |
| **Names and locations of hospitals involved** |  | | | |
| **Arrangements for pupils not directly involved in the incident** |  | | | |
| **Name of person in charge of your group at the incident** |  | | | |
| **Telephone Number(s)** |  | | | |

* Depending on the scale of the incident, consider assembling a CIMT to assist with the response

***Initial Action List for CIMT***

* Inform school staff as appropriate, depending on the time and scale of the incident
* Consider emergency communications needs. Dedicate lines for incoming and outgoing calls and arrange extra support for reception.

* Immediately inform parents/carers of any injured pupils of what has happened and where their son/daughter is, recording what their plans are, eg to travel to their son/daughter, any assistance they need and any means of communications with them (eg mobile phone number).
* In event of a major incident the police may give advice regarding naming badly injured people or fatalities. You may also need to inform next-of-kin of any staff who have been involved.
* Inform parents/carers of any other pupils on the visit but not directly involved in the incident.
* Parents should first hear of the incident from the school (or from the visit leader), not from hearsay or from the media. This may be difficult as students on the visit may have mobile phones and social media access. Information given must be limited until the facts are clear and all involved parents/next of kin are informed.
* Ensure that staff are fully briefed on facts and are aware of what information can be released
* Inform the chair of governors/trustees.

* Contact the local authority: Derbyshire Emergency Planning Team

Office hours: 01629 538364

Out of office hours: 01629 533085 (ex-directory)

Ask for the Duty Emergency Planning Officer

THESE NUMBERS SHOULD ONLY BE USED IN AN EMERGENCY - DO NOT GIVE THEM TO THE PRESS, PARENTS/CARERS OR PUBLIC

**Support available from the Emergency Planning Team could include:**

* assistance at school or at the site of the incident by local authority officers, and/or others
* communications support, including public telephone helpline where appropriate
* help with arranging travel and transport between the incident, parents/carers and the school help with media management, including press statements and interview briefing
* for an incident occurring in another UK local authority, establishing links with that authority or, for an incident occurring abroad, communication via the Foreign Office, to British Consulate, foreign police, etc
* if necessary, introduce controls on school entrances and telephones
* at least initially, the school is advised to avoid responding to media enquiries and direct these to the public relations division
* liaise with the public relations division as early as possible, and work with them to prepare a press statement
* arrange a quiet space to receive parents/carers of the children involved as they arrive at the school

***Medium term actions/considerations***

* If the visit is abroad, and the incident results in substantial medical or other expense, the risk management section at County Hall or any other insurers used should be informed as soon as possible
* Inform pupils and staff at school and their parents/carers. Decide what information you should give. Remember that information given must be limited until the facts are clear and all involved parents/carers/next of kin are informed
* In the event of a tragic incident, consider seeking support from the educational psychology service about the best way to inform pupils and to support them afterwards
* Staff and pupils should be told to avoid talking to the media or spreading the story unnecessarily (particularly via use of mobile phones)
* Inform all staff involved to prepare a written report noting events and times. Inform the LA Health and Safety office who will advise on reporting procedures and inform trade unions if necessary.
* In the event of serious injuries or a fatality, the Health and Safety Executive should be informed within 24 hours. Staff may wish to submit draft reports to trade union legal officers

***POST INCIDENT CARE AND SUPPORT***

Post-incident care is aimed at helping individuals to understand their feelings following an emergency and to identify sources of future support. The overall aim of the support is to help people in a way that will reduce the possibility of them developing post-traumatic stress disorder.

It is worth giving some thought to how the topics of loss, bereavement, risks/safety and change are covered in the curriculum. Schools where these topics are discussed openly, and treated as normal life events, are likely to find it easier to cope when a difficult or tragic incident occurs.

Remember to consult with parents/carers following an incident. It is important to communicate with parents/carers of pupils who have been involved, and ensure that their needs and wishes are taken into account.

The Education Psychology Services will provide appropriate care and support to those affected by a major incident in the school community. Dependant on the scale and nature of the incident the Crisis Support Team could be deployed to support the work of the Education Psychology Services.

***STAND-DOWN AND RECOVERY***

***Recovery Plan Checklist***

**As soon as possible after the emergency:**

* Liaise with parents/carers regarding plans for attendance at funerals

* Liaise with parents/carers regarding plans for attendance/representation at memorial services
* Arrange debriefing meetings for staff and pupils

* Arrange debriefing meetings for the headteacher and CIMT

* Identify and support high-risk pupils and staff
* Promote discussion of the emergency in class

* Consider the need for individual or group support

* Help affected pupils and staff to come back into school

* Initiate a review of the school emergency plan, evaluating the school’s response and feeding in any lessons learnt

**In the longer term:**

* Consult and decide on whether and how to mark anniversaries

* The impact of some incidents can continue for years, so thought may need to be given to ongoing identification and support measures for both pupils and staff who are affected

* Remember that legal processes, enquiries and news stories may bring back distressing memories and cause upset within the school
* Remember to make any new staff aware of which pupils were involved and how they were affected

**APPENDICES**

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| **APPENDIX 1 - CONTACTS** |
| This section should include contact details for all members of staff, so that if an emergency happens out of school hours, all staff can be contacted. During school holidays it may be useful to be aware of when key staff are away, so that it is possible to gain access to the building if required in an emergency. Some general external contacts are included, but you will need to add contacts specific to your school (eg school bus company).  It may also be used to outline the system used by the school for contacting parents/carers.  ***This section of the plan is likely to need regular update and review, for example at the start of each term.*** |
| **APPENDIX 2 - COMMUNICATIONS** |
| Communications systems are put under enormous pressure in the immediate aftermath of an emergency, but are vital to ensuring a well-managed response. You should:   * Identify any lines not generally known to the public (kitchen phone, mobile phones). * Be aware that in a power failure, a powered switchboard system may not work (a telephone plugged into the first phone point coming in from the exchange should provide a useable line). The location of this telephone point should be identified in the emergency plan. * An early decision should be made about how to inform parents/carers (in the case of a fatal incident, the police will normally inform the parents/carers of the child or children involved) |
| **APPENDIX 3 - BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL** |
| You may find it helpful to prepare some basic information about the school which could be used in the event of a major incident. |
| **APPENDIX 4 - EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURE** |
| The decision to close a school is usually made by the headteacher and governors. Where possible, headteachers and governors are encouraged to seek advice before taking the decision to close a school.  The emergency closure procedure for schools is available on SchoolsNet. You should refer to this procedure when producing your plan.  An agreed method of informing parents/carers and other organisations (eg bus companies) of the closure should be included in your communications section. |

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| **APPENDIX 5 - SPECIFIC HAZARDS AFFECTING SCHOOL SITE** |
| If there are specific hazards or risks associated with your school, outline any information and special procedures relating to the risks here. This may include:   * the release of hazardous substances near or on the school site (eg Chemical Site) * nearby streams or rivers that may flood * hazards within the school (eg chemical stores) * difficulties relating to the school itself (eg split-site, communications problems). |
| **APPENDIX 6 - EVACUATION AND SHELTER PLAN** |
| This is one of the most important sections of the plan as it outlines the initial actions that should be taken to safeguard pupils and staff, both from internal and external hazards. All staff must be aware of these procedures, as warning signals may need to be triggered immediately, before advising others of the threat.  Your evacuation plans should include information about what route to take and what assembly point to use in the case of a bomb threat, as these may need to be different from those used for other types of incident (eg fire).  It is equally important to have pre-planned arrangements for signalling the need for sheltering (keeping pupils indoors and close doors and windows) in the event of an external hazard, and signalling lockdown of the school in the event of an intruder. |
| **APPENDIX 7 - CHECKLIST FOR GROUP LEADERS ON EDUCATIONAL VISIT** |
| Checklist to be followed by the group leader if an incident occurs on an educational visit. |
| **APPENDIX 8 - INFLUENZA PANDEMIC PLAN** |
| The Department for Education sector-specific guidance for schools is currently under revision. However general guidance has been prepared by the Cabinet Office and is available here:  <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pandemic-flu> |
| **APPENDIX 9 - BOMB THREATS AND SUSPECT PACKAGES** |
| Although bomb threats usually turn out to be hoaxes, they must always be taken seriously. It is important that office staff know what questions to ask if they do take a call from someone claiming to have information about a bomb. The bomb threat prompt card gives questions to ask and immediate actions to take in this situation. Staff should be familiar with this information, and preferably have a copy to hand near the telephone.  Equally important is dealing with suspect packages - in most cases the package turns out to be a hoax or genuine mistake, but it is better to take all appropriate precautions if a suspicious letter or package is received. Any member of staff who may deal with incoming mail in the school should be aware of the guidance. |

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| **APPENDIX 10 - OTHER SERVICES USING THE SCHOOL SITE** |
| Use this section to record any separate emergency procedures for other services using the site (eg play schemes, after-school clubs etc) or any additional arrangements relating to extended services at the school. |
| **APPENDIX 11 - LOG KEEPING** |
| Any emergency affecting a school may afterwards become the subject of a detailed inquiry. It is important that accurate written records are kept, and that no piece of information about either the planning or the response to the incident is lost. Records may also be in the form of a recording made via a CCTV camera, a telephone or on an answer machine. The records should be retained after the incident for future reference. |
| **APPENDIX 12 - TRAINING AND EXERCISING** |
| In order to carry out the procedures outlined in your plan, awareness raising and training should be carried out within the school. All staff that has a role in the plan should be aware of the full scope of the plan and their roles and responsibilities. Staff who may not be part of the response to an emergency should still be aware of the content of the plan, particularly the section on evacuation and shelter.  Exercising your plan is equally important, especially emergency procedures such as:     * Fire drill * Bomb drill (if arrangements differ) * Shelter drill * Lockdown drill |
| **APPENDIX 13 - BUSINESS CONTINUITY** |
| Business continuity planning is the process involved in ensuring that a business or organisation can continue with its critical functions after a disaster or emergency. In the case of schools, one of these functions is to continue pupils’ education. You therefore need to think about what is required in order to continue this function and what vital records or data you may need to duplicate or back up. |

***APPENDIX 1 - CONTACTS***

This should be updated in response to changes and reviewed annually

***School Staff Identified for Incident Response***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Status** | **Home telephone** | **Mobile phone** | **Keyholder** |
| Teresa Bosley | Headteacher |  |  | Yes |
| Linda Norcross | Lead Teacher - LL |  |  | Yes |
| Louise Thomas | Lead Teacher - MM |  |  | Yes |
|  | Caretaker |  |  | Yes |
| Amanda Lovett | Business Administrator |  |  | Yes |
| Kirsty Murby | Assistant Business Administrator |  |  | Yes |
| All staff are on a WhatsApp group. Numbers in this would be used to contact them | | | | |

***Other School Contacts***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Status** | **Home telephone** | **Mobile phone** | **Keyholder** |
| Rachel Yemm | Chair of Governors |  |  |  |

***External Contacts***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organisation** | **Contact No** |
| LA Health and Safety consultant | Gary Booth |
| Emergency Planning Team  Ask for the Duty Emergency Planning Officer  THESE NUMBERS SHOULD ONLY BE USED IN AN EMERGENCY - DO NOT GIVE THEM TO THE PRESS, PARENTS/CARERS OR PUBLIC | 01629 538364 (office hours)  01629 533085 (ex-dir) (Out of hours) |
| Educational Psychology Service | Fatima Bignell - 07815974634 |
| Communications team | Hayley Wharton – 07710 122995 |
| Risk Management section |  |
| off-site insurance emergency number | 01629 538888 |
| Local radio |  |
| School bus company | n/a |
| Diocesan officer | Liz Seymour – 01332 388660 |

***APPENDIX 2- COMMUNICATIONS***

This section should include:

* how members of staff can be alerted in the first instance without alarming pupils unnecessarily
* ID for Headteacher/Senior Management Team - visitors to site may not be familiar with all senior staff or the layout of the building.
* phone numbers and locations of designated phone lines for incoming and outgoing calls
* location of first telephone point from the exchange (in the event of power failure this may provide a useable line when a powered switchboard system may not work)
* how school will communicate with parents/carers when:
* an emergency happens during the school day
* an emergency happens before or after the school is open, at weekends or in school holidays

*When parents/carers hear of a problem, they will naturally come to the school for information. You may need to identify a space where parents/carers can be seen in groups or on an individual basis where tragic news can be shared in a considerate way. A staff member or trusted adult from the school community may need to be on hand to receive visitors and deal sensitively with their enquiries.*

**Other methods of informing parents/carers could include:**

* Emails or text messaging
* Notices on the school website
* Letters
* Notices on the school gate/fence
* Person at the entrance to the school to explain issues
* Telephone tree where each parent is contacted by telephone (more difficult in larger schools)
* Local radio
* how the school will communicate with companies affected by a school closure or emergency, both during the school day and outside school hours
* numbers of local radio stations and procedure
* what communications procedures are in place between different parts of the school (in a large school or split-site school)
* instructions on how to set the school answer phone to answer only and set a pre-recorded message, both if you are at the school and remotely if the school cannot be accessed

***Internal Communications***

It is important to establish mechanisms for informing staff of developments. This could be through morning briefings. It is also important to debrief all staff involved at the end of each working day/shift. Ensure that information is recorded and shared.

***APPENDIX 3 - BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Basic information** | | |
| Name: | Long Lane Church of England Primary School | Marston Montgomery Primary School |
| Address: | Long Lane,  Dalbury Lees,  Ashbourne  DE6 5BJ | Thurvaston Road,  Marston Montgomery  Ashbourne  DE6 2FF |
| Telephone: | 01332 824339 | 01889 590373 |
| Age Range: | 4 to 11 | 4 to 11 |
| Number of pupils: | 22 (January 2024) | 25 (January 2024) |
| Map of surrounding area: | In the pack | In the pack |
| Photographs: | In the pack | In the pack |
| Plan of School: | In the pack | In the pack |
| **Details of Senior Staff** | | |
| Headteacher: | Mrs Teresa Bosley | |
| Deputy: | Mrs Linda Norcross | Mrs Louise Thomas |
| *Include other senior staff as necessary* |  | |
| **Details of Governors** | | |
| Chair of Governors: | Miss Rachel Yemm | |
| Vice Chair of Governors: | Mr Simon Dowdy | |

***APPENDIX 4 - EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURE***

In the event of school closure contact must be made with Hayley Wharton (DDAT COO).

***APPENDIX 5 - SPECIFIC HAZARDS AFFECTING SCHOOL SITE AND HAZARD ASSESSMENT***

This section should include:

* an up-to-date, detailed plan of the school, showing location of cut-off valves and switches for gas, water and electricity, and information on the drainage system
* details of how to reset the fire alarm system
* alternative access points in case of road closure, and emergency access to the school buildings
* school telephone number, fax number, and details of any additional telephone numbers (including mobiles) that could be used
* any specific difficulties and procedures relating to the school site (eg split-site, communications difficulties)
* specific information relating to any hazards on the school site, including:
* the location of chemical stores and any radioactive materials stored on site
* details of hazards such as asbestos in the fabric of the buildings, if known
* the location of oil tanks or other fuel storage arrangements

* specific information and procedures relating to any external hazards that could affect the school, for example:
* nearby industrial facilities or chemical sites
* rivers or streams which pose a flooding risk to the school (look at the Environment Agency website for flooding information and guidance on preparing a flood plan for your school)

Appropriate storage/access to all this information needs to be considered so it is accessible to emergency services in the event of a fire.

***This information is included in the pack of information.***

***APPENDIX 6 - EVACUATION AND SHELTER PLAN***

This section should include:

* an up-to-date, detailed plan of the school showing evacuation routes and assembly points (this should include at least one alternative in case the emergency affects the main route or assembly point)
* information on any different evacuation routes and assembly points to be used in case of a bomb alert (eg assembly points may need to be further away from the building)
* procedure for sheltering (stay indoors, close doors and windows) if this is advised instead of evacuation
* procedure for lockdown of the school (stay indoors, lock doors, close and cover windows) in case of an intruder
* information on warning signals for fire alarms, bomb alerts, sheltering and lockdown
* any identified ‘place of safety’ nearby where pupils and staff can be taken if unable to return to the school for some time - this could be a village hall, leisure centre, community centre or similar - and how this building is accessed (eg keyholders)
* information on how staff will ensure that all pupils and people visiting the site are accounted for - procedures for use of registers, visitors books etc
* procedure for sending pupils home if the situation becomes prolonged, taking account of the need to track who has left/been collected

***This information is included in the pack of information.***

***APPENDIX 7 - CHECKLIST FOR GROUP LEADERS ON EDUCATIONAL VISIT***

* Ascertain details of incident

* Alert relevant emergency services (Police, Fire, Ambulance, Coastguard) via 999 system
* Call for assistance if available (staff, passers-by)
* Administer first aid where possible
* Account for all members of the party and ensure that all persons uninjured stay together

* Allocate staff member(s) to travel to hospital(s) with casualties

* Ascertain if there are any witnesses

* Allocate staff member(s) to stay at incident site to liaise with the emergency services
* Arrange for all non-casualties to return to base (accompanied by a member of staff) and that all members of the group are informed of the incident as soon as possible
* Inform headteacher/member of senior management team (at school) as soon as possible. Give as much of the following information as possible:
* date, time, location and nature of incident
* names of those involved
* details of any injuries.
* actions taken.
* contact point to be used
* Consider requesting additional assistance.
* Keep headteacher/member of senior management team regularly updated.
* Consider whether activity should be abandoned. If so, arrange for non-casualties to return to school. Liaise with headteacher/senior management team over transport arrangements.
* Do not discuss legal liability

***APPENDIX 8 - INFLUENZA PANDEMIC PLAN***

**In the event of the Government advising schools to close, the county council will provide advice and guidance as appropriate at that time.**

This section should:

* outline procedures for dealing with a child or member of staff who shows symptoms at school - they should be isolated and sent home as soon as possible
* outline systems to minimise the spread of infection if the school stays open during a pandemic (eg handwashing, disposal of tissues etc)
* consider how lessons can be maintained if some staff become sick
* consider how non-teaching and teaching staff could be used in other areas if your school is advised to close
* if you are advised to close your school, you should attempt to provide some form of education by remote methods

***Please refer to plans put in place during the Coronavirus pandemic***

***APPENDIX 9 - BOMB THREATS AND SUSPECT PACKAGES***

***Bomb threat prompt card for reception staff***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Action to be taken** | **✓ when complete** |
| Stay calm |  |
| Make a note of:   * the code word (if given) * the exact time of the call * the caller’s sex and approximate age * any accent the person has, or any distinguishing feature about their voice eg speech impediment, state of drunkenness etc * any distinguishable background noise |  |
| When they have finished the message, try to ask as many of the following questions as you can, being cautious to avoid provoking the caller:   * Where is the bomb? * What time is it due to go off? * What kind of bomb is it? * What does it look like? * What will cause it to explode? * Why are you doing this? |  |
| Dial 1471 - you may get the details of where the phone call was made from, especially in the case of a hoax caller |  |
| Report the call to the police and the headteacher/nominated deputy immediately. In the extremely unlikely event that there was a codeword with the message, and the location of the bomb was given as a location other than the school, follow the same procedure - report the call immediately to the police, and then notify the headteacher |  |

***Guidance on suspect packages***

The likelihood of a school receiving a postal bomb or suspected biological/chemical package is very low, however, you should be aware of the immediate steps to be taken if you receive a suspect package or come into contact with a biological or chemical substance.

Postal bombs or biological/chemical packages may display any of the following signs:

* Grease marks or oily stains on the envelope or wrapping
* An unusual odour including but not restricted to almonds, ammonia or marzipan
* Discolouration, crystals on surface or any powder or powder-like residue on the envelope or wrapping (suspect biological/chemical threat)
* Visible wiring or tin foil
* The envelope or package may feel very heavy for its size
* The weight distribution may be uneven
* Delivery by hand from an unknown source or posted from an unusual place
* If a package, it may have excessive wrapping
* There may be poor handwriting, spelling or typing
* It may be wrongly addressed, or come from an unexpected source
* No return address or postmark that does not match return address
* There may be too many stamps for the weight of the package

**If you suspect that a letter or a package may contain a bomb:**

* Stay calm
* Put the letter or package down gently and walk away from it
* Do not put the letter or package into anything (including water) and do not put anything on top of it
* Ask everyone to leave the area (including classes if necessary)
* Notify the police and the headteacher/nominated deputy immediately
* Do not use mobile phones or sound the alarm using the break glass call points

**If you suspect that a letter or a package may contain a biological or chemical threat:**

* Stay calm
* Do not touch the package further or move it to another location
* Shut windows and doors in the room and leave the room, but keep yourself separate from others and available for medical examination
* Notify the headteacher/nominated deputy immediately

**The headteacher/nominated deputy should then:**

* Notify the police immediately on 999
* Ensure that any air conditioning system in the building has been turned off, and that all doors (including internal fire doors) and windows have been closed
* Evacuate the building, keeping people away from the contaminated room as far as possible
* Keep all persons exposed to the material separate from others and available for medical attention
* If anyone is experiencing symptoms of chemical exposure (eg streaming eyes, coughs and irritated skin) seek medical attention immediately

If anyone believes they have been exposed to biological/chemical material, they should be encouraged to:

* remain calm
* do not touch eyes, nose or any other part of the body
* wash your hands in ordinary soap where facilities are provided

***APPENDIX 10 - OTHER SERVICES USING THE SCHOOL SITE***

You may need to create additional appendices if there are several other services using the school site (eg play schemes, after-school clubs etc) or any additional arrangements relating to extended services at the school.

Consider whether it is necessary to add extra points to the action checklists in the main body of the plan to ensure that these procedures are integrated into the school’s emergency response.

***At the time of writing this does not apply to either of our schools.***

***APPENDIX 11 - LOG KEEPING***

***How to write the log:***

* Note all relevant facts in chronological order
* Stick to the FACTS - do not include any assumptions (if you are noting down assumptions to show your reasoning for making a decision, make this clear)
* If you make a mistake, cross it out with a single line l so that what is underneath is still visible, and initial it
* Do not leave blank spaces - or if you do, rule them out with a line
* Do not overwrite – if you make a mistake, cross it out, initial it and start again
* Do not leave large blank spaces between words or between entries
* Do not use correction fluid
* Unused space after the end of a series of entries should be ruled through, then signed in full, dated and timed
* Avoid approximations and abbreviations

***Log Sheet***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Incident: |  |
| Location of incident: |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Time** | **Event/Action Taken** | **Initials** |
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***APPENDIX 12 - TRAINING AND EXERCISING***

***Training record:***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Training** | **Areas covered** | **Attendees** |
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***Exercise record:***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Brief details of exercise** | **Actions identified** | **Outcome of actions** | **Aspects of plan tested** |
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***APPENDIX 13 - BUSINESS CONTINUITY***

Business continuity planning is the process involved in ensuring that a business or organisation can continue with its critical functions after a disaster or emergency. In the case of schools, one of these functions is to continue pupils’ education. You therefore need to think about what is required in order to continue this function and what vital records or data you may need to duplicate or back up.

Statistically the emergency most likely to be experienced by a school is one that affects the school building, such as a fire or flood. Having an inventory of the contents of the school is invaluable in calculating losses for insurance claims. This section is split into three tables which should be completed for the school.

**Equipment** - this doesn’t need to include every single item in the school, as numbers of desks and chairs are easy to calculate, but IT, electrical equipment and any other specialist, large, one-off or expensive items.

**IT data and systems** - all important data stored on school computers should be backed up in accordance with your IT Disaster Recovery Plan. (Refer to your IT services supplier for further information). The table allows the recording of essential data sets and IT systems and where they are backed up.

**Paper based records** - schools will have at least some essential paper-based records, which could be easily damaged or destroyed in a fire or flood. These should be listed in the table along with the locations of back-up copies which should be stored off site - this should include your emergency plan.

It is also worth encouraging staff to think about where they keep lesson plans and pupils’ coursework, as loss of these could have a large psychological impact on staff and pupils.

***Staff in each school will complete these tables and review them***

***Equipment Inventory***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Make** | **Model Number** | **Serial number** | **Purchase Price** | **Purchase Date** | **Location (room)** |
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***IT/ Data and Systems***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Data/system** | **No. of users requiring access** | **Backed up?** | **Where back up is held** |
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***Paper Based Records***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Document** | **Location** | **Duplicated?** | **Where are duplicates held?** |
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