






Christ the King Sixth Form College

Health and Safety Policy

Mission Statement

We are a Catholic College dedicated to the education and development of the whole person, so that all students can realise their full potential.

To achieve this is as community we will:

-  Provide the highest standards of teaching and learning;
-  Expect students to show commitment to their studies and the Christian values of the College;
-  Provide equality of opportunity, with mutual respect and positive encouragement;
-  Build and further develop a partnership with parents, schools, parishes, higher education and the local community;
-  Value staff and support their professional development.

In doing this we will reflect Christ's teaching in the life and work of the whole College.

June 2009

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1 General Statement of Policy

Christ the King Sixth Form College aims to be a good employer in all matters relating to the health and safety of its employees. We recognise and accept our statutory obligations under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 and other relevant legislation. We will take steps, so far as is reasonably practicable, to provide:

- Safe equipment and systems of work.
- Arrangements for the safe use, handling, storage and movement of articles and substances.
- The necessary information, instruction, training and supervision to ensure the health and safety of our employees
- Safe access to and exit from the workplace.
- A safe and healthy working environment.

The nature of education means that for much of the time the majority of people on the premises are not employees, mainly students but also parents, contractors and other visitors. We also accept our responsibility, so far as is reasonably practicable, for the health and safety of these people and for anybody else who may be affected by what we do or do not do.

We acknowledge the important part our own staff have to play in ensuring a healthy and safe workplace and we will consult them not only when we are taking specific measures which will affect their health and safety but also on a routine basis. This policy has been briefed to all staff.

This policy will be kept up to date and will be reviewed at least annually. However, if circumstances change that make it no longer valid it will be reviewed more frequently.

Signed: Date:	Principal Christ the King Sixth Form College
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Signed: Date:	Chair of Governors
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2 Organisation and Roles and Responsibilities

2.1 Governors' Responsibilities

The Governors have overall and final responsibility for the effective management of health and safety within Christ the King Sixth Form College. They are responsible for:

- Ensuring that there is an effective system to manage health and safety within the college and that it works.
- Ensuring that the college has a health and safety policy, which is reviewed annually.
- Ensuring that there are appropriate systems to manage health and safety.
- Ensuring that there are sufficient resources to implement the policy and systems.
- Receiving and considering the college's annual health and safety report.

2.2 Principal's Responsibilities

The Principal has day to day responsibility for health and safety within the college. However, she has delegated responsibility for setting up the various systems to manage health and safety to the Director of Finance and Estates. Her main duties are:

- Ensuring that there is sufficient budget allocation to manage health and safety.
- Regularly reviewing with the Director of Finance and Estates and the College's safety consultant the effectiveness of the measures to manage health and safety.
- Liaising with governors and or the education authority on policy issues and any problems in implementing the health and safety policy.

2.3 Director of Finance and Estates' Responsibilities

The Director of Finance and Estates is responsible for setting up appropriate health and safety systems, maintaining them and reviewing health and safety performance. In this role he will:

- Ensure that the college has a health and safety policy and that it is reviewed at least annually.
- Develop and co-ordinate appropriate training strategies in conjunction with the manager responsible for staff development, to ensure a safe working environment:
- Ensure that appropriate information to assist staff in carrying out their H & S responsibilities is available.
- Ensure that risk assessments, assessments required under the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH), manual handling

assessments and display screen equipment workstation assessments are carried out and reviewed at least annually.

- Ensure that the effects of work on the health and safety of disabled staff and on expectant and new mothers are assessed.
- Provide Senior Managers, Senior Curriculum Managers, Senior Pastoral Managers and Heads of Department with support so that they may implement safe practices and procedures within their areas of responsibility:
- Ensure the provision and maintenance of emergency management procedures including first aid and fire precautions.
- Supporting managers investigate accidents.
- Ensure that details of any injury, disease or dangerous occurrence reportable under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) are reported to the appropriate authority.
- Ensure that contractors undertaking work on site have effective systems to operate in a safe manner and for monitoring their compliance with these systems
- Chair the joint health and safety committee.
- Consult with staff to ensure progressive and positive methods are adopted.
- Regularly report to the Principal on the measures to manage health and safety.
- Report termly to Senior Management on general matters of Health & Safety.
- Ensure that effective monitoring of health and safety is carried out.
- Prepare an annual health and safety report for the Board.

2.4 Premises Staff Responsibilities

Premises staff are responsible for making safe and/or reporting to the Director of Finance and Estates or other senior staff, any malfunctioning equipment or building defects that would compromise the safety of anyone using the College buildings or grounds. They should ensure that:

- They take reasonable care for their own health and safety at work.
- While touring the College buildings and grounds, any hazards that they spot should be immediately fixed or reported.
- Any hazards reported to them are attended to immediately. If they are unable to make the hazard safe then they must take the necessary precautions to ensure that it is cordoned off to prevent anyone from injuring themselves.
- The grounds and paths are clean and free of rubbish and in particular anything that could cause one to slip or trip.
- During winter months any slippery paths, steps and roads in the grounds are gritted and made safe.
- Undertake a risk assessment for working procedures where H&S may be at risk.

2.5 Technicians Responsibilities

Technicians are responsible for ensuring that equipment is set up and maintained in a safe condition. They are also responsible for the safe storage of both toxic and non-toxic chemicals and radioactive materials.

2.6 Computer Services Department Responsibilities

The Computer Services Department is responsible for ensuring that display screen equipment is set up in accordance with the Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992.

2.7 Personnel Manager's Responsibilities

The Personnel Manager is responsible for ensuring that there is an appropriate number of qualified first aid practitioners within the employees of the College.

2.8 Senior Staff Responsibilities

Senior Managers, Senior Curriculum Managers, Senior Pastoral Managers & Heads of Department and Service Areas are responsible for

- Implementing the college health and safety policy in the area under their control.
- Working with the Director of Finance and Estates to develop safe practices and for ensuring that these practices are implemented and observed.
- Ensuring that all staff receive sufficient and appropriate support, training and supervision to undertake their work safely and in compliance with the college's Health & Safety policy and H & S legislation.
- Ensuring that all accidents and hazards are reported immediately to the reception and entered in the appropriate book.
- Carrying out risk and other assessments.
- Ensuring that equipment made available to provide safe working practices is effectively maintained to a safe standard.
- Ensuring that all hazardous substances such as highly flammable liquids, liquified petroleum gases, petroleum spirits and chemicals are stored and used correctly, and properly sign posted.
- Seeking advice on any Health & Safety at work matter, for which clarification or assistance is required.

2.9 Teaching Staff Responsibilities

Teachers are responsible for ensuring that the college's health and safety policy is followed within the areas under their control. They will:

- Ensure that their classroom is kept in a condition that does not put the students, themselves or anyone else at risk, i.e. free from hazards, such as trailing leads.
- Ensure fire escape doors and alarms are kept clear of obstruction.
- Ensure that students are either competent to use any equipment they might be using or supervise them in such a way that the risks to their health and safety are minimised.
- Ensure the safety of their students in the event of an emergency, such as a fire or an accident.
- Carrying out risk assessments prior to college trips.
- Review systems of work to see if they can be improved.

2.10 Staff Responsibilities

All staff employed by the college have individual health and safety responsibilities. This means they must:

- Take reasonable care for their own health and safety at work.
- Follow all health and safety instructions given to them by the Principal, Director of Finance and Estates, Heads of Departments or other authorised people.
- Follow the health and safety rules which apply to their job.
- Do what is reasonably practicable to ensure that the students and other people are not put at risk by what they are doing
- Use any health and safety equipment provided.
- Not misuse anything that has been provided in the interests of health and safety (such as propping open a fire door with a fire extinguisher).
- Report anything that might present a danger to either themselves or anybody else.
- Undertake a risk assessment for working procedures where H&S may be at risk.

2.11 Students' Responsibilities

Every student has a responsibility to:

- Report any hazard or malfunction to their teacher.
- Conform to all instructions whether written or verbal, given to procure personal safety and the safety of others.
- Conduct themselves at all times in an orderly manner in College.
- Use all safety equipment and/or protective clothing as required.
- Report all personal accidents to themselves which cause hurt and may require first aid or hospital treatment.
- Acquaint themselves with all machines, processes, materials and substances which they use in College.
- Be aware of the fire evacuation procedures and the position of fire alarms and equipment.

2.12 Health and Safety Advice

Christ the King have appointed Sean Conry Ltd. to provide the role of competent person under Regulation 7 of the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 to assist the college in meeting their health and safety responsibilities. They will:

- Monitor developments in health and safety law and advising the college as appropriate to help them meet their legal obligations.

- Provide both template and specific documentation.
- Provide a health and safety advisory service.
- Carry out an annual audit of the systems to manage health and safety.

3 Arrangements for Carrying Out the Policy

3.1 Risk Assessment

We follow the approach to risk assessment advocated by the Health and Safety Executive in their publication 'Five steps to risk assessment'. We carry out risk assessment of the college premises and the activities that take place there and also where we take students away from the college. These are recorded and reviewed annually unless circumstances dictate that this should happen more frequently. Our procedure on risk assessment is contained in the Health and Safety Manual.

3.2 Consultation and Co-operation

Christ the King Sixth Form College recognises the need for consultation and co-operation and the involvement of everyone to secure and maintain a safe and healthy workplace. We have a formal health and safety committee which meets three times a year. It is attended by the safety representatives appointed by the Trades Unions and is chaired by the Director of Finance and Estates.

3.3 First Aid Arrangements and Accident Reporting

We have assessed our first aid needs and have a number of trained first aiders throughout the College. This assessment includes consideration of the different areas in the College and the varying needs at different times of the year and we have appropriate allocation during holiday time when students are not in attendance. Notices showing first aid details are on display throughout the College.

The first aid needs for college trips are considered as part of our educational visits procedure and are provided as required.

We have procedures for storing medicines for those students whose condition means that medication has to be taken during the college day.

3.4 College Visits etc.

We will ensure that we at least meet the minimum requirements specified by the DFES with regard to college trips in their publication 'Health and safety of students on educational visits', such as staff/student ratios, seat belts etc. Staff also carry out a risk assessment during planning to ensure that risks are reduced to a minimum using a day visit planning checklist.

Our procedures for this are contained in the Health and Safety Manual.

3.5 Premises

We have procedures in place to ensure that the risks presented by our premises are minimised. These include a ten year maintenance programme, risk assessment and a hazard reporting system. The Premises Department maintain the premises either through direct labour or contracted-in specialists.

Our procedure on managing the premises safely is contained in the Health and Safety Manual.

3.6 Fire and Emergencies

The college is visited regularly by the London Fire Brigade and we follow their requirements. In addition we also carry out a workplace fire risk assessment following the guidance contained in 'Fire safety – risk assessment – educational premises'. As a result of these we have introduced fire precautions, such as a means for raising the alarm, designated fire exits, provision of fire extinguishers etc. We also have steps in place to ensure that these precautions are functioning correctly and this involves checks by our own staff and by competent contractors.

We have fire procedures to ensure that all building users know what to do if they discover a fire or hear the fire alarm. The teaching staff are key people in this because of their responsibility for the students and their responsibilities are included in the staff handbook.

Our procedure on fire is contained in the Health and Safety Manual.

3.7 Electricity

The electrical installation is inspected and tested at least every five years by qualified electrical specialists. In addition we also carry out visual checks 3 times a year to ensure that there are no obvious signs of damage to the system.

Portable items of electrical equipment are tested annually using a portable appliance testing system.

3.8 Gas

Our gas boilers are inspected annually by Gas Safe registered specialists.

3.9 Work Equipment

We comply with the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998, the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 and the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998. We ensure that all the equipment used by our staff and students is suitable and safe to use for the work being done. It is regularly maintained and visually checked before each use to ensure that it is in a fit condition for the task intended. All equipment is also periodically inspected and tested in accordance with legal requirements or guidance.

The nature of education means that students operate equipment as part of the learning process and in the early stages they would not be classed as competent to use it. We assess the implications of this for all equipment used by students and ensure that the right level of supervision is provided.

Where it is necessary to hire equipment we only use reputable companies and take appropriate steps to ensure that it is properly maintained and is appropriate for the intended use.

Our procedure on work equipment is contained in the Health and Safety Manual.

3.10 Hazardous Substances

The type of work that we do means that our use of hazardous substances is limited. However, we are aware of our responsibilities under the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (2002) and comply with these where appropriate. We continually review what we hold to see if there are safer alternatives and we assess those hazardous products that we do use to ensure that we use them in accordance with the safeguards advocated by the suppliers.

Where our contractors bring hazardous substances onto our premises we ensure that COSHH assessments have been carried out on them.

Our procedure for controlling hazardous substances is contained in the Health and Safety Manual.

The premises have been surveyed for the presence of asbestos and a register is held on site.

3.11 Display Screen Equipment (DSE)

All DSE workstations used by our staff are assessed to ensure that they meet the requirements of the Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992.

Staff have been provided with information and instructed on how to use the equipment safely. We provide eye tests and glasses specifically designed for DSE work where required. Where natural breaks do not occur with sufficient regularity we have established work routines to prevent the onset of fatigue.

The students' computers are used by many people and the workstations are set up to be sufficiently flexible to accommodate the vast majority of people. Students are

trained in the safe use of computers and posters reinforcing this training are displayed in computer rooms.

Our procedure detailing how we manage the risks posed by DSE is contained in the Health and Safety Manual.

3.12 Manual Handling

The nature of college work means that there is a significant amount of manual handling undertaken but we strive to reduce the harmful effects of this, such as by the use of trolleys and other handling equipment and training in good manual handling technique.

Potentially harmful manual handling activities are considered as part of the risk assessment process with appropriate control measures introduced.

Our procedure on manual handling is contained in the Health and Safety Manual.

3.13 Communication

Staff responsibilities for health and safety are included in their job descriptions and further obligations and guidance are contained in the health and safety section of the staff handbook and the college's procedures.

3.14 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

We provide appropriate personal protective equipment that has been identified in the risk, COSHH and other relevant assessments.

Our procedure on PPE is contained in the Health and Safety Manual.

3.15 Contractors

We take steps to ensure that contractors carry out their work in such a way that they do not put themselves, students, staff or anybody else at risk. We either select contractors from our approved list, or for those not on this list we carry out our own checks.

Having appointed contractors we monitor their compliance with our requirements and their stated standards.

Our procedure on contractor management is contained in the Health and Safety Manual.

3.16 Violence to Staff and Students

We do not consider that staff or students should be subjected to physical or verbal abuse as part of their job or coming to college and we have a system in place to record such incidents should they occur. Appropriate disciplinary / legal action may be taken against anyone perpetrating physical violence or verbal abuse. The College is proactive in minimising violence to students and staff by employing the security team.

3.17 Measuring, Monitoring and Auditing

We take the following steps to judge the effectiveness of our systems to manage health and safety and to see what improvements we need to make.

- Recording and investigating accidents.
- Regular health and safety inspections by the Director of Finance and Estates.
- Health and safety on the agenda of staff meetings.
- Annual review of the health and safety policy and procedures.
- Annual audit.
- Annual report to Governors.

In addition OFSTED also audit the effectiveness of our systems as part of their normal inspection role.