

Guidance Note

Health and Safety Responsibilities of School Governors

Introduction

Everybody has legal responsibilities in relation to Health and Safety to themselves and other people. These are expanded in the the School's Health and Safety Policy.

This guidance note outlines the general responsibilities of School Governors for their own safety and the safety of staff and visitors. Any additional responsibilities are detailed in the School's safety policy and the Education Health and Safety Manual.

School Governors must ensure that they are familiar with, and comply with, School's health and safety policy and guidelines contained in the Education Health and Safety Manual. They must additionally ensure familiarity and compliance with all relevant health and safety legislation.

School Governors are responsible for:

- Ensuring that the school has an appropriate health and safety policy, which clearly states responsibilities and arrangements for health and safety within the school.
- Ensuring that the School Health and Safety Policy is reviewed and updated regularly, ideally annually.
- Ensuring effective communication with Head Teachers, safety representatives, parents and pupils.
- Ensuring that sufficient resources, including time and finance are provided to manage health and safety.
- Monitoring the implementation of health and safety policy by receiving regular reports from the head teacher and ensuring that these are discussed at the statutory termly meetings of the full governing body.

- Assessing the competence of contractors in respect of health and safety taking into account the advice of the Education health and safety team, and School policies, procedures and applicable legislation.

Further Advice

For further advice and guidance please contact your Union's Health and Safety Representative or the Hackney's Education Health and Safety team:

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