

Premises Management policy

APPROVED BY:	Board of Governors	
APPROVED BY SIGNATURE (Chair):	Mark Tabbernor	
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Statement of intent

Rigby Hall School_has a duty to ensure that buildings under its control comply with the statutory and regulatory standards.

The school will consider each building's:

- Condition: focussing on the physical state of the premises to ensure safe and continuous operations, as well as other issues involving building regulations and other non-education centric statutory requirements.
- **Suitability:** focussing on the quality of the premises to meet curriculum or management needs and other issues impacting on the role of the school in raising educational standards.

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- The Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012
- The School Premises (England) Regulations 2012
- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- Statutory Premises Management Documents
- School Standards and Framework Act 1998
- The Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999
- Equality Act 2010
- The Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER)
- DfE (2000) 'Guidance on first aid for schools'
- DfE (2015) 'Advice on standards for school premises'
- DfE (2018) 'Health and safety: responsibilities and duties for schools'
- DfE (2019) 'Site security guidance'
- DfE (2020) 'Managing asbestos in your school'
- DfE (2020) 'Good estate management for schools'
- DfE (2021) 'Keeping children safe in education 2021'

2. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board is responsible for:

- The overall implementation of this policy.
- Ensuring the proper maintenance and repair of the school.
- Ensuring asbestos is managed in line with the Asbestos Management Policy and Asbestos Management Plan.
- Ensuring the school is accessible and suitable for pupils, staff and visitors with disabilities.

• Ensuring that the school complies with the relevant health and safety and premises management legislation.

The School Business Manager is responsible for:

- Ensuring that the school's fixtures, fitting and furnishings are high-quality and good value for money.
- Coordinating maintenance and repair work, including securing any external contractors where necessary.
- Managing or overseeing any lettings in line with the Lettings Policy.
- Purchasing new equipment and resources for the school.
- Managing the relevant staff members who are responsible for the management of the premises, e.g. catering staff, Site Manager, Assistant Site Manager, Site Operative.

The Site Manager and Assistant Site Manager are responsible for:

- The day-to-day implementation and management of the stipulations outlined in this policy, in collaboration with the Headteacher and/or SBM.
- Identifying and undertaking any maintenance and repair work.
- Contributing to the health and safety audit.
- Checking the school's compliance with the relevant health and safety and premises management legislation, and reporting any issues to the Headteacher/SBM/ governing board.
- Ensuring that hygiene is maintained at the school, including that the appropriate drainage is in place.
- The security of the school.
- Arranging for periodic inspections to take place to comply with the requirements of the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989.

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- Ensuring the safety of the school's staff, pupils and visitors.
- Reporting any issues with the premises to the Site Manager, SBM and governing board as appropriate.
- Ensuring that the premises-related needs of people with disabilities are met, e.g. accessibility.
- Ensuring any potential risks are identified, formally recorded, assessed and managed. This should include taking appropriate preventative and protective measures.

3. Asbestos

The governing board, Headteacher, School Business Manager, Site Manager, Assistant Site Manager and Site Operative will ensure that the school meets its duty to manage asbestos in school.

The school will have an asbestos register (including associated remedial actions) and an Asbestos Management Plan. The Asbestos Management Plan will be reviewed annually. The Headteacher and School Business Manager will ensure that all staff are informed of any asbestos located within the school and will arrange for any necessary repairs to the school regarding asbestos. The Headteacher

will ensure that an asbestos survey is undertaken by a qualified contractor whenever necessary and that the outcomes are recorded.

The Headteacher will ensure that the stipulations in the Asbestos Management Policy are adhered to at all times. All staff, workers and contractors will receive adequate training and understand the precautions detailed in the Asbestos Management Plan.

4. Water supply

The Site Manager and any externally contracted companies will ensure that the school's water supply meets the regulatory requirements by carrying out the necessary checks at appropriate intervals, so that:

- The school has a clean supply of water for domestic purposes, including a supply of drinking water
- Toilet facilities have an adequate supply of cold water and washbasins, and sinks and showers have an adequate supply of hot and cold water.
- Hot water at the point of use does not pose a scalding risk.

Risks relating to legionella bacteria will be managed by the school in the following ways:

- A competent person will be appointed to take day-to-day responsibility for controlling any identified risks.
- Sources of risk will be identified and assessed in line with the HSE's Approved Code of Practice
 L8. A written scheme (or course of action) for preventing or controlling risks will be implemented and this scheme will be monitored.
- Records will be kept of checks conducted to ensure measures in place are effective.
- A legionella risk assessment and the preparation of the course of action will be undertaken by a company which offers these specialist services.

5. Temperatures

Where there is a below-normal level of physical activity due to ill health or a physical disability, the heating systems will be able to maintain a temperature of 21°C. Where there is a normal level of physical activity associated with teaching, private study or examinations, the heating systems will be able to maintain a temperature of 18°C. Where there is a high level of physical activity, e.g. PE sports halls, the heating systems will be able to maintain a temperature of 15°C. The school's heating systems will be capable of maintaining this at a height of 0.5 metres above floor level when the external air temperature is -1°C.

The surface temperature of any radiator (including exposed pipework) that could be touched by a pupil will not exceed 43°C.

Air extract systems will be employed to maintain a safe environment by removing hazardous fumes and dust. Local exhaust ventilation systems (LEVs) may be used in fume cupboards and in workshops. These systems will be examined and tested at least every 14 months. Closed water circuits which operate under pressure will be checked periodically for leaks. Fan heaters will be checked and

inspected periodically to check the fan operation and condition of electrical connections. Air conditioning systems will be inspected by an energy assessor at regular intervals, not exceeding five years. Bi-annual checks and an annual maintenance schedule will also be undertaken.

6. Toilet and washing facilities

The following toilet and washbasin facilities will be in place:

- For pupils aged 3-5, there will be 1 toilet and washbasin for every 10 pupils.
- For pupils aged 6-10, there will be 1 toilet and washbasin per 15 pupils, which will be segregated into male and female for those over 8.
- No more than two thirds of male toilets will be urinals.
- For pupils aged 11 or older, there will be 1 toilet and washbasin per 20 pupils, which will be segregated into male and female.

Toilet and washing facilities will be planned to ensure that hand washing facilities are provided within the vicinity of every toilet and the facilities are properly lit and ventilated. These facilities will be located in areas that provide easy access for pupils and allow for supervision by members of staff, without compromising the privacy of pupils.

Disabled toilets will have a toilet, washbasin and where possible, a shower or wash-down fitting. Disabled toilets will also have a door opening directly onto a circulation space that is not a staircase and can be secured from the inside. Where possible, a number of facilities will be available, to ensure a reasonable travel distance that does not involve changing floor levels. Where possible, shower areas will be separate from toilets, and they will provide adequate privacy.

7. Accessibility

The Headteacher will ensure the school's Accessibility Plan is kept up-to-date, to ensure the premises is accessible to staff, pupils and visitors with disabilities and other specific needs. The Accessibility Plan will include the health and safety needs of individuals with disabilities and other specific needs.

The school will take account of its Accessibility Policy when managing and maintaining the school Site.

8. Drainage

The Site Manager/Assistant Site Manager/Site Operative will carry out regular checks to ensure that there is adequate drainage for hygiene purposes and for the disposal of waste water and surface water – external drainage specialists will be called in should problems arise.

The Site Manager/Assistant Site Manager/Site Operative will ensure gutters are regularly cleaned. Ponding on roofs will be dealt with as a matter of urgency as it can cause deterioration of roof finishes and in severe cases can overload roofs contributing to structural failure.

9. Lighting

Lighting will be appropriate for a learning environment; where possible, natural lighting will be used. Adequate views will be available to the outside, to ensure comfort and avoid eye strain, and lighting

controls will be easy to use. Blinds or other window covers will be provided, to avoid glare or excessive sunlight.

External lighting will be provided to ensure safe pedestrian movement after dark. Car parks will be well lit. Emergency lighting will be provided for areas which are accessible after dark. Security lighting will be provided around the perimeter of school buildings with dusk-to-dawn lighting on all elevations where there is an entrance door. Lighting will be designed to eliminate potential hiding points.

Outdoor sports facilities will have floodlights if they are likely to be used out of school hours.

Some of the adaptations the school will make may include:

- Ensuring the school has colour and contrast, which helps in locating doors and handles, stairs and steps.
- Avoiding glare, including high gloss paint.
- Using light sources, such as high frequency fluorescent luminaires, to avoid subliminal flicker.
- Clearly marking large areas of glazing, e.g. with frosted glass, to avoid accidents.

The Site Manager will arrange for fixed electrical systems to be tested around the school Site. This will cover all of the electrical wiring within the buildings and grounds, including:

- External lighting and supplies
- Main panels
- Distribution boards
- Lighting
- Socket outlets
- Air conditioning
- Other fixed plants.

10. Security

The Site Manager will make adequate security arrangements for the grounds and buildings, including, but not limited to, ensuring:

- Each building has a secure entrance.
- The school's perimeters are sufficiently secure.

The Headteacher will ensure the school's security arrangements are adequate for the effective safeguarding of pupils and adhere to the expectations of the DfE, the LA and any local safeguarding partners, where possible.

11. Lettings

The School Business Manager will be responsible for lettings and will ensure that the health, safety and welfare of pupils are safeguarded, and their education is not interrupted by others. The school's Lettings Policy will be adhered to at all times.

Hirers will make an application for hire to the governing board. When determining whether to approve an application; the governing board will consider the following factors:

- The type of activity
- Possible interference with school activities
- The availability of facilities
- The availability of staff
- Health and safety considerations
- The school's duties with regard to the prevention of terrorism and radicalisation
- Whether the letting is deemed compatible with the ethos of the school

An application will not be approved if the hirer's purpose:

- Is aimed at promoting extremist views.
- Involves the dissemination of inappropriate materials.
- Contravenes the statutory Prevent duty.
- Is likely to cause offence to public taste and decency (except where this is, in the opinion of the school balanced or outweighed by freedom of expression or artistic merit).

The governing board will ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place to keep children safe when hiring or renting out the school premises or facilities.

Where services or activities are provided by the governing board under the direct supervision or management of school staff, the school's arrangements for child protection will apply, in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy. Where services or activities are provided separately by another body, these arrangements may not apply; therefore, the governing board will:

- Seek assurance that the body concerned has appropriate child protection and safeguarding policies and procedures in place.
- Inspect the body's policies and procedures as needed.
- Ensure that there are arrangements in place to liaise with the school on these matters where appropriate.
- Ensure safeguarding requirements are included in any transfer of control agreement (i.e. lease or hire agreement), as a condition of use and occupation of the premises.
- Inform the body that failure to comply with these requirements would lead to termination of the agreement.

12. Weather

The Site Manager will ensure that the school buildings provide reasonable resistance to penetration by rain, snow, wind and moisture from the ground by conducting regular visual checks. Any issues identified will be relayed to the School Business Manager.

13. Invacuations and evacuations

The Site Manager will ensure there is sufficient access so that emergency invacuations and/or evacuations can be completed safely for all pupils and staff, including those with SEND, by ensuring that all entries and exits are kept clear and unobstructed, and by carrying out regular checks.

14. Suitability

The Headteacher will maintain the school by referencing the Environmental Health Authority's appropriate documentation, to avoid being condemned. The Headteacher, School Business Manager and Site Manager will further ensure that, in terms of the design and structure of school buildings, no areas of the school compromise health and safety, in line with the school's Health and Safety Policy.

15. Fire safety

School premises, accommodation and facilities will be maintained to a standard that ensures, so far as is reasonable, the health, safety and welfare of pupils and staff, including in relation to fire safety.

Fire risk assessments will be undertaken to identify the general fire precautions needed to ensure the safety of occupants in case of a fire. Procedures will be in place for reducing the likelihood of fire including fire detection and alarm systems. Those completing fire risk assessments, or providing advice in relation to them, will be appropriately qualified or experienced.

Staff and pupils will be familiarised with emergency evacuation procedures and risk assessments will be updated if there are any significant changes to the premises.

Fire detection and alarm systems will have a weekly alarm test. In systems with multiple manual call points, a different one will be tested each week, so that all are eventually included in the schedule of testing over a period of time. The Site Manager/Assistant Site Manager will ensure all fire doors remain in efficient working order and should be regularly checked and maintained.

16. Catering

The Head Cook will ensure that where food is served, there are adequate facilities in place for its hygienic preparation, serving and consumption.

17. Cleaning

The School Business Manager will be responsible for managing cleaning staff/contractors and will ensure that classrooms and other parts of the school are maintained in a tidy, clean and hygienic state by monitoring standards. Adequate measures should be taken to prevent condensation and noxious fumes in kitchens and other rooms.

18. Acoustics

Learning spaces will be designed in a way to enable people to hear clearly, understand and concentrate, and there will be minimal disturbance from unwanted noise. Some learning spaces, such as music rooms or open areas, will require higher acoustic standards.

19. Maintenance

The School Business Manager will ensure that there is a satisfactory standard and adequate maintenance of decoration by implementing the school's planned maintenance programme. Most of this work will take place during holiday periods, but smaller tasks may be completed during term time.

A number of documents will be held to assist in managing the estate and ensure it is safe for all users. These will include certificates and details of all statutory examinations, testing and remedial work.

20. Furnishings

The School Business Manager, in consultation with the Headteacher and relevant staff, will ensure that the furniture and fittings are appropriately designed for the age and needs, including any SEND or medical conditions, of all pupils registered at the school.

21. Grounds

The School Business Manager, in consultation with the Headteacher, will ensure that there are appropriate arrangements for providing outside space for pupils to play and exercise safely. Under section 77 of The School Standards and Framework Act 1998, playing fields are protected from development.

The condition of all playground areas will be monitored by the Site Manager and deficiencies addressed. The school will ensure, as far as reasonably practicable, that the premises are safe and without risks to health. This includes external areas and means of access to and from the school.

The school will ensure risks associated with individuals entering or leaving the school estate are assessed and the school perimeter will be secured and controlled accordingly. There will be clear segregation and delineation of pedestrian and vehicular access routes, and separation of parking and playground areas.

22. Health and safety audit

The School Business Manager and Health & Safety Governor will ensure that the school premises are subject to a regular health and safety audit. The Headteacher will monitor that health and safety risk assessments are completed annually for each relevant area. Any risks identified will be formally recorded, assessed and managed. This will include taking appropriate preventative and protective measures. Risk assessments will be reviewed regularly and kept up-to-date. This could be as a result of changed circumstances such as bringing in new equipment, using an area for a different purpose or if someone reports a hazard.

As well as formal risk assessments undertaken by competent persons, staff and pupils will be encouraged to report risks, and there will be a system in place to formally record and act on issues raised.

Health and safety monitoring arrangements will be referred to when carrying out any repairs, maintenance and improvement projects.

23. Electrical testing and inspection

A Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) will take place annually. The schematic of the supply route and primary distribution will be updated annually. Fixed wiring and all distribution boards and safety devices will be inspected annually. All fixed wiring and all distribution boards will be tested at least once every five years.

All electrical testing and inspection will be carried out by a competent person.

For portacabins, the time interval between periodic inspection and testing of is a matter of engineering judgement and will depend on a variety of factors, including the level of supervision of the unit previously, the frequency of use and the severity of the external influences to which it is exposed, e.g. the weather.

A visual inspection will be carried out on all connecting cables, plugs and socket outlets before every use of the unit. The results of the visual inspection will be written in a log book as a permanent record of the condition of the electrical equipment.

It is at the discretion of the designer of the installation to use their professional engineering judgement and indicate the recommended inspection timeline on the certification provided.

Testing of all distribution boards in mobile accommodation will be conducted on an annual basis.

24. Other equipment, systems and storage

In line with The Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER), the school will ensure that lifts used by employees for work are safe to use. Plans will be implemented to ensure the safety of users in the event of the lift breakdown or stopping between floors.

The school will ensure equipment used for physical education is safe to use. To ensure that equipment is maintained in a safe condition, it will be regularly inspected.

25. Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed annually.

Appendix 1: Inspection and testing

We maintain accurate records and details of all statutory tests which are undertaken at our premises. This includes relevant paperwork and certificates.

All requirements and recommendations highlighted in inspection reports and certificates are reviewed and acted on as necessary.

As part of the records of completed works, we include the dates when the works were undertaken and the details of the individual or company who completed them, along with their qualifications/certifications and/or experience.

The table below sets out the issues we inspect, the inspection frequency, and the person responsible for checking each issue and, where appropriate, engaging a suitably qualified person to carry out inspection, testing or maintenance. It covers statutory checks as well as recommended good practice checks from relevant guidance. It is based on the checks and testing sections of the DfE estates guidance.

ISSUE TO INSPECT	FREQUENCY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Portable appliance testing (PAT)	Variable, according to risk and how the equipment is constructed. Regular visual inspections where PAT is not required. We will refer to HSE guidance on maintaining portable electric equipment for suggested intervals and types of testing/inspection.	PGA Electrics Ltd or other suitably qualified company.
Fixed electrical installation tests (including lightning conductors)	Variable, according to the number and severity of faults found at last inspection. Inspection and testing always carried out by a competent person.	Acivico Group Ltd
Emergency lighting	Monthly flash test. 6-monthly condition test (including 3-hour battery test) by a competent person.	Acivico Group Ltd
Lifts	At least every 6 months for passenger lifts and lift accessories, every 12 months for other lifts (e.g. goods lifts) – always by a competent person.	Stannah Lifts Holdings Ltd

ISSUE TO INSPECT	FREQUENCY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Gas appliances and fittings	Routinely, in accordance with manufacturer recommendations (or other professional advice if unavailable). Annual safety checks (in line with good practice / required if the premises are used for residential accommodation). All work carried out by a Gas Safe Registered engineer.	SPA GAS Mechanical Heating Services Ltd
Fuel oil storage	Checks at least weekly, with more detailed annual inspections by qualified inspectors.	N/A – none on site
Air conditioning systems	Inspections by an energy assessor at regular intervals (not exceeding 5 years). Annual certificated inspection to ensure no refrigerant leakage. Bi-annual checks and an annual maintenance schedule (in line with good practice).	AIRMAC Essential Services
Pressure systems	No fixed maintenance requirement (our programme takes account of the list on page 44 of the HSE's Safety of Pressure Systems guidance, and an examination of the system is carried out by a competent person by the date set at the previous examination – see pages 35 to 37 of the HSE guidance).	Acivico Group Ltd
Legionella checks on all water systems	Risk assessment of each Site carried out and reviewed regularly by a competent person. The frequency of monitoring checks varies for evaporative cooling systems, hot and cold water systems and other risk systems – specific details can be found in guidance for each type from the HSE.	HBE Ltd
Asbestos	Regular inspections as part of the asbestos register and management plan. Reviews of the asbestos register annually. Refurbishment and demolition surveys before any refurbishment or demolition work.	Acivico Group Ltd Worcestershire County Council

ISSUE TO INSPECT	FREQUENCY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Equipment used for working at height	Inspected before use, and at suitable intervals appropriate to the environment it's used in and how it's used. In addition, inspections after anything that may affect the safety or stability of equipment, e.g. adverse weather or accidental damage.	Site Manager responsible when using equipment
Fire detection and alarm systems	Weekly alarm tests, with a different call point tested each week where applicable. Quarterly and annual inspections	Site Manager
	and tests by a competent person. Annual fire risk assessment by a competent person also includes the maintenance of fire detection and alarm systems.	IGNIS Fire & Security Services
Fire doors	Regular checks by a competent person.	FDM Ltd Site Manager
Firefighting equipment	Most equipment – extinguishers, fire blankets, hose reels, fixed systems (such as sprinkler systems) and fire service facilities (such as dry risers and access for emergency vehicles) – inspected annually (by a competent person where required) unless manufacturers' guidelines suggest differently.	IGNAS Fire & Security Services
Extraction systems	Regular removal and cleaning of grease filters and cleaning of ductwork for kitchen extraction systems.	Acivico Group Ltd
	Local exhaust ventilation systems (such as those for working with hazardous substances) examined and tested at least every 14 months by a competent person.	AIRMEC Essential Services
	More routine checks also set out in system logbooks.	Site Manager

ISSUE TO INSPECT	FREQUENCY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Chemical storage	Inventories are kept up-to-date. Risk assessments for the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) are reviewed on a regular basis, plus whenever it's considered that the original assessment may no longer be valid, or where the circumstances of the work change significantly and may affect employees' exposure to a hazardous substance (in line with HSE guidance on COSHH assessment).	Lewis Cleansing
Hydrotherapy pools and swimming pools	In addition to inclusion as part of the legionella checks, we follow the operation and maintenance guidance on pages 32 to 43 of the HSE's guide for spa-pool systems. Swimming pools are subject to risk assessments and included in legionella checks and COSHH assessments.	N/A – none on site
Playground and gymnasium equipment	Regular inspections – at least annually, and more regularly where any equipment is used more frequently than normal (e.g. where community use increases how often equipment is used). Outdoor fixed play equipment – periodic and annual inspections by a competent person.	REJB Sports Services
Tree safety	As part of risk assessment responsibilities, periodic visual checks for stability are carried out, with more detailed assessments if suspected structural faults or other risks are found.	Acivico Group Ltd/Worcestershire County Council (Every 3 years for Tree Survey)

ISSUE TO INSPECT	FREQUENCY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Radon	Risk assessments including radon measurements will be carried out in all of our above-ground workplaces in radon-affected areas, and all of our below-ground workplaces.	N/A
	Radon measurements will last for 3 months, using radon monitors, in line with Public Health England radon guidance for schools.	
	Where measurements show radon levels below 300Bq/m3, radon levels will be remeasured at least every 10 years. If significant changes are made to the buildings or work processes, remeasurement will also be considered.	
	For any Sites with radon levels above 300Bq/m3 we will work with a radiation protection adviser to manage reduction and decide on risk assessment and remeasurement frequency.	

Appendix 2: Asbestos Management Checklist

Criteria	Yes	Further action needed
Is the school management team aware who has the overall legal responsibility for the management and repair of the school buildings? The responsibility for managing asbestos falls to whoever is responsible for maintenance and repair of the school premises – this is the duty holder.		
Has the duty holder undertaken a management survey? A management survey should identify what type of asbestos containing materials (ACMs) are present and where they are.		
Does the management survey highlight the location of ACMs? All areas of the school premises should be included storerooms, yards, outbuildings, underfloor services; pipes; ceiling voids; corridors, etc.		
Has the duty holder assessed the potential risk from the ACMs? The assessment should consider the condition of the ACMs, whether they are likely to be disturbed and the action that is necessary to manage the risks.		
Does the duty holder have a management plan detailing how to manage the risks from any ACMs at your school? The plan should bring together all the available information. It should outline what is going to be done, when it is going to be done, and how it is going to be done – both reactive and planned checks. It should set out clear lines of responsibility.		
Are precautions in place to ensure that anyone who may disturb ACMs is provided with information about any asbestos present? The precautions should ensure anyone inhouse or who comes to undertake any work on the premises does not start before they are given the information about any asbestos present.		

Are any in-house staff who may undertake maintenance work adequately trained? Training needs to be appropriate for the work.

Awareness training: this is for staff whose work could expose them to asbestos while carrying out their everyday tasks. Awareness training is not sufficient for staff planning to carry out any work on ACMs.

Training for work with asbestos that does not require a licence from the HSE: this is for staff who plan to carry out any work on ACMs where the likelihood of exposure is much higher e.g. installing cables in areas containing undamaged asbestos materials.

Training for asbestos work that does require a licence from the HSE: this includes most work of asbestos insulation, asbestos insulating board, and lagging, including sealing and removal. Licensed contractors must carry out most work with these higher risk ACMs.

Further action needed			
Action required	Action taken	Date	Signature