



Health & Safety Policy

Purpose

To set out the Tyggwhistle policy on all aspects of health and safety including, but not confined to :

- Working practices;
- Dealing with incidents;
- Monitoring and responding to environmental changes;
- Preparing and serving food;
- Using fire and tools;
- Handling heavy loads and hazardous substances and
- Transporting participants and staff between sites.

In doing so we will ensure that we have due regard to the requirements of the Health & Safety at Work Act (HASAWA) 1974, the Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992, and the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002.

Why do we need a policy?

- To ensure that all participants, their parents and carers, staff at the school, and other stakeholders are kept free from harm by minimising hazards and their associated risks;
- To ensure that any residual risks that cannot be mitigated, are clearly communicated to all stakeholders so they can make informed judgements about the risks to which they are exposed.
- To ensure that all stakeholders are informed about the role they play in planning for and responding to risks.

This policy was implemented on **January 1st 2019**

The policy will be reviewed and updated in **January 2020.**

How will we manage risk?

The school will:

- Place safety at the centre of the planning process;
- Carry out risk assessments showing potential risks, their likelihood and severity as well as steps taken to mitigate the risk;
- Monitor and respond to changing hazards in an informed and purposeful way;
- Educate all users to think about their own welfare and that of others.
- Ensure operational procedures are prepared for all eventualities and shared with staff.

How will we action this policy?

- The school will carry out a detailed risk assessment of all woodland areas prior to using the site and publish this on its website.
- The school will carry out daily risk assessments of sites to assess weather conditions, seasonal hazards and unforeseen hazards.
- If new hazards are identified, the school will update its risk assessment promptly to address the change.
- The school will carry out specific risk assessments for:
 - The preparation of food
 - The use of fire
 - The use of each woodland tool
 - Handling of heavy loads
 - Handling of hazardous substances
 - Transport procedures
- The Forest Leader will carry with them an emergency bag with prescribed contents.
- The school will ensure that responsible adults are aware of the emergency procedure, a copy of which is on the website.
- The school will ensure that staff are relevantly trained to carry out their roles. This includes ensuring that an appropriately qualified first aider is present during forest school sessions.