



Riversdale Primary School

A nurturing, ambitious and values led school.

FIRST AID AND MEDICINES POLICY

DATE: 5th March 2026

REVIEW DATE: 4th March 2027

INTRODUCTION

Riversdale Primary School is committed to ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of all pupils, staff and visitors. Appropriate arrangements are in place to provide first aid and to support pupils who require medication during the school day.

The school undertakes regular assessments of its first aid needs, taking into account the size of the school, the nature of its activities, the age of pupils and the specific needs of the school community. This ensures that adequate numbers of trained staff, appropriate equipment and clear procedures are in place to respond effectively to accidents, injuries or medical emergencies.

This policy outlines the school's arrangements for providing first aid, responding to illness or injury and administering medicines where necessary. It aims to ensure that staff understand their responsibilities and that pupils receive prompt, safe and appropriate care.

Where appropriate, injuries or medical incidents will also be considered in the context of the school's safeguarding responsibilities, and any concerns regarding a pupil's welfare will be reported in accordance with the school's safeguarding procedures.

AIMS

The aims of our first aid policy are to:

- Ensure the health and safety of all staff, pupils and visitors
- Ensure that staff and governors are aware of their responsibilities with regards to health and safety
- Provide a framework for responding to an incident and recording and reporting the outcomes

LEGISLATION & GUIDANCE

This policy is based on the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage, advice from the Department for Education on first aid in schools and health and safety in schools, guidance from the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) on incident reporting in schools, and the following legislation:

- The Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations 1981, which state that employers must provide adequate and appropriate equipment and facilities to enable first aid to be administered to employees, and qualified first aid personnel
- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992, which require employers to make an assessment of the risks to the health and safety of their employees
- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, which require employers to carry out risk assessments, make arrangements to implement necessary measures, and arrange for appropriate information and training
- The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) 2013, which state that some accidents must be reported to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE), and set out the timeframe for this and how long records of such accidents must be kept
- Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1979, which set out rules on the retention of accident records
- The School Premises (England) Regulations 2012, which require that suitable space is provided to cater for the medical and therapy needs of pupils

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

As a school with an Early Years and Foundation Stage, there is at least one member of staff on the school premises at all times with a current Paediatric First Aid qualification.

Appointed person(s) and first aiders:

The school's appointed persons are Lesley Harrison and Sandra Moody, with first aid roles delegated to a number of support staff. They are responsible for:

- Taking charge when someone is injured or becomes ill
- Ensuring there is an adequate supply of medical materials in first aid kits, and replenishing the contents of these kits
- Ensuring that an ambulance or other professional medical help is summoned when appropriate

First aiders are trained and qualified to carry out the role and are responsible for:

- Acting as first responders to any incidents; they will assess the situation where there is an injured or ill person, and provide immediate and appropriate treatment
- Sending pupils home to recover, where necessary
- Filling in an accident report on the same day as, or as soon as is reasonably practicable after, an incident
- Keeping their contact details up to date

Our school's first aiders names will be displayed prominently around the school site.

The Local Authority and Governing Board:

Wandsworth Borough Council has ultimate responsibility for health and safety matters in the school, but delegates responsibility for the strategic management of such matters to the school's governing board.

The governing board delegates operational matters and day-to-day tasks to the headteacher and staff members.

The Headteacher & SENCo:

The Headteacher and SENCo are responsible for the implementation of this policy, including:

- Ensuring that an appropriate number of trained first aid personnel are present in the school at all times
- Ensuring that first aiders have an appropriate qualification, keep training up to date and remain competent to perform their role
- Ensuring all staff are aware of first aid procedures
- Ensuring appropriate risk assessments are completed and appropriate measures are put in place
- Undertaking, or ensuring that managers undertake, risk assessments, as appropriate, and that appropriate measures are put in place
- Ensuring that adequate space is available for catering to the medical needs of pupils
- Reporting specified incidents to the HSE when necessary

Staff:

School staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring they follow first aid procedures
- Ensuring they know who the first aiders in school are
- Completing accident reports for all incidents they attend to where a first aider is not called
- Informing the headteacher or their manager of any specific health conditions or first aid needs

FIRST AID PROCEDURES

In-school procedures:

There will be at least 1 person who has a current paediatric first aid (PFA) certificate on the premises at all times.

In the event of an accident resulting in injury:

- The closest member of staff present will assess the seriousness of the injury and seek the assistance of a qualified first aider, if appropriate, who will provide the required first aid treatment
- If the injury is minor and does not require first aid assistance, the member of staff will provide appropriate treatment and place a green sticker on the pupil identifying the nature of the injury
- If the injury is to the head, the member of staff will immediately contact a first aider and a red sticker will be placed on the pupil identifying the nature of the injury and the parents/carers will be immediately notified
- The first aider, if called, will assess the injury and decide if further assistance is needed from a colleague or the emergency services. They will remain on the scene until help arrives
- The first aider will also decide whether the injured person should be moved or placed in a recovery position
- If the first aider judges that a pupil is too unwell to remain in school, parents will be contacted and asked to collect their child. Upon their arrival, the first aider will recommend next steps to the parents
- If emergency services are called, a member of the Senior Leadership Team will contact parents immediately
- The first aider/relevant member of staff will complete an accident report form on the same day or as soon as is reasonably practicable after an incident resulting in an injury
- A member of the Senior Leadership Team will complete an incident form using the Wandsworth Borough Council's online reporting platform where applicable

Off-site procedures:

There will always be at least 1 first aider with a current paediatric first aid (PFA) certificate on school trips and visits, as required by the statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage.

When taking pupils off the school premises, staff will ensure they always have the following:

- A school mobile phone or fully charged personal mobile phone
- A portable first aid kit including, at minimum:
 - A leaflet giving general advice on first aid
 - 6 individually wrapped sterile adhesive dressings

- 1 large sterile unmedicated dressing
- 2 triangular bandages – individually wrapped and preferably sterile
- 2 safety pins
- Individually wrapped moist cleansing wipes
- 2 pairs of disposable gloves
- Information about the specific medical needs of pupils
- Parents' contact details

When transporting pupils using a large vehicle, the school will make sure the vehicle is equipped with, or in the instance that the vehicle is not school owned, a clearly marked first aid box containing, at minimum:

- 10 antiseptic wipes, foil packed
- 1 conforming disposable bandage (not less than 7.5cm wide)
- 2 triangular bandages
- 1 packet of 24 assorted adhesive dressings
- 3 large sterile unmedicated ambulance dressings (not less than 15 cm × 20 cm)
- 2 sterile eye pads, with attachments
- 12 assorted safety pins
- 1 pair of rustproof blunt-ended scissors

Risk assessments will be completed by the class teacher responsible for the trip prior to any educational visit that necessitates taking pupils off school premises, which will then be reviewed and authorised by the Headteacher.

FIRST AID EQUIPMENT

Based on HSE's recommendations, a typical first aid kit in our school will include the following:

- A leaflet giving general advice on first aid
- 20 individually wrapped sterile adhesive dressings (assorted sizes)
- 2 sterile eye pads
- 2 individually wrapped triangular bandages (preferably sterile)
- 6 safety pins
- 6 medium-sized individually wrapped sterile unmedicated wound dressings
- 2 large sterile individually wrapped unmedicated wound dressings
- 3 pairs of disposable gloves

No medication is kept in first aid kits.

First aid kits are stored in:

- All classrooms,
- Reception office
- The school kitchens

RECORD KEEPING

First aid and accident record book:

An accident form will be completed by the relevant member of staff OR first aider, depending on the circumstance, on the same day or as soon as possible after an incident resulting in an injury.

As much detail as possible should be supplied when reporting an accident, including all of the information included in the accident form.

For accidents involving pupils, a copy of the accident report form will be supplied to the parent/carer for their own records.

Records held in the first aid and accident book will be retained by the school for a minimum of 3 years, in accordance with regulation 25 of the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1979, and then securely disposed of in accordance with the school's Data Protection Policy.

Local Authority Reporting:

Where accidents result in injury that requires the support of emergency services and/or hospitalisation, this will be reported to the local authority, using the appropriate online platform.

As part of this reporting, an investigation will be undertaken by the Senior Leadership Team, as well as those responsible for Health & Safety, to ascertain the nature of the accident and any adaptations to school policy and practice that might mitigate future recurrences.

Reporting to the HSE:

The Senior Leadership Team, member of staff responsible for Health & Safety and the local authority will keep a record of any accident which results in a reportable injury, disease, or dangerous occurrence as defined in the RIDDOR 2013 legislation (regulations 4, 5, 6 and 7).

The Headteacher will report these to the HSE as soon as is reasonably practicable and in any event within 10 days of the incident – except where indicated below. Fatal and major injuries and dangerous occurrences will be reported without delay (i.e. by telephone) and followed up in writing within 10 days.

School staff: reportable injuries, diseases or dangerous occurrences

These include:

- Death
- Specified injuries, which are:
 - Fractures, other than to fingers, thumbs and toes
 - Amputations
 - Any injury likely to lead to permanent loss of sight or reduction in sight
 - Any crush injury to the head or torso causing damage to the brain or internal organs
 - Serious burns (including scalding) which:
 - Covers more than 10% of the whole body's total surface area; or
 - Causes significant damage to the eyes, respiratory system or other vital organs
 - Any scalping requiring hospital treatment
 - Any loss of consciousness caused by head injury or asphyxia
 - Any other injury arising from working in an enclosed space which leads to hypothermia or heat-induced illness, or requires resuscitation or admittance to hospital for more than 24 hours
- Work-related injuries that lead to an employee being away from work or unable to perform their normal work duties for more than 7 consecutive days (not including the day of the incident). In this case, the Headteacher will report these to the HSE as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event within 15 days of the accident
- Occupational diseases where a doctor has made a written diagnosis that the disease is linked to occupational exposure. These include:
 - Carpal tunnel syndrome
 - Severe cramp of the hand or forearm
 - Occupational dermatitis, e.g. from exposure to strong acids or alkalis, including domestic bleach
 - Hand-arm vibration syndrome
 - Occupational asthma, e.g. from wood dust
 - Tendonitis or tenosynovitis of the hand or forearm
 - Any occupational cancer
 - Any disease attributed to an occupational exposure to a biological agent
- Near-miss events that do not result in an injury, but could have done. Examples of near-miss events relevant to schools include, but are not limited to:
 - The collapse or failure of load-bearing parts of lifts and lifting equipment
 - The accidental release of a biological agent likely to cause severe human illness
 - The accidental release or escape of any substance that may cause a serious injury or damage to health
- An electrical short circuit or overload causing a fire or explosion

Pupils and other people who are not at work (e.g. visitors): reportable injuries, diseases or dangerous occurrences

These include:

- Death of a person that arose from, or was in connection with, a work activity
- An injury that arose from, or was in connection with, a work activity and where the person is taken directly from the scene of the accident to hospital for treatment

An accident "arises out of" or is "connected with a work activity" if it was caused by:

- A failure in the way a work activity was organised (e.g. inadequate supervision of a field trip)
- The way equipment or substances were used (e.g. lifts, machinery, experiments etc); and/or
- The condition of the premises (e.g. poorly maintained or slippery floors)

Notifying Parents:

The school will inform parents of any accident or injury sustained by a pupil, and any first aid treatment given, on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable. Parents will also be informed if emergency services are called.

Where the accident results in a head injury, the parents/carers will be contacted immediately to inform them of any accident or injury sustained by a pupil, and any first aid treatment given, as well as suggested next steps.

Reporting to Ofsted and child protection agencies:

The school will notify Ofsted of any serious accident, illness or injury to, or death of, a child while in the school's care. This will happen as soon as is reasonably practicable, and no later than 14 days after the incident.

The school will also notify the local authority of any serious accident or injury to, or the death of, a pupil while in the school's care.

TRAINING

All school staff are able to undertake first aid training if they would like to.

All first aiders must have completed a training course, and must hold a valid certificate of competence to show this. The school will keep a register of all trained first aiders, what training they have received and when this is valid until.

The school will arrange for first aiders to retrain before their first aid certificates expire. In cases where a certificate expires, the school will arrange for staff to retake the full first aid course before being reinstated as a first aider.

At all times, at least 1 staff member will have a current paediatric first aid (PFA) certificate which meets the requirements set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage statutory framework. The PFA certificate will be renewed every 3 years.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed annually. At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing board.