



Health and Safety Statement (A)

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Beacon Education Health and Safety Policy Statement – Part A

Beacon Education (the Trust) recognises and accepts its legal and moral duties to provide for the health, safety and wellbeing of its employees, students/pupils and any other person affected by our activities both at school or nursery and during off-site visits.

As the employer, the Trust retains overall responsibility for ensuring that suitable health and safety management systems are in place and for establishing suitable systems within our schools at a strategic level.

Matt Shane acts as the Trust's 'competent person' to provide support, advice and guidance to our schools and nurseries on health, safety and welfare issues for both health and safety in school and for educational visits approval and notification. Additional Health and Safety support is provided by Educating Safely LLP. The Trust and its schools and nurseries will access their expertise and guidance as required in the first instance.

Our health and safety performance contributes to each location's overall performance by helping to reduce injury, ill health, losses and liability, and we view our health and safety responsibilities as equally important to everything else we do. We are committed to continuous improvement in our health and safety performance and will ensure that sufficient resources are made available to achieve this.

We will ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that we provide safe premises and working environments, safe equipment and substances, safe activities and systems of work. We will provide suitable information, instruction, training and supervision to ensure we achieve and maintain excellent levels of health and safety. Legal compliance in all areas is deemed to be the minimum standard to be attained. We will establish suitable arrangements to deal with emergencies and school security.

Suitable and sufficient risk assessments will be used as a tool throughout our schools' and nurseries' activities to ensure that health and safety arrangements are adequate.

Everybody is expected to play their part and we recognise that, for health and safety management to be successful, all parties must be actively involved.

People are our key resource, not only our employees, but also parents/carers, students/pupils, volunteers, contractors and any partner organisations we work with. To help ensure the active involvement of all parties, effective communication and consultation arrangements will be established through regular Trust Board, Academic Interim Board and staff meetings, communication with Trade Unions, and through other arrangements including induction, health and safety communications, and contractor control procedures. We will employ other methods to communicate our policy and arrangements as we deem appropriate.

The day-to-day responsibility for all health, safety and welfare organisation and activity rests with each school Headteacher or nursery Manager. The Headteacher / nursery Manager will appoint others to specific roles and will delegate tasks which help to support each location's health and safety arrangements. Each locations' specific organisation is outlined in Part 2 of this Policy which includes details of persons undertaking specific health and safety roles.

The Headteacher will ensure that the Trust Health and Safety Manager is kept informed of accidents and any other relevant health and safety issues and will make regular reports to the Academic Improvement Board.

The Headteacher or Nursery Manager with assistance from the Health and Safety Manager in each location will

prepare a Health and Safety Action Plan for monitoring improvement, which will be used as a working document, kept under regular review, and will prepare further written documentation to support this Policy which will describe the specific arrangements made for health and safety. These specific arrangements can be made available on request. Wherever possible locations will benchmark performance against available data and seek to achieve continual improvement in performance. Health and safety performance will be documented as part of each locations' Annual Health and Safety Management Review.

The Trust will establish suitable forums and procedures for discussing and sharing relevant health and safety information with staff and others, and for implementing the health and safety procedures applicable to the location.

Staff throughout each location have responsibility not only for their own health and safety but also for that of any students/pupils or others under their control. All employees are expected to cooperate and to contribute towards meeting excellent health and safety performance in all activities.

Whilst adopting excellent health and safety standards is viewed positively and contributes to the overall performance of each location, failure to adopt adequate procedures will be taken very seriously. Where required appropriate disciplinary procedures will be implemented.

In order to ensure locations are achieving adequate health and safety standards, arrangements will be put into place to monitor and review performance. These will include regular audits conducted by Educating Safely LLP, periodic monitoring of health and safety arrangements by the Health and Safety Manager and nominated staff, regular inspection of our equipment and premises, and the monitoring of accident and work-related ill health data. These will include regular audits conducted by Educating Safely LLP, periodic monitoring of health and safety arrangements by the Health and Safety Manager and nominated staff, regular inspection of our equipment and premises, and the monitoring of accident and work-related ill health data. Levels of work-related accidents and ill health are deemed to be an indicator of management control and not necessarily the fault of individuals.

Wherever possible we will benchmark our performance against available data. Health and safety performance will be provided in an annual Health and Safety Report, prepared by the H&S Compliance Manager or nominated person, to the Trust Board with interim updates provided where deemed appropriate. This Statement of Policy on health and safety at work is made in accordance with section 2 (3) of the Health and Safety at Work Etc. Act 1974 and represents a summary of the Trust's organisation and arrangements. This statement and each location's documented arrangements will be made freely available to all staff and other interested parties on request.

This Policy Statement and relevant arrangements will be reviewed at least annually to ensure they remain effective and up to date. Part B of the policy will be specific to individual schools and will detail how this will be delivered in each of the Trust academies, including the responsibilities of academy staff, healthcare professionals, pupils and parents.

