

STOWE VALLEY MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

HEALTH & SAFETY STATEMENT

Stowe Valley Multi Academy Trust (SVMAT) recognises its wide-ranging Health and Safety duties and responsibilities for keeping staff, students, and all other persons on SVMAT sites safe and protected from harm, within the bounds of reasonable practicability.

These requirements are enshrined in law, specifically *The Health and Safety at Work Act (1974)* which states under Section 2: "It shall be the duty of all employers to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health safety and welfare of all their employees whilst they are at work." Additional responsibilities are also outlined under Sections 3, regarding the safety of all non-employed persons who may be affected by SVMATs activities.

This purpose of this statement, in addition to the arrangements as set out in the associated Health & Safety policy is to provide a clear vision for the ongoing management of health and safety and ensure that all work operations and activities are undertaken in ways that pose a minimal risk of harm to staff, students, visitors and contractors at any SVMAT school.

All arrangements made for the purposes of health and safety are done so with reference to advice and guidance of the HSE, in addition to that of professional health and safety consultants and industry best practice.

Risk assessments are to be undertaken for all school activities. Any hazards identified as part of this process will be managed with the intent to first eliminate the risk or, if this proves to not be possible, reduce it to an acceptable level through the implementation of control measures. In keeping with SVMAT's risk assessment procedure, any significant findings will be communicated to all persons with the potential to be affected.

All premises will be suitably equipped with regards to facilities, equipment, and materials, to ensure that arrangements made for all foreseeable emergency situations are consistently robust.

SVMAT recognises the importance of good communication with all persons affected by its' schools' activities, particularly staff and students. Consequently, it will remain a long-term goal to involve and engage with all such persons in any aspects of safety management, where relevant and applicable to them.

The long-standing objectives of SVMAT are as follows:

- *Recognise and accept its responsibilities as an employer under the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and other relevant legislation including related Department of Education advice on legal duties and powers.*
- *Safe places of work, equipment and work practices will be provided for pupils, employees, and any visitors at all SVMAT schools.*
- *All persons, including staff, students, visitors, and contractors at SVMAT schools are made aware of their legal duty to take care of the health and safety of themselves and others.*
- *The Health and Safety Policy and any supporting documentation apply across all SVMAT schools, unless otherwise specified.*
- *Employees will be trained and supported to ensure they are able to fulfil their responsibilities and so demonstrate health and safety practices that maintain a safe and healthy environment.*
- *Employees understand their duty to report any concerns about health and safety arrangements.*
- *The Health and Safety Policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Health & Safety Officer or earlier as required by changes in legislation/good practice.*
- *The Health & Safety Policy is on the SVMAT website and hard copies are retained in the schools Health & Safety Folder (in addition to Asbestos, Electrical, Fire, and Water Hygiene Management documentation) and updated / replaced as required.*

SVMAT also appreciates the value of specified goals with more clearly defined and measurable outcomes that will be achieved over the course of the next 12 months. This has been reflected in the following, additional objectives:

- *Persons with a more specific role in fire safety evacuation plans for each school will be trained as fire marshals/wardens.*
- *All new starters will receive an introduction into Health and Safety and be made aware of their responsibilities.*
- *All First Aid training arrangements throughout SVMAT will be managed centrally, in collaboration with St Johns Ambulance and in consultation with individual schools.*
- *All staff to confirm sight and understanding of risk assessments, outlining specific potential risks they face as a part of their own role.*
- *Implementation of dedicated Risk and Asset Management Software to manage health and safety arrangements at all sites within SVMAT.*

This Health & Safety Statement has been approved and authorised by:

Signature:

Name:

Position:

Date:

Version	Details of changes made	Reason	Date implemented	Reviewed by
1.0	N/a	First version		RH