Castle View School

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Premises Management Policy

Approved by:	Castle View School Local Governing Body	**Date:** 04/12/2025
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The Department for Education's (DfE's) guidance on statutory policies for schools includes 'premises management documents'. It says that many aspects of school premises require safe management and maintenance, including asbestos, fire safety and statutory testing.

1. Aims

Castle View School aims to ensure that it:

- Manages its buildings and equipment in an efficient, legally compliant way
- Inspects and tests buildings and equipment regularly, taking into account statutory requirements and best practice recommendations
- Promotes the safety and wellbeing of our staff, pupils, parents and visitors through effective maintenance of buildings and equipment in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- Complies with the requirements of The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014

2. Guidance

This document is based on the Department for Education's guidance on good estate management for schools.

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Roles and responsibilities

The Governing Board, Headteacher, Business Manager working alongside Skanska/PFI partners will ensure this premises management policy is properly implemented, and that tests and inspections are carried out in accordance with this policy.

The Headteacher, Business Manager and Skanska are responsible for ensuring relevant risk assessments are conducted and for reporting to the Governing Board, as required.

Responsibilities also include:

- Inspecting and maintaining the school premises
- Conducting repairs and maintenance
- Being the first point of contact for any issues with the premises
- Conducting and keeping a record of risk assessments and incident logs related to the school premises

- Liaising with relevant stakeholders about what actions need to be taken to keep the school premises safe

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

4. Inspection and testing

Castle View School and Skanska 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(S) 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.	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator
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.	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator
Emergency lighting	Monthly flash test. 6-monthly condition test (including 3-hour battery test) by a competent person.	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator
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.	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator/External Contractors

ISSUE TO INSPECT	FREQUENCY	PERSON(S) 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.	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator
Fuel oil storage	Checks at least weekly, with more detailed annual inspections by qualified inspectors.	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator
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).	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator
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).	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator
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.	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator
Asbestos	Regular inspections as part of the asbestos register and management plan. No Asbestos in the building Refurbishment and demolition surveys before any refurbishment or demolition work.	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator

ISSUE TO INSPECT	FREQUENCY	PERSON(S) 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.	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator
Fire detection and alarm systems	Weekly alarm tests, with a different call point tested each week where applicable. Quarterly and annual inspections and tests by a competent person. Annual fire risk assessment by a competent person also includes the maintenance of fire detection and alarm systems.	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator
Fire doors	Regular checks by a competent person.	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator
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.	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator
Extraction systems	Regular removal and cleaning of grease filters and cleaning of ductwork for kitchen extraction systems. Local exhaust ventilation systems (such as those for working with hazardous substances) examined and tested at least every 14 months by a competent person. More routine checks also set out in system logbooks.	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator
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).	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator Ridge Crest Cleaning

ISSUE TO INSPECT	FREQUENCY	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE
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.	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator/Gym Assist
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.	Skanska/CVS Health & Safety Coordinator Mark Walker (GM) Ltd
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. 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.	NA

5. Risk assessments and other checks

In addition to the Premises Management, Health & Safety and Lettings policies, we are required to have in place:

- Correct and up-to-date information is displayed in all notices
- Compliance with the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 during construction projects
- Contractors have the necessary qualifications to carry out the specified work
- Compliance with the Equality Act 2010 when making changes or alterations to a building or the external environment

6. Monitoring Arrangements

The application of this policy is monitored by the Business Manager and Headteacher through, among other things, visual checks of the school site and equipment, and checks of risk assessments.

The Business Manager will review logs held by both Skanska and Castle View School with the Health & Safety link governor periodically. Any feedback and/or findings will be documented and reported to the local governing body as soon as is reasonably practicable.

Copies of risk assessments and paperwork relating to any checks are kept by Skanska and on the GRC One Portal.

This policy will be reviewed by the Business Manager annually. At every review, the policy will be shared with the LGB and Headteacher and approved by Zenith Multi academy Trust Board of Trustees.

7. Links with other policies/documents

This premises management policy is linked to:

- Health and Safety Policy
- Lettings Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Emergency Evacuation Procedure
- Disaster Recovery Plan
- Annual Fire Risk Assessment