



GREENFYLDE CHURCH OF ENGLAND FIRST SCHOOL
including Sunny Ile and Cygnets Pre-School



Policy: Arson Prevention Policy

Date of review: July 2021

Version number: 3

Date of last review: Spring 2018

Changes from last review:

None

Signature: *Guy Adams*

Print Name: GUY ADAMS

Position: Chair of Governors

Date: July 2021

Our Vision

Our doors are open – everyone is welcome in Greenfylde C of E First School. As a school community we seek through shared service to support children, families and wider community; encouraging high expectation, hope and support for aspirations and an understanding that all deserve to receive and give respect and dignity.

'...life in all its fullness' John 10:10

Caring

Friendly

Thankful



Greenfylde Church of England First School

Arson Prevention Policy

Ethos Statement

Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church at parish and diocesan level. The school aims to serve its community by providing education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning of faith and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers pupils. The ethos of the school promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, emotional, social and academic progress of every child. We strive for a safe, secure and positive learning environment, in which all learners can thrive.

Policy Statement

Arson or wilful fire-raising is becoming an increasing threat. School premises are particularly vulnerable due to the amount of public access.

Although the threat of arson cannot be completely eliminated Greenfylde Church of England First School acknowledges this threat and will take all reasonable precautions to minimise it for the safety of staff, delegates and other third parties.

The risk of an arson attack can be greatly reduced by staff remaining alert to changes in their work environment. It is the responsibility of all members of staff to identify potential problems and either take action to resolve the problem, or bring it to the attention of the Headteacher for their action.

Good Housekeeping

Arsonists will be frustrated in their efforts to start a fire without a ready source of fuel to burn, hence effective arson prevention requires appropriate housekeeping. The following rules shall therefore be observed at all times:-

- ❖ Waste (of any description) shall not be allowed to accumulate in public or private areas, the caretaker is to ensure that waste is removed at least once in every 24 hour period to the external waste collection point.
- ❖ External rubbish collection points shall not be located on external walls of buildings where they could pose a threat to the building or its occupants. Due to the site layout, it is acknowledged that the refuse area will have to be near a building which is not ideal but currently is the only option.
- ❖ All equipment not in use shall be stored away from public access areas.
- ❖ Any flammable liquids shall be kept securely when not in use in line with COSHH recommendations.

Restriction of Entry

Members of staff must be alert to identifying strangers in their work environments. If someone not known to staff is seen and not wearing an appropriate badge (employee or visitor badge) they must be challenged. It is therefore appropriate that staff fully understand the policies relating to security and identification.

Other measures in force are:-

- ❖ A restricted access system
- ❖ A booking in system for visitors
- ❖ Ensuring, as far as possible, that all areas that the public are not allowed access to, are secured. Fire hazard room doors locked wherever possible.
- ❖ Checking to ensure everyone who has entered the school has left on the conclusion of his or her business.
- ❖ Challenging anyone acting suspiciously.

Fire Hazards – Staff Access

Only members of staff and authorised contractors are allowed entry into the fire hazard rooms, they shall, where possible, be kept locked at all other times, fire hazard rooms include:-

- ❖ Cleaners' stores/cupboards
- ❖ Store rooms
- ❖ Kitchens

Fire Hazard Areas – Specialist Access

Only school staff and authorised contractors are to have access to the following areas:-

- ❖ Electrical intake cupboards
- ❖ Boiler rooms
- ❖ Main gas intake cupboard
- ❖ Any confined spaces – roof-spaces, ducts or voids etc

Closedown Procedure

The following closedown procedure shall be observed:-

- ❖ Check all rooms and public areas, close all windows and doors. Switch off all unnecessary electrical appliances
- ❖ Complete a physical search of each room, include toilets, kitchens etc.
- ❖ Switch off all lights.
- ❖ After completing the above, switch on the security alarm (if appropriate) and secure the external door.

Reporting

If you believe there is a risk of arson, report it, speak to the Headteacher so that it can be dealt with as a near miss unless there has been an arson incident.

Links to Other Policies

This policy must be read in conjunction with the following policies, procedures and with any local procedures:-

- ❖ Critical Incident Policy
- ❖ Fire Safety Procedures
- ❖ Risk Assessments
- ❖ Health & Safety Policy
- ❖ Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- ❖ School Security Policy