

Lettings Policy

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1. Definitions

Those people making use of the premises hired under a letting agreement between the school and the hirer are known as users in this document. The person or organisation actually entering into the contract with the school is the hirer. There should be a person or persons 'supervising' or organising the users - in this document the term steward is used for these.

2. General Conditions

1. Lone working procedures need to be in place to cover the person unlocking/locking up and other support activities. Separate guidance on lone working is available if required.
2. The hirer is responsible for the health and safety issues, not the school. All statutory requirements must be observed and school specific requirements complied with.
3. Lettings may occur during the hours of darkness. Adequate and sufficient lighting is provided inside and outside the premises to assist with safe access and egress, including around the car park. As the hirer is in control of such lighting, they will be shown where the switches are. Stewards must have torches to assist in the event of an evacuation as there is no internal emergency lighting.
4. Details of vehicle and pedestrian entrances and exits, parking facilities, toilets etc. are made known to the users.
5. The school and county council will accept no responsibility for damage howsoever caused to vehicles and other property while the user is on the school site. Parking is made available only on the basis that it is at the vehicle owner's risk. The hirer is asked to arrange for users to park in designated areas only.
6. The hirer must ensure that only that part of the building actually hired is used and must observe any instructions given by the site supervisor/ member of school staff concerning the area available.
7. Hirers are responsible for signing in and for monitoring persons on site, so that in the event of an emergency, all persons can be accounted for.
8. Hirers will be acquainted with the emergency and evacuation procedures (which are on display), including the location of the fire alarms, extinguishers and emergency exits and muster points during a premises familiarisation session in advance of the actual hiring. Once completed the hirer takes responsibility for briefing other users associated with the hiring. They must also carry out their own fire drills. Fire appliances must not be removed or tampered with other than for firefighting purposes.
9. The hirer will ensure that the users' activity is not so loud or otherwise obtrusive as to render the fire alarms ineffective. The hirer is responsible for drawing up specific evacuation plans for any disabled people. Procedures are in place in the event of a fire alarm call point being set off accidentally. Fire exits must not be blocked or locked, nor should furniture, equipment, or other obstructions be placed in corridors during the hiring. Hirers may legitimately request to see the school's fire risk assessment.
10. Rooms that are made available to hirers are checked periodically (not less than once per term) to ensure that they are in a suitable condition for the specific activity that any lettings will involve. The school is not responsible for the users' activities, but is assured that the activity and the hired room/equipment available are compatible.

11. Any precautions required to ensure the users' safety when using equipment are the responsibility of the hirer. Equipment will be provided by the hirer and not by the school. All mains powered electrical equipment brought onto the premises must be safe and evidence may be required that it has a valid test and inspection certificate (the certificate should not be less than one year old for earthed equipment, or less than 4 years old for double insulated equipment). Lower voltage equipment must also be safe and in good condition.
12. The cost of any maintenance or repair work which is necessary because of the hirer's/user's activities will be borne by the hirer.
13. It is the responsibility of the hirer to provide first aid equipment and trained personnel.
14. Smoking or the use of e- cigarettes is not allowed in any part of the school premises or grounds.
15. The hirer shall not allow so many users into the premises as to exceed the seating and/or dancing capacity of the premises. Even if the stated capacity is not exceeded, the hirer will not use the space provided in such a way as to create conditions of over-crowding or to impede safe and effective escape from the premises in an emergency.
16. The hirer shall provide a sufficient number of stewards as may be necessary to ensure adequate and efficient supervision of the users during the letting.
17. The Headteacher reserves the right to have a member of school staff present throughout the letting and to put a stop to any event that is not properly conducted.
18. The hirer is responsible for providing access to a mobile telephone for emergency purposes.
19. Hirers must have regard to the national standards of qualification, experience and overall competence of instructors/supervisors/coaches for sporting and other activities.
20. Hirers are subject to safeguarding regulations. All adults with access to young or vulnerable people (under 18 or vulnerable adults) must be in possession of an appropriate DBS check. A copy of the hirer's safeguarding policy must be provided to the school prior to the booking date.
21. The hirer must ensure that risks associated with the activity are properly controlled throughout the hire period and that the premises are returned to the control of the school in a clean and satisfactory condition including replacing any furniture that has been moved. Any specialist cleaning or disinfection required as a result of the hirer's/user's activity in the premises will be the sole responsibility of the hirer.

3. Insurance

1. It is the responsibility of the hirer to effect suitable public liability and other relevant insurance cover. As a general rule cover up to £5 million is required.

4. In the event of an incident, fire or near miss

1. The school will ensure that the appropriate forms are made available to the hirer who, in turn, must ensure one is completed whenever necessary. The school will follow up the report to ensure that it is completed correctly and that an investigation is undertaken. A review of the risk assessment for the activity will be required from the hirer.

5. License

1. The hirer is responsible for ensuring that any necessary licenses, required for a particular event, have been obtained, such as theatre, performing rights or cinematograph licenses.



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Owned by: H Murdoch (Chief Finance Officer)

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