Oakwood Junior School
Lockdown Policy

'Every child is a learner and can achieve'.



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Date Approved:	March 2017
Date of Review:	March 2029
Version:	2

'Good behaviour is a necessary condition for effective teaching and learning to take place and an important outcome of education which society rightly expects.'

(Education Observed D.E.S)

We as a school consider our equality duties under the Equality act 2010. The general duties are to:

- Eliminate discrimination,
- Advance equality of opportunity
- Foster good relations

This policy understands the principle of the Act and the work needed to ensure that those with protected characteristics are not discriminated against and are given equality of opportunity.

INTRODUCTION

It is necessary to have plans in place to ensure that as far as possible, children and staff are protected should an emergency arise. The emergency can be indoors or outdoors, which can result in an invacuation from outdoors or an evacuation from the building. An emergency that requires a Lockdown will be unique and dynamic so flexibility is important as well as ensuring people are clear on what to do.

As part of our Health and Safety policies and procedures the school has a Lockdown Policy. On very rare occasions it may be necessary to seal off the school so that it is not able to be entered from the outside. This will ensure that pupils, staff and visitors are safe in situations where there is a hazard in the school grounds or outside the school in the near vicinity. This policy will detail:

- How to raise an alarm in an emergency
- Internal communications - mobile phone, internal e-mail, texts etc.
- Site plan e.g. the layout of buildings and their proximity to one another.
- Rationale

RATIONALE

Full Lockdown and Partial Lockdown procedures are a sensible and proportionate response to any external or internal incident, which has the potential to pose a threat to the safety of pupils, staff, parents or visitors. Procedures aim to minimise disruption to the learning environment whilst ensuring everyone's safety. This may also include where there is a need to restrict the movement of pupils around the school environment.

A lockdown is implemented when there is a serious security risk to the school. Lockdown procedures may be activated in response to any number of situations, but some of the more typical might be:

- A warning being received regarding a risk locally, for example air pollution, smoke plume, gas cloud etc
- A serious or emergency accident or incident requiring the emergency services at the school
- A major fire in the vicinity of the school
- The close proximity of a dangerous dog roaming loose
- Dense fog where pollution could cause breathing difficulties
- A reported incident or civil disturbance in the local community with the potential to pose a risk to staff and pupils in the school
- A visitor to the school site who becomes abusive, making threats with the potential to pose a risk to pupils, staff or parents
- An intruder on the school site with the potential to pose a risk to staff and pupils; (please note this is extremely rare)
- As all situations are different senior staff will conduct an on-going and dynamic risk assessment based on the information available and follow advice from the Emergency Services or other outside agencies. This can then be communicated to staff and pupils.

The lockdown procedures are not published publicly, however, they are known and practised by staff and pupils. Oakwood Junior School has a known device that emits a recognised sound to alert all staff that an emergency lockdown needs to be in place.