



# Lettings Policy

Last updated: 1 March 2021

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## Statement of intent

Abberley Parochial Primary School recognises that its premises are valuable to the local community and as such, we are pleased to allow limited use of the school facilities during term-time.

Though we let the premises out, the school is aware that this can pose certain concerns, such as in terms of safeguarding, so this policy is to be distributed to all organisations that wish to let the premises and the conditions outlined within it must be followed at all times.

There is also important information that this policy communicates to organisations who let the premises from the school, such as health and safety matters and insurance arrangements.

Signed by:

_____	Headteacher	Date: _____
_____	Chair of governors	Date: _____

## 1. Legal framework

- 1.1. This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation including, but not limited to, the following:
  - The School Premises (England) Regulations 2012
  - Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
  - The Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations 1981
  - The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR)
  - Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
  - The General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)
  - Data Protection Act 2018
  - Education Act 1996
- 1.2. This policy has due regard to the following guidance:
  - DfE (2015) 'Advice on standards for school premises'
  - **[Updated]** DfE (2020) 'Keeping children safe in education'
  - DfE (2015) 'The Prevent duty'
- 1.3. This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:
  - First Aid Policy
  - Fire Safety Policy
  - Health and Safety Policy
  - Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
  - Manual Handling Policy
  - Asbestos Management Policy
  - Data Protection Policy

## 2. Definitions

- 2.1. For the purpose of this policy, a '**letting**' is defined as any use of the premises by either a community group, e.g. a football club, or a commercial organisation.
- 2.2. The school will let out its premises; however, the letting arrangement will not interfere with the primary activity of the school, which is to provide a high-quality education and safe teaching environment.
- 2.3. Use of the premises for activities such as staff meetings, parents' meetings, governing board meetings, out of school hours learning/study support activities or any other extended services which support the raising of attainment and achievement, fall within the corporate life of the school. Costs arising from these uses are, therefore, a legitimate charge against the school's delegated budget.
- 2.4. When letting to commercial businesses, the school will first seek the permission of their LA. Depending on certain conditions, the LA may recommend the school inform the DfE of the letting, e.g. if the letting was during

school time. The contact information for the DfE is: [schoolsassests.capital@education.gov.uk](mailto:schoolsassests.capital@education.gov.uk).

### **3. Roles and responsibilities**

3.1. The governing board is responsible for:

- Reviewing the applications of a proposed letting arrangement and conducting a risk assessment to determine whether the arrangement would pose a risk to the primary activities of the school and its pupils.
- Contacting the LA and the DfE, as per paragraph 2.4 of this policy.
- Contacting a legal expert with regards to transactions, for specialised guidance.
- Establishing any safeguarding risks associated with the letting.
- The overall oversight of the letting, handling any queries from the hirer.
- Communicating any relevant information to the hirer, e.g. fire safety precautions.
- Agreeing fair prices for the use of the premises; these will reflect the condition of the facilities but remain competitive enough to be accessible to the wider community.
- Working with the headteacher to ensure all relevant policies and procedures are implemented and made available to hirers.

3.2. The headteacher is responsible for:

- Ensuring compliance with the premises licence.
- Acting as or appointing a designated premises supervisor.
- Liaising with the governing board to establish whether or not the proposed activity is suitable for the premises.
- Ensuring that the school has the correct insurance in place for hiring out the premises.
- Checking the hirer has the appropriate public liability insurance.
- Working with the Cleaner in charge to ensure the premises are fit for use.
- Ensuring hirers familiarise themselves with the relevant school policies and procedures, e.g. the Fire Safety Policy and the Asbestos Management Policy.
- Assessing whether the activities the hirer is requesting could result in disrupting any asbestos and taking the relevant safety measures as a result.
- Reviewing the relevant safeguarding checks carried out by the hirer to ensure they comply with the school's policies.
- Confirming safeguarding requirements with all adults who will be on the premises during school hours and updating the single central record accordingly.

3.3. The site manager is responsible for:

- Ensuring the facilities and equipment requested are clean and in a good working condition for each hirer.

- Working with the hirers to ensure high levels of security are maintained.
- Showing the hirers how to properly secure and lock the premises after use.
- Organising any repairs and/or replacement of equipment.
- Notifying the hirer of any known asbestos in the school.

3.4. The DPO is responsible for:

- Being the main point of contact for data protection enquiries from current and potential hirers of the school premises.
- Ensuring that the statutory privacy information is provided to the hirer.
- Assisting the hirer with any data breach investigation, where necessary.
- Ensuring that the school's Privacy Notice for Third Parties is kept up-to-date, and that it is published on the school's website.
- Ensuring that the hirer's information is stored in accordance with the Data Protection Policy.

3.5. Hirers are responsible for:

- Ensuring the proper use of the facilities and equipment they have requested to use.
- Taking the necessary steps to ensure there is no damage to any equipment or furniture, or the building itself after use.
- Ensuring all related visitors and volunteers have signed in during their period of hire.
- Leaving the premises in a clean and tidy condition.
- Working with the Cleaner in charge and headteacher to ensure that the premises are secure after use.
- Obtaining adequate public liability insurance to a minimum of £5 million.
- Providing the headteacher with proof that they hold a current and relevant insurance policy.
- Obtaining all necessary safeguarding checks for all activities involving children and providing confirmation that these are in place.
- Reading the school's safeguarding policies and procedures and ensuring they understand the rules and procedures detailed within.
- Informing the governing board of the activities that will be undertaken on the premises.

## 4. Charges

4.1. The governing board is responsible for determining charges for the letting of the school premises – a charge may be imposed to cover the following:

- Costs of services (e.g. heating and lighting)
- Costs of staffing, including "on-costs" (e.g. additional security or caretaking)
- Costs of administration
- Costs of wear and tear

- Costs of insurance (if the school has arranged its own public liability insurance – see the hire terms and conditions)
  - Costs of using the school's equipment, if applicable
  - Profit element, if applicable
- 4.2. Where there are multiple lettings taking place at the same time, the costs for services and staffing will normally be shared between the hirers involved.
- 4.3. The charge issued for each letting will be reviewed annually by the governing board.
- 4.4. The review of charges will take place in the Spring term, for implementation in the beginning of the next financial year, taking effect from 1 April that year.
- 4.5. Current charges will be provided to the governing board in advance of any lettings being arranged.
- 4.6. A charging tariff may be established to ensure that access is affordable for particular individuals and groups.
- 4.7. The school requires a 10 percent deposit of the overall fee to be paid to the school to secure a booking.
- 4.8. The remaining amount will be paid to the school on or before the requested booking date.
- 4.9. Hirers will provide the school with at least five days' notice before cancelling a booking.
- 4.10. If hirers fail to comply with paragraph 4.9, the school will keep the hirers deposit.
- 4.11. If the whole fee has not been paid, the school reserves the right to refuse the hirer entry to the premises.
- 4.12. In the event any fees are outstanding after the hirer has used the premises, their organisation will be barred from using the school facilities until the full amount has been paid.
- 4.13. There will be a grace period of 30 days for payment to be made, after this period, if a payment hasn't been made, the school will seek additional legal advice for payment to be recovered.

## **5. VAT**

- 5.1. In general, the letting of rooms for non-sporting activities is exempt of VAT, whereas sports lettings are subject to VAT (although there are exemptions to this under certain circumstances).

## **6. Managing lettings**

- 6.1. The governing board has overall responsibility for the management of lettings.

- 6.2. The headteacher will be delegated the day-to-day management of the lettings; however, they will not be responsible for the administrative roles, such as setting charges, this role stays with the governing board.
- 6.3. The headteacher may delegate aspects of the management of lettings to other relevant members of staff, such as the cleaner in charge.
- 6.4. If the headteacher has any concerns regarding the activities the hirers are conducting, they will consult the governing board and reach a decision together.
- 6.5. Organisations wishing to hire the premises will approach the headteacher, who will identify their requirements and clarify the facilities available.
- 6.6. The governing board will review the application; they have the right to refuse an application and interested parties should be advised that no letting should be regarded as “booked” until approval has been given in writing.
- 6.7. Once the letting has been approved by the governing board, a letter of confirmation will be sent to the hirer, setting out the full details of the letting and enclosing the terms and conditions of the hire agreement.
- 6.8. The hirer will be invoiced for the cost of the letting as appropriate in accordance with the governing board’s charges decision.
- 6.9. The hirer will be a named individual and the agreement should be in their name, giving their permanent private address.
- 6.10. All lettings fees that are received by the school, will be paid into the school’s independent bank account, to offset the costs of services, staffing etc. (which are funded from the school’s delegated budget).
- 6.11. Fees can be paid in cash, cheque or bank transfer. The hirer will state how they intend to pay in their application form.
- 6.12. The financial secretary will provide the hirer with the relevant bank details.
- 6.13. Sub-letting of any kind is strictly prohibited. If the school receives any evidence pertaining to plans to sub-let, all bookings that the hirer has made will be cancelled.

## **7. Safeguarding**

- 7.1. Organisations submitting a lettings request involving working with children and/or young people will submit a signed copy of their current safeguarding policy.
- 7.2. All hirers must state the purpose of the hire.
- 7.3. Each application will be vetted by the DSL and any concerns will be reported to the governing board prior to approval.



- 7.4. When determining whether to approve an application; the governing board will consider the following factors:
- The type of activity
  - Possible interferences with school activities
  - The availability of facilities
  - The availability of staff
  - Health and safety considerations
  - The school's duties with regards to the prevention of terrorism and radicalisation
  - Whether the letting is deemed compatible with the ethos of the school
- 7.5. An application will not be approved if the hirer's purpose:
- Is aimed at promoting extremist views.
  - Involves the dissemination of inappropriate materials.
  - Contravenes the statutory Prevent duty.
  - Is likely to cause offence to public taste and decency (except where this is, in the opinion of the trust, balanced or outweighed by freedom of expression of artistic merit).
- 7.6. If any members of staff have concerns regarding the purposes for which the hirer is using the facilities, they should contact the headteacher immediately.
- 7.7. The headteacher will file an incident report form if they have reason to believe that the letting has been used for political purposes not previously authorised, the dissemination of inappropriate material or any other purpose that contravenes the Prevent duty.
- 7.8. Where an individual group is found to be promoting views in contravention of the school's Prevent duty, the person or group is guilty of an offence, under the Education Act 1996, the school will contact the police or school security who will remove the person or group from the school premises.
- 7.9. All hirers will read and review the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

## **8. Asbestos**

- 8.1. The school's Asbestos Management Policy will be available to hirers.
- 8.2. The headteacher will inform all hirers of any asbestos-containing materials (ACMs).
- 8.3. When approving the applications to hire the premises, the headteacher will conduct a risk assessment to establish whether the requested purpose of use will disrupt any ACMs.
- 8.4. The known ACMs on the school's premises are: [In this section, schools should detail any areas where ACMs are known to the school. This information is

important as ACMs can pose serious illness when inhaled – it is vital that the hirer is aware of any ACMs prior to hiring the premises.]

- 8.5. The financial secretary will ensure that the hirers have access to the school's asbestos management survey.
- 8.6. The financial secretary will ensure that the hirers have access to the school's [Asbestos Management Plan](#) (AMP).
- 8.7. If the school finds that there has been, or may have been, an unplanned disturbance of asbestos, the following action will be taken:
  - The hirers will be informed by the governing board immediately
  - All activities will stop, and everyone will be evacuated from the affected area
  - Staff, pupils and visitors will not be allowed to re-enter the affected areas until any necessary remedial action has been taken
  - Items, including equipment, books, or personal belongings, will not be moved from the area
  - Advice will be sought from an asbestos expert regarding remedial action
- 8.8. Unless the incident is minor, the school will notify the HSE, as this is a legal requirement under The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR).
- 8.9. Hirers should have procedures in place to deal with the unintended or unexpected release of asbestos.
- 8.10. Anyone who has come into contact with asbestos, and is concerned about their exposure, will be advised to contact their GP.
- 8.11. The school's AMP will detail the procedures for staff to follow in the event of an incident, and this will be communicated to all staff and hirers.

## **9. Emergencies and health and safety**

- 9.1. The headteacher will undertake relevant risk assessments before activities are carried out on the premises to ensure the safety of the hirer and any additional visitors.
- 9.2. In case of an emergency, the on-site telephones can be used to call the emergency services.
- 9.3. The headteacher will check first aid kits to ensure their stock levels remain high and, where necessary, restock the first aid kits with the relevant items.
- 9.4. The headteacher will show hirers where first aid kits are should they be required.
- 9.5. A first aider (provided by the hirer) will be on site at all times.

- 9.6. Smoking is not permitted on the premises at any time.
- 9.7. The hirer familiarises themselves with the school's Fire Risk Assessment and other relevant risk assessments before using the premises.
- 9.8. The headteacher will make copies of the school's Fire Evacuation Plan available to the hirer on arrival at the school.
- 9.9. The hirer will be shown the school's fire exits and evacuation points by the headteacher on arrival.
- 9.10. The hirer will be provided with a copy of the school's Health and Safety Policy and will be expected to act in accordance with it at all times.

## **10. Using the site**

- 10.1. The hirer will liaise with the headteacher to ensure the school remains secure before, during and after use.
- 10.2. Hirers will be given an emergency contact number for the headteacher in case of any security breach.
- 10.3. The school premises are closed after 5:00pm to avoid any noise complaints from neighbouring residents.
- 10.4. The site manager will remain on site until 6:00pm
- 10.5. Keys/security codes will not be passed to any hirer or other person without permission from the headteacher.
- 10.6. The use of public announcement systems and loudspeakers must be agreed with the headteacher, this agreement must include a maximum noise level which is not to be exceeded.
- 10.7. The school's car park is available to hirers during their time on the premises; however, the governing board and school will not accept responsibility for any loss, damage or accident that may occur whilst the car park is in use.
- 10.8. Alcohol will not be brought on to, or consumed on, the premises unless the school holds a licence to sell alcohol and this has been agreed in writing with the headteacher.

## **11. Equipment**

- 11.1. Hirers will identify any equipment they require from the school and detail this in their application form; hirers must seek permission from the governing board to use any additional equipment once the form has been submitted.
- 11.2. Furniture and fittings will not be removed or interfered with in any way unless permission has been granted by the headteacher.

- 11.3. If a furniture move has been agreed, the hirer and headteacher will negotiate restoring the premises back to its original state.
- 11.4. Any damage to equipment, furniture or the building will result in the hirer being charged the cost of any repairs or replacements.
- 11.5. Any seating provided is limited to the number of chairs on the premises.
- 11.6. Hirers are allowed to bring their own equipment on to the premises; however, they will be required to acknowledge this in their application form.
- 11.7. The hirer will ensure that any equipment that they provide meets the relevant health and safety standards.
- 11.8. The school cannot be considered responsible if any of the hirer's equipment is damaged, stolen or lost whilst being used on the premises.
- 11.9. Hirers will report any stolen or missing equipment to the headteacher immediately.
- 11.10. Risk assessments for manual handling will be carried out by the headteacher in accordance with the school's Manual Handling Policy.
- 11.11. Food and drink may be prepared on the premises; however, hirers must seek direct permission from the governing board.
- 11.12. The hirer will prepare food and drink in line with current food and hygiene regulations.

## **12. Data protection**

- 12.1. The school will adhere to the Data Protection Policy at all times.
- 12.2. The DPO will undertake the requisite due diligence to ensure that the hirer is compliant with the relevant data protection legislation.
- 12.3. The DPO will provide hirers with the statutory privacy information in the form of the [Privacy Notice for Third Parties](#).
- 12.4. The DPO will ensure that the hirer's information is processed in accordance with the GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018.

## **13. Monitoring and review**

- 13.1. This policy is reviewed bi-annually by the governing board and the headteacher.
- 13.2. The scheduled review date for this policy is January 2024.
- 13.3. Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all relevant members of staff and all hirers.

## Premises Application Form

The school will process the data collected in this form in accordance with the GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018. For further information about how the school will process your data, please see our Privacy Notice for Third Parties, which can be accessed on the school website.

<b>Named individual:</b>	
<b>Company name:</b>	
<b>Address (for invoicing purposes):</b>	
<b>Contact number:</b>	
<b>Email address:</b>	
<b>Deposit amount:</b>	
<b>Payment method:</b>	
<b>Requirements</b>	
<b>Date of hiring:</b>	
<b>Time of hiring:</b>	
<b>Room(s):</b>	
<b>Equipment needed:</b>	

<b>Details of any equipment you will be using on the premises:</b>	
<b>Purpose</b>	
<b>Details of the event:</b>	
<b>Will you be working with children and/or young people?</b>  <b>If yes, have you attached a copy of your safeguarding policy? Or is your safeguarding policy published?</b>	
<b>Start time:</b>	
<b>End time:</b>	
<b>Expected attendance:</b>	
<p><b>By signing this document, I acknowledge that I have read, understood and agree to the terms of this Lettings Policy.</b></p> <p><b>I acknowledge that my signature confirms all the details in this application form are correct.</b></p>	
<b>Signed:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	

## Hire Agreement

The school will process the data collected in this agreement in accordance with the GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018. For further information about how the school will process your data, please see our Privacy Notice for Third Parties, which can be accessed on the school website.

The governing board of Abberley Primary School .....

The hirer: .....

Address: .....

.....

.....

Telephone: .....

Areas of the school to be used: .....

Specific nature of use: .....

Maximum attendance: .....

Details of any school equipment to be used: .....

Date(s) of hire: .....

Period(s) of hire: .....

Fee (specify per hour or per session): £ .....

The governing board agree to hire the premises to the hirer on the date(s) and for the period(s) mentioned above, upon payment of the fee specified.

The hirer accepts all the conditions of hire as set out in the attached terms and conditions document.

The hirer's attention is specifically drawn to the indemnities contained in the hire conditions, and the need to ensure that suitable insurance cover is in place for any loss, damage or injury.

**Hirer's signature:**

**Chair of the governing  
board's signature:**

# Lettings During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

This annex has been provided to cover the lettings arrangements during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

**Please note:** we will continue to review this addendum in line with the latest national guidance. Schools should ensure this addendum reflects all current local guidelines.

## 1. Statement of intent

At Abberley Primary School, we recognise the importance of providing a safe environment for our pupils, staff and community alike. This addendum outlines the school's approach to letting the premises during the coronavirus outbreak, and the procedures that the school has put in place to mitigate risks.

All hirers should have due regard for the procedures outlined within this policy.

## 2. Legal framework

- 2.1. This policy has due regard for relevant legislation and guidance, including, but not limited to, the following:
  - DfE (2021) 'Working safely during coronavirus'
- 2.2. This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:
  - Covid-19 risk assessment
  - Outbreak management plan
  - Health and Safety Policy

## 3. Cancellation

- 3.1. The school will amend its cancellation policy to ensure both the school and any hirers are fairly treated in the case of a cancellation due to coronavirus.

## 4. Risk management

### Social distancing (when implemented in national guidance)

- 4.1. Only one group of no more than that outlined in educational or national guidance will be permitted to use a particular part of the premises at one time.
- 4.2. Activities which require close contact, e.g. contact rugby, will not be permitted to take place on the school site when restrictions are in place.
- 4.3. No more than one group of individuals will be permitted to use parts of the site at any one time.
- 4.4. Social distancing signage will be displayed around the school.



- 4.5. Any individual or group found to be deliberately breaching social distancing rules will be asked to leave the school site immediately.

### **Infection control**

- 4.6. Infection control measures will be implemented throughout the school site, in line with the school's covid-19 risk assessment.
- 4.7. Separate toilet facilities will be provided for hirers and any members of their party, where possible.
- 4.8. The school will ensure contact is minimised with all individuals including pupils, staff and hirers who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus symptoms do not attend school.
- 4.9. The school will ensure individuals do not attend school if they live in a household with someone who has tested positive within the last 10 days or someone displaying symptoms of coronavirus.
- 4.10. If anyone in school becomes unwell with a new and persistent cough or a high temperature, or has a loss in their sense of smell or taste, they will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 10 days, in line with national guidance. They will be encouraged to arrange a coronavirus test.

### **Precautionary measures**

- 4.11. The school will ensure it takes the details of all hirers and members of their party prior to allowing them onto the school site, to comply with NHS Test and Trace.
- 4.12. The school will store any details taken in line with the Records Management Policy and Data Protection Policy.
- 4.13. Copies of the school Health and safety policy and covid safety measures are available on the website.
- 4.14. The school will ensure all hirers undertake an appropriate risk assessment for the activity they will be using the site for.
- 4.15. If the school is not satisfied with the risk assessment undertaken by the hirer, they will not be permitted to hire the school site.
- 4.16. Where mechanical ventilation systems exist, they will be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

## **5. Hirer responsibilities**

- 5.1. The hirer will provide their details and details of anyone in their party to the school prior to using the school site, to ensure it complies with NHS Test and Trace.

- 5.2. The hirer will ensure all members of their party have read and understand the relevant school policies prior to using the school site.
- 5.3. The hirer will have due regard for public health advice when undertaking activities on the school site.
- 5.4. Any member of the party who has returned from a country requiring quarantine upon return to the UK in the last 10 days will not attend the school site.
- 5.5. Any individuals with symptoms of coronavirus will not attend the school site.
- 5.6. If an individual from any group develops coronavirus symptoms within 14 days of attending the site, they notify the school immediately.
- 5.7. Hirers will clean any equipment or surfaces used after they have finished any activities.
- 5.8. If individuals develop symptoms of coronavirus whilst on the school site, they leave the site immediately and the school follows the Managing Individuals with Coronavirus (COVID-19) Symptoms and Cases of Coronavirus in School Flowcharts.
- 5.9. Any individuals arriving on the school site will be asked to sign a declaration form to state that they do not have symptoms of coronavirus and do not live with anyone with coronavirus symptoms.
- 5.10. Individuals may be required to wear a face covering in areas where social distancing between adults is difficult, unless they are medically exempt from wearing a face covering.

## **6. Monitoring and review**

- 6.1. The headteacher will review this policy annex continually during the coronavirus pandemic.