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# Health & Safety

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## Policy and Procedure

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## **STATEMENT OF GENERAL POLICY**

The Company fully accepts the obligations placed upon it by the various Acts of Parliament covering health and safety. The Company requires its Senior Director to ensure that the following policy is implemented.

## **MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION AND ARRANGEMENTS**

### **Introduction**

This policy has been prepared and published under the requirements of Health & Safety at Work legislation. The purpose of the policy is to establish general standards for health and safety at work and to distribute responsibility for their achievement to all managers, supervisors, and other employees through the normal line management processes.

## **MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Senior Director**

The Senior Company Director has overall responsibility for the implementation of the Company's policy. In particular he is responsible for ensuring that the policy is widely communicated and that its effectiveness is monitored.

The Senior Director is responsible for co-ordinating effective health and safety policies and controls across the organisation.

The Senior Director is responsible for:

- the production and maintenance of the Company's policy and ensuring that Department Guidelines are consistent with policy;
- its application;
- the provision of general advice about the implication of the law;
- The identification of health and safety training needs.
- The production and maintenance of Health and Safety Codes of Practice for each aspect of the services within the Company.

### **Senior Managers**

These managers are wholly accountable to the Senior Director for the implementation and monitoring of the policy within the area of their specified responsibility.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT PROCESS**

The Company believes that consideration of the health, safety and welfare of staff is an integral part of the management process. The provision of the Health and Safety at Work Act, associated Codes of Practice and E.C. Directives will be adopted as required standards within the Company.

The Company requires managers to approach health and safety in a systematic way, by identifying hazards and problems, planning improvements, taking executive action and monitoring results so that the majority of health and safety needs will be met from locally held budgets as part of day-to-day management, although many health and safety problems can be rectified at little additional cost.

For major additional expenditure, cases of need must be submitted to the Senior Director.

If an unprecedented situation arises e.g. a pandemic, the Senior Director must assess the degree of risk, taking into account government guidance, advice and information.

A full risk assessment will be produced including all necessary resources and actions required to address the issue.

The plan will be communicated to all members of staff and full adherence will be mandatory to ensure the Health Safety and Welfare of the staff, clients and visitors to the organisation.

## **HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE GUIDELINES**

It shall be the responsibility of departmental managers to bring to the attention of all members of his or her staff, the provisions of the guidelines, and to consult with appropriate Health and Safety Representatives about the updating of these guidelines. The model contents of a guideline are:

- a clear statement of the role of the department;
- regulations governing the work of the department;
- clear reference to safe methods of working, for example manufacturers' manuals;
- information about immediate matters of health and safety concern, such as fire drills, fire exits, first aid;
- training standards;
- the manager responsible for organisation and control of work;
- accident reporting procedures;

- departmental safety rules;
- fire procedures;
- Policies agreed by the Company.

**JMET is committed to providing a safe, healthy, and supportive learning environment, for all learners who also have a responsibility to maintain a Safe and Healthy Learning environment by complying with the Health and safety procedures (as set out below)**

**JMET will:**

- Provide the learner with Health & Safety Guidance.
- Comply with the Education and Skills Funding Agency Health & safety Regulations.
- Maintain equipment.
- Risk assesses all premises and activities.
- Ensure that all accidents, incidents and near misses are reported and investigated.

**JMET Learners should:**

- Show regard for the well-being and safety of other learners, staff and visitors at all times.
- Know the fire procedures at their place of training and inform the JMET team of any disability or difficulty that might result in help being required in the case of an emergency evacuation.
- Adhere to the rules of JMET and Activity for All premises.
- Not smoke, bring illegal drugs, alcohol or offensive weapons onto the premise or be under the influence of drugs or alcohol whilst on JMET premises or whilst on work placement

**IDENTIFICATION OF HEALTH AND SAFETY HAZARDS**

Health and Safety is on all department meeting agendas and should be actively discussed.

All staff are aware that they must report all accidents or 'near misses' to a manager as soon as possible.

Staff are also aware that they must report any identified hazards with the working environment and/or equipment to a manager as soon as possible.

## ANNUAL AUDIT AND REGULAR RISK ASSESSMENTS

It is the policy of the Company to require a thorough examination of health and safety performance against established standards in each department, **at least** annually. The technique to be adopted for such examinations will be the 'Safety Audit'. The Audit requires review of:

- standards laid down in the policy.
- departmental guidelines.
- relevant regulations.
- environmental factors.
- staff attitudes.
- staff instructions.
- methods of work.
- contingency plans.
- Recording and provision of information about accidents and hazards and the assessment of risk.

Audits must be completed by July of each year. The responsibility for ensuring that audit activity is carried out as part of this policy rests with the Senior Director.

It is the management's responsibility to ensure that any deficiencies highlighted in the Audit are dealt with as speedily as possible.

In addition to carrying out Safety Audits, it is the responsibility of the department manager to check, at least quarterly, all portable equipment, including electrical appliances, in their area, and to ensure that all problems are immediately dealt with.

Managers have a continual responsibility for the elimination of hazards in order to maintain a safe working environment and will also be expected to carry out regular **risk assessments** in line with the Health and Safety Executive Guidelines; that is follow the 5 steps:

1. Identify the hazards
2. Decide who might be harmed and how
3. Evaluate the Risks and decide on precautions
4. Record the findings and implement the precautions

5. Review the assessment and update when necessary

## **TRAINING**

Health and Safety training shall be incorporated within annual training programmes, as part of the development of a systematic training plan. Health and Safety training needs will, therefore, be identified and planned for in the same manner as other training needs.

## **REPORTS TO THE HEALTH AND SAFETY EXECUTIVE**

The responsibility for meeting the requirements of the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1985 to the Health and Safety Executive shall rest with the Senior Director.

## **SPECIALIST ADVISORY BODIES**

Certain bodies and the individual members of those bodies have always had a Health and Safety role, most notably, the Health & Safety executive, or local Environmental Health Departments. If further specialist advice is required, this may be obtained by Managers from expert individuals or bodies outside the Company.

## **FIRST AID**

It is the policy of the Company to make provision for First Aid and the training of 'First Aiders' in accordance with the First Aid Regulations (1982). The Senior Director is responsible for ensuring the Regulations are implemented and for identifying training needs.

## **FIRE**

The Senior Director is responsible for ensuring that the staff receives adequate fire training, and that nominated fire officers are designated in all Company premises. The Senior Director may delegate these responsibilities to the Departmental Managers.

- report and advise on the standard of fire safety in the Company's premises and the standard of fire training of its staff;
- undertake overall responsibility for fire training;
- Assist in the investigation of all fires in the Company's premises and to submit reports of such incidents.

## **FOOD HYGIENE**

Those Managers who have responsibility for food acquisition, storage, processing and serving, and staff induction and training, are responsible for ensuring that these functions are undertaken to the necessary legal standards. Any suspected outbreak of food poisoning or other unexplained and possibly food related incidents must be reported to the Senior Director.

## **LIFTING AND HANDLING**

Departmental Managers are responsible for informing staff of safe lifting techniques and identifying specific staff training needs. The Administration / Office Managers will ensure training in lifting and handling is provided to staff that require it.

## **NON-SMOKING ON COMPANY PREMISES**

The Company has agreed that there will be no smoking in its buildings. The overall aim is to reduce smoking and so save life, reduce risk of fire, prevent unnecessary illness and chronic disability.

## **CONTROL OF SUBSTANCES HAZARDOUS TO HEALTH**

The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH) require the Company to identify those substances which are in use and which are hazardous to health (as legally defined) and to assess the risk of those substances. The Company must also provide and use controls to prevent exposure to substances hazardous to health; maintain controls by monitoring exposure or by health surveillance of employees; and provide information, instruction and training for employees on all these matters. The Senior Director is responsible for implementing these Regulations.

## **COMPUTER INSTALLATIONS AND VISUAL DISPLAY UNITS**

All new computer installations must adhere to the British Standard Specifications and comply with the Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992. All new employees operating VDUs are directed to read the Health and Safety Executive Booklet entitled 'Working with VDUs'. New employees who regularly use VDUs are advised to undergo regular sight screening exams.

## **CONTROL OF WORKING TIME**

The Company is committed to the principles of the Working Time Regulations. No member of staff is expected to work more than 48 hours per week (including overtime) unless there are exceptional circumstances. Similarly, all requirements within the regulations e.g. in relation to breaks, night workers etc. will be complied with.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY AND THE INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYEE**

The Health and Safety at Work Act requires each employee 'to take reasonable care for the Health and Safety of himself and of other persons who may be affected by their acts and omissions' and co-operate with management to enable management to carry out their responsibilities under the Act. Employees have equal responsibility with the Company for Health and Safety at Work.

The refusal of any employee to meet their obligations will be regarded as a matter to be dealt with under the Disciplinary Procedure. In normal circumstances counselling of the employee should be sufficient. With a continuing problem, or where an employee leaves themselves or other employees open to risk or injury, it may be necessary to implement the formal stages of the Disciplinary Procedure.

## **PEOPLE WORKING ON COMPANY PREMISES NOT EMPLOYED BY THE COMPANY**

Persons working in the Company premises who are employed by other organisations are expected to follow Company Health and Safety Policies with regard to the safety of Company employees, their own personal safety (and that of other parties such as the general public if appropriate) and their method of work. This responsibility will be included in contracts or working arrangements. Similarly, seconded Company employees working in other host premises will be expected to follow the host employers Health and Safety Policy.

## **VISITORS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

The Company wishes to ensure that as far as is reasonably practicable, the Health, Safety and Welfare of visitors to Company establishments will be of the highest standard.

Any member of staff, who notices persons acting in a way which would endanger other staff, should normally inform their Departmental Manager. If the danger is immediate, common sense must be used to give warning, call for assistance or give aid as necessary. It is equally important not to over-react to a situation.

## **CONTRACTORS**

The Company wishes to ensure that as far as is reasonably practicable, the Health, Safety and Welfare of Contractors working in the Company's establishments will be of the highest standards. In addition, Contractors and their employees have an obligation so far as is reasonably practicable to ensure all equipment, materials and premises under their control are safe and without risks to health.

Contractors must also observe the Company's Fire Safety Procedures. These obligations will be drawn directly to the attention of the Contractors at the point of attendance. In addition, a Company Manager will be identified as having the authority to stop the work of Contractors who are placing themselves, other staff, or visitors at risk. Any member of staff, who judges there is a risk where contractors are working, should inform their Manager immediately.