

# First Aid Policy

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## **Foreword**

This document has been prepared to provide guidance on the policy and procedures for dealing with First Aid in The Federation. The requirements for statutory provision of First Aid have been taken into account. Failure to implement the procedures contained in this document could result in a criminal offence.

## **Authority for Issue**

This document is issued under the authority of the Executive Principal and Federation Trust Board.

## **Status and Implementation**

This document is part of a suite of documentation available. All other documentation must be complied with, including: all appropriate statutory DFE regulatory authority e.g. Health and Safety Executive (HSE) documentation.

## **Revision**

This document will be revised on a regular basis to confirm that the arrangements are still appropriate.

A review will also take place if there are any significant changes in the arrangements.

The document, including the appendices, will be revised and reissued within not more than three months from the review date, where this is necessary.

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981 require employers to provide trained persons, equipment etc. to deal with First Aid emergencies and ill-health occurring at work.
- 1.2 Facilities must be provided to ensure that First Aid is rendered to employees, visitors, service users (including students), volunteers, agency staff etc, if they become ill or are injured at work or under the jurisdiction of the Federation, on or off site.
- 1.3 First Aid is provided to:
  - Preserve life
  - Limit the effects of the condition and
  - Promote recovery
- 1.4 First Aid should be provided where a person will need further medical treatment until such help arrives and for the treatment of minor injuries. It should be noted that the treatment of minor illnesses, by the administration of tablets or medicines, falls outside the definition of First Aid.

## **2. Definitions**

- 2.1 First Aider is a person who has attended, successfully completed and has a valid certificate for the 4 day First Aid at Work training.
- 2.2 Appointed Person means a person who has attended, successfully completed and has a valid certificate for the 'Appointed Persons' Training.
- 2.3 Employer means the Board of The Cabot Learning Federation.
- 2.4 First Aid<sup>2\*</sup> means the following:
- (a) cases where a person will need help from a medical practitioner or nurse, treatment for the purpose of preserving life and minimising the consequences of injury and illness until such help is obtained; and
  - (b) treatment of minor injuries which would otherwise receive no treatment or which do not need treatment by a medical practitioner or nurse.
- 2\* - Definition as per Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981
- 2.5 Service User means a person or organisation using Digitech

## **3. Responsibilities of the Employer**

- 3.1 The Responsibility of the Employer is to:
- establish the First Aid need by risk assessment ;
  - identify suitable employees who are willing to undertake First Aid training and annual refresher training (see Appendix Four);
  - provide adequate First Aid equipment and facilities (see Appendix Two);
  - inform employees and site facilities Managers of the location of the First Aid personnel and equipment available to them in their working environment. This will be in the form of a standard notice which will be displayed on your Health and Safety notice board at minimum; and
  - ensure that First Aiders maintain their First Aider or Appointed Person status by attending annual refresher training.

The responsibilities listed above have been delegated to the Principal of each Academy for them to discharge in the appropriate manner.

- 3.2 The Health and Safety Committee of each academy should establish the minimum standards required. It is the responsibility of the Principal to ensure that these standards are achieved and monitored. The monitoring can be achieved by the use of the training matrix database.

3.3 There is a register in the form of a training matrix database for maintenance of an up-to-date record of personnel trained in First Aid which informs the Principal when staff require refresher/ requalification training.

#### **4. Risk Assessment of the First Aid Need**

4.1 Minimum standards for the provision of First Aid cover are shown at Appendix Three.

#### **5. Identification of Suitable Employees**

5.1 The Principal of each Academy must ensure that candidates for First Aid Training are physically and educationally suited and are willing to undergo training and act as a qualified First Aider. Guidance may be provided by Occupational Health Service to assist the Principal to identify suitable candidates (see Appendix Four).

5.2 The Principal must ensure that candidates are fully brief on the role and requirements of being a First Aider. They must understand the health risks associated with rendering First Aid and be prepared to receive appropriate health and immunisation advice (see Appendix Five).

#### **6. Role and Responsibilities of First Aiders and Appointed Persons. What to do in the event of an accident**

##### **6.1 ACCIDENT PROCEDURE:**

An adult at the scene of an accident needs to make a quick assessment of the severity of the accident.

##### **1. Small cuts and grazes**

Small cuts and grazes occurring during a lesson can be cleaned and a plaster applied if the injury occurs in an area where there are first aid boxes e.g. Art, DT, Science, Dining Room and Sports Hall. This enables the lesson to continue with minimum disturbance to the teacher or class. However the pupil must attend the Medical Room at the end of the lesson to have his or her cut or graze checked.

Pupils who sustain an injury of this type at School outside lessons should be told to report direct to the First aider.

##### **2. Serious Injuries are any injuries that may require a qualified First Aider or medical attention.**

Send a messenger to Reception to request an ambulance if the need is obvious; dispatch another to meet the ambulance and direct it to the incident.

For lesser emergencies send a message to Reception and ask for the qualified

First aider to be summoned immediately.

Whenever possible, the messenger should be an adult, but if this isn't possible, a reliable student can be sent in extremis.

Staff and students are to stay with the casualty while waiting for assistance, but are not to offer any assistance unless directed by the qualified first aider.

Accident Report Forms must be completed for all injuries by the person who has dealt with the injury.

6.1 The First Aider's and Appointed Person's role includes:

- The administration of First Aid, up to but not exceeding the level of their training.
- Ensuring that any incident and any treatment given is recorded in a suitable local register.
- Reporting immediately to the Principal or Director of Finance and HR requiring the attendance of a student, member of staff or any person at hospital. Please refer to the document "Reporting of injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences" for full details of the procedures for incident reporting and investigating.
- Ensuring that all spillages of body fluids are cleaned up promptly using disposable gloves.
- Disposing of all spillages and bodily fluids in marked containers.
- Maintaining stocks within the First Aid kit/box (see Appendix Two).
- Ensuring, in liaison with management, that appropriate documentation is completed and that reportable accidents are reported to the line Manager as soon as possible after dealing with the immediate effects.

6.2 The First Aider's and Appointed Person's responsibilities include:

- ensuring that their own recommended immunisations/injections are up-to-date; and
- reporting any illnesses or injuries which would preclude their abilities to administer First Aid, to local management to arrange alternative cover.

6.3 First Aiders also have a responsibility to attend refresher training.

## 7. Responsibilities of the Training Provider

7.1 Any First Aid training must be carried out in line with Health and Safety Executive (HSE) requirements and by registered and approved providers (Training Approval Service Consortium certificate holders), of which CLF's Occupational Health Provider is one.

7.2 To maintain consistency in standards of First Aid training, wherever practicable, employees should be trained by CLF's Occupational Health Provider. Occupational Health Quality standards are in place and trainers have expert knowledge of schools.

7.3 The role of the training provider is to:

- provide advice and information relating to First Aid at Work, including any changes in regulations or employer requirements;
- provide First Aid training in line with the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981;
- provide refresher training; and
- assess and certify students as competent to approved HSE standards.

7.4 Further information on First Aid training courses can be found in Appendix One.

## **8. Payment for First Aiders**

8.1 An allowance will be paid to all First Aiders who have a valid current First Aid at Work certificate. This payment acknowledges the individual's training and commitment and is paid in accordance with the current First Aid at Work Policy.

8.2 This payment will be stopped if the First Aider:

- chooses not to continue as a First Aider, or
- does not attend the 12 monthly refresher courses, or
- on attendance at the refresher course is found not to be competent, or
- allows their certificate to lapse, or
- relocates to a unit/establishment which already has sufficient First Aiders , or
- leaves the organisation .

8.3 At the Principal's discretion, the allowance may be stopped or suspended if the First Aider is likely to be away from the work base for a considerable period of time, e.g. long term sickness, home working, unpaid leave etc.

8.4 Appointed Persons do not receive an allowance.

## **9. Additional Information**

9.1 The management of First Aid provision and the relevant arrangements will be part of health and safety audits conducted. If Trade Union Safety Representatives have any concerns over the provision of First Aid cover they should raise them with the Principal.

## **10. Indemnity and Insurance**

10.1 Where an employee acting in the course of their employment administers First Aid assistance to another employee or other person in the charge of the Academy, such as a student, they will be indemnified by the liability insurance for a claim of negligence relating to injury or loss caused by their actions, provided that:

- They are an officially designated First Aider with a current valid First Aid at Work Certificate and have attended relevant refresher training.
- They are an officially designated Appointed Person with a current valid appointed Persons Training Certificate and have attended relevant refresher training.
- The relevant personal protective equipment (PPE) is used.
- The First Aider or Appointed Person is acting in good faith.

## 10.1 Use of the “Epi Pen”

10.1.1 Members of staff who have been trained in the use of the “Epi Pen”, whether by the parent, user or medical staff, will also be covered provided that:

- the member of staff is adhering to protocols and acting within the limitations of their training, and
- that the member of staff is acting in good faith.

## 11. References

11.1 Health & Safety (First Aid) Regulations, 1981.

11.2 First Aid At Work – Health & Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981 and Guidance; Approved Code of Practice (ACoP); HSE pub COP42.

11.3 Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and dangerous Occurrences Regulations, 1995.

## 12. Other Documentation

12.1 Health and Safety Policy.

12.2 Policy and Procedures for the Reporting of Incidents of Violence, Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences.

12.3 The Health and Safety Manual for Schools.

## Appendix One First Aid Training

### 1. Statutory Training

#### 1.1 First Aid at Work

1.1.1 This is the Principal First Aid course which covers a wide range of situations from low to high risk. On successfully undertaking training and passing a written and practical assessment, the person will be issued with a First Aid at Work Certificate valid for three years. This qualification is renewable within the valid time of the certificate. Once the certificate date has expired the person will need to attend the full First Aid at Work course.

1.1.2 This course takes place over four days (24 hours tuition). Where staff may need to administer First Aid to children under seven years of age, an appropriate additional paediatric resuscitation module must also be taken.

#### 1.2 First Aid at Work Refresher

1.2.1 This training requalifies holders of a First Aid at Work Certificate providing they pass their written and practical assessment. Those who wish to renew their certificate must do so before the three year expiry date, ideally 2 years 10 months.

1.2.2 This course takes place over two days (12 hours tuition). Where staff may need to administer First Aid to children under seven years of age, an appropriate additional paediatric resuscitation module must also be taken.

#### 1.3 Appointed Person

1.3.1 The minimum requirement for an employer is to appoint a person to take charge of First Aid arrangements and any emergency First Aid situation. An Appointed Person can provide **temporary** cover for the First Aiders, ensuring that someone is always available to give First Aid immediately following an incident. The certificate is valid for three years.

1.3.2 This course takes place over one day (6 hours tuition). Where staff may need to administer First Aid to children under seven years of age, an appropriate additional paediatric resuscitation module must also be taken.

### 2. Non statutory training

#### 2.1 Refresher Training (update in First Aid skills)

2.1.1 This is additional training to ensure that practical skills are maintained and is not an alternative to statutory training. This training should be carried out annually by all designated First Aiders and Appointed Persons.

2.1.2 This course takes place over 3 hours.

## Appendix Two First Aid Equipment and Facilities

An appropriate environment to render First Aid or allow a person to rest (minor illness) must be provided. This environment should be private, allow access to hand washing facilities, drinking water and toilet facilities and should enable the casualty to sit or lie down as needed.

A minimum of one First Aid box of appropriate size should be provided for each establishment and/or building and any Academy vehicle. Passenger carrying vehicles (PCV) and minibuses must carry First Aid kits that comply with PCV and Minibus Regulations. Each First Aider should have their own First aid kit for rapid access in an emergency situation.

All First Aid kits/boxes should be identified by a white cross on a green background and contain the following minimum items:

- 1 guidance card
- Sterile dressings, small, medium and large
- Individually wrapped sterile adhesive dressings (blue detectable in food preparation areas)
- Sterile eye pads
- Triangular bandages
- Safety pins
- Disposable gloves
- 1 bottle of sterile water or normal saline should be supplied where tap water is not available
- 1 resuscitate mouthpiece and
- Pencil and paper

Quantities should be decided upon in the light of risk assessment, taking into account the numbers of staff and students.

There must be no medication within the First Aid kit/box and administration of medication in a First Aid situation is not part of a First Aider's role.

Bleach (Sodium Hypochlorite), or one of the available proprietary combined soak and disinfectant products, should be available in the workplace for cleaning up spillages of body fluids but should not be located with, or in the First Aid Box. Clinical disposal bags should also be provided.

Arrangements should be in place for the senior technician to obtain supplies.

### Appendix Three

Secondary Schools	Competence (Level of competence expected following training attendance)
<p><b>First Aid</b></p> <p>*2 Persons (2 Full First Aiders + 1 additional full first aider for every additional 100 staff or part thereof + 1 Appointed Person per floor.</p> <p>A local risk assessment will need to be undertaken to determine whether First Aid cover over and above the minimum standard will be required to take account of local hazards.</p>	<p>In compliance with the First Aid at Work Policy.</p> <p><b>1a – Full First Aid at Work Certificate (4 days):</b> On completion of the course delegates will be competent to administer First Aid as per the standard criteria as required by a Health &amp; Safety Executive Approved Course Syllabus and the guidance given by the DFES guide “Guidance on First Aid for Schools”. It is a requirement for all educational establishments, where children up to 7 years are being for, to incorporate paediatric first aid.</p> <p><b>1b – Annual Refresher Training (1/2 day):</b> On completion of the course delegates will have refreshed the skills they attained with respect to the above training – this must include paediatric refresher training where children aged up to 7 years are being cared for.</p> <p><b>1c – Three Yearly_Full First Aid at Work Certificate Refresher Training (2 Days):</b> On completion of the course delegates will have requalified with respect to the training in (1a) above in order to validate their training for a further three years. Additional refresher training will be required to validate delegates certificates for a further three years with respect to paediatric first aid – requirement for all educational establishments where children up to 7 years are being cared for.</p> <p><b>2a – Appointed Persons Certificate</b></p> <p><b>(i) Appointed Persons Certificate (1 Day):</b> On completion of the course delegates will be competent to take charge of first aid arrangements and any emergency First Aid situation, as required by a Health &amp; Safety Executive Approved Course Syllabus. For Educational establishments where three children 7 years or below:</p> <p><b>(ii) Paediatric First Aid (1 Day):</b> On completion of the course delegates will be competent to take charge of first aid arrangements and any emergency First Aid situation involving children under 7 years old, as required by a Health &amp; Safety Executive Approved Course Syllabus.</p>

		<p><b>2b – Three Yearly Appointed Person Refresher Training (1 Day):</b></p> <p>For educational establishments where there are no children 7 years or below:</p> <p>Appointed Persons Refresher (1 Day):</p> <p>On completion of the course delegates will have requalified in the skills they attained with respect to the training identified in (2ai) above in order to validate their certificate for a further three years.</p>
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## **Appendix Four**

### **Selecting a Person to be Trained as a First Aider**

The following information is provided as per the current Occupational Health and Welfare Service Policy.

A person should be selected on the basis of their reliability, willingness to become a First Aider; a disposition to dealing with sick or injured persons; good communication skills.

Their aptitude and ability to absorb new knowledge, and their ability to cope with the stressful and physically demanding emergency situations is essential.

#### **Essential Physical Requirements**

- Bend down and kneel on the floor and bend over to administer First Aid including resuscitation
- Have no muscular or skeletal injuries to prevent completing First Aiders' tasks
- Have the ability to move in awkward places (e.g. confined spaces)
- Have the ability to administer ventilation (breaths) over a period of ten minutes
- Have no medical condition that will prevent them from giving treatment them from giving treatment to casualties

#### **Educational Ability**

- Ability to absorb new knowledge
- Accept responsibility
- Pass written and practical assessments

#### **Other Requirements**

- Be prepared to complete a short questionnaire in line with health requirements
- Be prepared to be immunised in line with recommendations
- Their normal duties should normally allow them to go immediately to deal with an emergency

A standard application form can be obtained from Human Resources Department which covers physical ability and educational requirements. Where the Occupational Health and Welfare Service is used as the training provider they will assess physical and emotional suitability by questionnaire and/or interview.

## **Appendix Five**

### **Immunisation Recommendations for First Aiders**

The following information is provided as per the current Occupational Health and Welfare Service policy.

#### **Tetanus**

Immunisation is recommended for the entire population and by school leaving age most people will have received five doses of Tetanus immunisation.

Those who have not received immunisation in childhood should receive a course of three immunisations with booster doses at 10 and 20 years.

Booster doses are not required where individuals have had a total of five immunisations against Tetanus in their lifetime, except at the time of a tetanus-prone injury.

#### **Hepatitis A**

Immunisation is recommended for employees working in residential care with clients who have learning disabilities and for workers exposed directly to sewage or other human faecal matter.

One year of protection is given by a single dose of immunisation. A booster dose one year later can be expected to provide effective immunity for ten years. Immunisation requirements should then be reviewed.

#### **Hepatitis B**

Immunisation is now recommended for employees where risk assessment shows a reasonable risk of exposure to used needles, human bites, or to any human body fluids other than saliva, urine or faeces.

Immunisation is therefore recommended for:

- Staff employed in residential facilities for the care of children and adolescents
- Social workers involved in the care of children and adolescents
- Staff having regular physical contact with children or adults with learning disabilities
- Probation Officers and other staff coming into regular contact with prisoners or offenders of any age
- Community care workers
- Contract Services employees who work in council properties and
- First Aiders

The immunisation programme consists of three doses of vaccine and a blood test following these to determine if immunity has been established. There are a small percentage of people who even though they receive the vaccine, do not acquire immunity.

It is recommended that individuals seek immunisation through their GP. In some circumstances there may be charge for the vaccine and subsequent titre tests, in which cases the employer should reimburse first aiders.