

Norwood Community Group Services



Health & Safety Policy

Introduction

Norwood Community Group Services (the Charity) is a registered charity run for the following purpose:

Our aim is to encourage young people to aspire and achieve their full potential as mature and confident individuals, so they realise they have a unique contribution to make to the social, cultural and economic activities in their communities

The Charity is based at:

The Old Library 14-16 Knights Hill, West Norwood. London SE27 0HY

Charity Number: 1136323

The Charity has adopted the Safeguarding Children Policy and expects every adult working or helping at Charity to support it and comply with it. Consequently, this policy shall apply to all staff, managers, Trustees, Directors, volunteers, students or anyone working on behalf of Charity.

This policy is written within the framework of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and its subsequent Regulations. A copy of this policy should be displayed in the main office.

It will be reviewed, added to, or modified from time to time and may be supplemented in appropriate cases by further statements related to the work of the Charity, copies and subsequent amendments will be made available to all employees and volunteers.

The success of this Policy depends on the active support of all employees and volunteers to achieve its objectives.

Norwood Community Group Services recognises the need for a well-defined policy setting out the standards it aims to achieve for protecting the health, safety and welfare of staff, volunteers, young people and others.

This Health, Safety and Welfare Policy sets out the organisation and arrangements for achieving this aim including the detailed responsibilities for key staff.

Policy Statement

Norwood Community Group Services will provide a safe and healthy environment for staff, volunteers, young people and visitors; this will be achieved by implementing the health and safety objectives detailed in this Policy.

Norwood Community Group Services will provide for its employees and volunteers whilst working on the premises or elsewhere:

- Safe equipment
- Information, instruction, training and supervision to enable employees to work safely without risk to their health;
- Premises and places of work that are well maintained, have safe access and egress for all and are without risk to health & safety;
- Adequate welfare facilities

Although the prime responsibility for health and safety under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 lies with Norwood Community Group Services, as the employer, high standards of health, safety and welfare can only be achieved with the full co-operation and awareness of all staff.

Jamal Abdur Rahman (Chief Executive)

Organisation and Responsibilities

Health and Safety within Norwood Community Group Services is the responsibility of all staff, these responsibilities are outlined in sections 2.1 – 2.10.

Chief Executive

The Chief Executive is responsible for the following:

- Producing the Charity's Health & Safety Policy. This shall include a statement of intent, individual health and safety responsibilities, and the organisation, arrangements and procedures
- Implementing and monitoring the Health & Safety Policy
- Establishing and maintaining systems within the Charity to ensure that health & safety is effectively managed
- Allocating sufficient resources to enable health and safety to be successfully managed
- This Policy is brought to the attention of all staff and volunteers
- Making arrangements for informing staff, volunteers and young people of relevant safety procedures
- Accidents are investigated and reported using the established procedures;
- Consult with staff on health, safety and welfare issues
- Training needs are identified and met
- Assessments for all risks to health and safety are carried out and the significant findings recorded, with appropriate preventative measures being taken
- Fire precautions and procedures are implemented (including fire drills)
- New employees and volunteers receive appropriate health, safety and welfare information instructions and training, including details of this Policy, fire and other safety procedures
- Regular health and safety inspections of the premises are carried out

Fire Officers (or fire stewards)

Fire Officers are responsible for:

- Familiarising themselves with their areas of responsibility, the escape routes and any problem areas;
- On hearing the fire alarm, they are responsible for:
 - Ensuring the safe evacuation of everyone in their area(s) of responsibility
 - Checking all rooms in their area(s) of responsibility; including toilets, rest rooms and store rooms; to ensure that everyone has safely left the building.
 - Where possible, closing windows and doors as each room is checked;
 - Reporting to the Incident Manager to inform them that everyone has safely evacuated the building, or to report any problems;
 - Ensuring that nobody re-enters the building until the Incident Manager has stated it is safe to do so;
- Ensuring they are available, after the evacuation, to attend a debrief meeting to discuss the evacuation, identify any problems and share information.
- Monitoring to ensure that fire routes and exits are kept clear at all times.

First Aiders

First Aiders are responsible for:

- Taking charge when someone is injured or falls ill;
- Administering first aid in the event of an injury;
- Calling for an ambulance, if required;
- Looking after first aid equipment and ensuring it is restocked;
- Keeping up to date with first aid training and ensuring they attend refresher training prior to the expiry of their first aid certificate.

All Employees and Volunteers

Employees are required to:

- Take reasonable care for their own health, safety and welfare and that of other persons affected by their acts or omissions;
- Co-operate with their employer, so far as is necessary, to enable it to meet its responsibilities for health, safety and welfare;
- Be aware of, and follow, health and safety guidelines;
- Use work equipment provided correctly, in accordance with instructions and training;
- Inform their manager of any work situations that represent a serious and immediate danger to health, safety and welfare.

In addition, female workers must notify their employer as soon as possible after they become pregnant in order that a risk assessment can be carried out to ensure the safety of the mother and unborn child.

Norwood Community Group Services is responsible for the Health & Safety at The Old Library, 14-16 Knights Hill, West Norwood, SE27 0HY& The Elm Green School Elmcourt Road, West Norwood, SE27 9BZ when its members/users frequent these premises.

General Arrangements for Implementing the Health, Safety and Welfare Policy

Accident/Incident Management, Reporting & Investigation

An accident is an unplanned event that results in injury or damage.

A near miss is an unplanned event that does not result in injury or damage.

In the event of a young person or adult having an accident, it is important for the first member of staff at the scene to assess the situation before moving the injured party.

The qualified first aider should be informed immediately. He/she will assess what needs to be done.

The First aider will instruct a colleague to get the first aid box and to telephone a parent if running a crèche and an ambulance if required.

First aid will be administered where necessary (see first aid procedure). The injured party will be monitored until there are no further concerns.

If the accident/incident is of serious nature and an ambulance is required the person with the facts should inform the paramedic of the situation. If the accident involves a young person they should be accompanied to hospital by a suitable adult.

All accidents should be recorded in the accident book/accident form as soon as possible.

All accidents should be investigated and action taken to prevent a re-occurrence where possible.

Incidents which fall within the requirements of the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) 2013 e.g. major injuries, accidents resulting in employees being absent from work for more than 7 days, or members of the public going to hospital from the scene of the accident etc. will be reported to the Health and Safety Executive by the Health and Safety Function.

For more information about RIDDOR refer to the HSE document [Reporting Accidents and Incidents at Work: a brief guide to the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 \(RIDDOR\)](#)

Asbestos

The [Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012](#) places a duty on the “Asbestos Duty Holder” to manage any asbestos or asbestos containing materials located within the premises.

The Asbestos Duty Holder is generally the person who has (or persons who have) clear responsibility for the maintenance or repair of the premises. *(Note: If the premises are leased this is usually the responsibility of the landlord)*

The Asbestos Duty Holder(s) is/are Rathbone/Elm Green School

An Asbestos survey that identifies whether asbestos or asbestos containing materials are present within the premises, the location, the type of asbestos and its condition has been completed.

The Asbestos Survey is located with Rathbone/Elm Green School

It is the responsibility of the Asbestos Duty Holder to ensure that **anyone**, contractors or staff, who intend to work on the fabric of the building consult the Asbestos Survey prior to commencing work in order to ensure where they will be working is free from asbestos and asbestos containing materials, and that they sign to demonstrate they have consulted and understood it.

If, during the course of the task, further work needs to be carried out at a different location, the Asbestos Survey must be consulted again and be resigned and dated.

Consultation with Employees

Under the Health and Safety (Consultation with Employees) Regulations 1996 and the Safety Representatives and Safety Committees Regulations 1977 an employer has a duty to consult with employees on matters of health and safety.

Employees will be consulted on the following:

- The introduction of any measure which may substantially affect their health and safety at work;

- Arrangements for getting competent people to help them comply with health and safety laws;
- Information on risks arising from their work, measures to reduce or get rid of those risks and what employees should do if they are exposed to a risk;
- The planning and organisation of health and safety training and the health and safety consequences of introducing new technology;

Norwood Community Group Services will consult with Users in the following ways: Through regular building users meetings

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health

The [Control of Substances Hazardous to Health \(COSHH\) Regulations 2002](#) and the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (Amendment) Regulations 2004 impose duties on employers to protect employees who may be exposed to substances hazardous to health at work, and others who may be affected by such work.

COSHH covers chemicals, products containing chemicals, fumes, dusts, vapours, mists, gases, and biological agents (bacteria, fungi and viruses). If there is a hazard symbol displayed on the packaging then the contents are classed as a hazardous substance. COSHH also covers asphyxiating gases, biological agents that cause diseases such as Leptospirosis or Legionnaires Disease; and biological agents used in laboratories.

COSHH doesn't cover lead, asbestos or radioactive substances because they have their own specific regulations.

Norwood Community Group Services will ensure that COSHH assessments will be carried out on all hazardous substances prior to use. The COSHH assessments, which provide information on specific hazards, first aid measures, personal protective equipment etc. will be reviewed as appropriate, or every five years, whichever is the sooner.

For further information refer to the HSE document [The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002. Approved Code of Practice and guidance](#)

Display Screen Equipment

The [Display Screen Equipment \(DSE\) Regulations 1992](#) require employers to minimise the risks to employees who habitually use display screen equipment as a significant part of their normal work.

Other people, who use DSE only occasionally, are not covered by the requirements of the Regulations, however, employers still have general duties under other health and safety at work legislation.

'Users', as defined by the Regulations, are employees who use DSE for a significant part of their normal work (daily, for continuous periods of more than an hour).

Where users are identified, the following must be ensured:

- Workstations are assessed using the [HSE workstation assessment checklist](#) and the risks reduced, as applicable;
- Workstations meet the minimum requirements as outlined on the HSE checklist;
- Work is planned to allow adequate breaks or changes of activity;
- On request, eye tests are arranged, and a contribution made towards spectacles if they are required for DSE use; and
- Health and safety training and information is provided.

Completed User forms and DSE assessment checklists are located with Rathbone/Elm Green School

Electricity at Work

The [Electricity at Work Regulations 1989](#) set out specific requirements on electrical safety. These Regulations place a duty on employers to ensure that electrical systems are designed, constructed, used and maintained so as to prevent danger. 'Systems' includes all apparatus as well as the mains supply.

All portable electrical appliances should be visually checked before use. In particular, attention should be paid to the condition of power cables and of their terminations, as these are often damaged, wrenched and jerked, which may loosen their connections.

The repair of most portable electrical equipment requires specialist knowledge and expertise if the faulty or damaged equipment is to be restored to the necessary safe condition. London Youth staff may undertake minor repairs (e.g. replacement of a flexible cable) where they are competent to do so.

All portable electrical equipment such as drills, irons, kettles etc. should be subject to a detailed inspection and test by a competent person at least every 12 months. A written record of the tests, in the form of a logbook or register, should be maintained and be available for examination and the equipment itself should be marked with some form of identification and the date of the most recent test.

Annual Portable Appliance Testing will be carried out by Rathbone/Elm Green School and the records are maintained and held by Rathbone/Elm Green School.

Fixed electrical installations should be inspected by a competent person at least every five years. New electrical installations and modifications to existing installations must be carried out by a competent person (with competency being determined by experience, knowledge and training).

Mains Electrical Testing was carried out by Rathbone and the records are maintained by Rathbone/Elm Green School

Further guidance can be found in the HSE guidance document ([HSG107 Maintaining portable electrical equipment](#)).

Fire Safety

The [Regulatory Reform \(Fire Safety\) Order 2005](#) places duty on employers to conduct a fire risk assessment and take reasonable steps to reduce the risk from fire.

Each Norwood Community Group Services location should have a "Responsible Person" who is ultimately responsible for fire safety and who may have other competent people to assist them to carry out their duties. These include undertaking a fire risk assessment, Emergency Evacuation Plan, and Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans (PEEPS) for staff or visitors with impaired mobility.

The Responsible Person is Norwood Community Group Services

The Organisation responsible for fire safety is:

- Calling the Fire Brigade is the responsibility of NCGS
- Liaising with the fire brigade is the responsibility of NCGS
- Collecting the visitors book is the responsibility of NCGS
- Fire wardens are NCGS
- Organising fire drills is the responsibility of NCGS
- Organising fire safety training is the responsibility of NCGS
- Quarterly inspections of the fire alarm, emergency lighting, fire door magnetic holders are carried out by Rathbone/Elm Green School
- Weekly checks of the fire alarm call points, emergency lighting and fire door magnetic holders are carried out by Rathbone/Elm Green School
- Annual inspection of the fire extinguisher and firefighting equipment is carried out by Rathbone /Elm Green School.

- Ensuring that all fire exits are clear from obstruction and unlocked prior to the building being occupied is the responsibility of NCGS.

The current fire risk assessment, Emergency Evacuation Plan and Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans (PEEPs), if applicable, and fire safety folder are located with Norwood Community Group Services

It is the responsibility of Norwood Community Group Services to ensure that the fire risk assessment, Emergency Evacuation Plan and PEEPS are undertaken and reviewed as necessary, and keeping the contents of the fire safety folder up to date.

Fire instruction notices are displayed throughout the premises advising the actions to be taken on discovering a fire/on hearing the alarm.

Rathbone/Elm Green School is responsible for ensuring the Fire Instruction notices are appropriately displayed

Fire Drills are conducted on regular basis and a record of the time taken to evacuate the premises and any comments are noted.

All staff have a duty to be aware of the fire and emergency procedures, to ensure that all escape routes and fire exits are kept clear, and to report any defective or damaged firefighting equipment, such as fire extinguishers.

Any fire that occurs within the premises, however minor, must be reported to *Norwood Community Group*.

First Aid

The [Health and Safety \(First-Aid\) Regulations 1981](#) set out a duty of care on employers to provide adequate and appropriate first aid provision for employees.

The First-Aid Regulations do not oblige employers to provide first aid for members of the public. However, *Jamal Abdur Rahman*, should include the public, children, young people and others on their premises when making their assessment of first aid needs.

It is usually necessary to ensure that there is at least one first aider available at all times, taking into consideration staff absence, holidays, lunch breaks, before and after hours, etc.

Staff nominated to administer first aid will attend first aid at work or emergency first aid training.

Notices are displayed throughout the premises advising of the locations of first aid boxes and the names of first aiders.

Any accidents requiring first aid must be reported using the Accident form/Accident book.

It is usually necessary to ensure that there is at least one first aider available at all times, taking into consideration staff absence, holidays, lunch breaks, etc.

Staff nominated to administer first aid will attend one of the following courses: first aid at work, emergency first aid, and paediatric first aid.

The nominated persons with first aid responsibilities are:

Name	Qualification e.g. FA, EFA, PFA	Location	Extension Number
Jamal Abdur Rahman	Paediatric First Aid	2 nd Floor The Old Library	020 8766 9286

The First Aid Boxes are sited in the following locations: Reception area and offices

The Organisation responsible for maintaining the First Aid boxes is Norwood Community Group Services

Gas Safety

Under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 and the Gas Safety Regulations 2001, any work on gas systems and appliances could only be carried out by persons registered with the Council of Registered Gas Installers (CORGI). Since 1st April 2009 CORGI has been replaced by the [Gas Safe Register](#).

Work on gas systems and appliances can only be undertaken by persons who are Gas Safe Registered.

Rathbone/Elm Green School is responsible for ensuring that gas appliances will be regularly serviced by competent persons.

If you smell gas:

- Do not use any naked flames/other ignition sources
- Open doors and windows
- Contact the gas board
- Do not switch on or off the lights or any portable appliance switch
- Shut off the gas
- Evacuate the premises, if appropriate

Annual servicing will be carried out by Rathbone, records are maintained by Rathbone and held with Rathbone/Elm Green School

Health & Wellbeing

The [Health and Safety at Work Act 1974](#), establishes a duty for employers to ensure the health, safety and welfare of employees, whilst at work. This includes not only their physical health, but also their mental health and wellbeing. The [Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999](#) require a general risk assessment of all risks in the workplace, and this will include the risk to staff from stress.

The HSE defines stress as *“the adverse effect people have to excessive pressure or other types of demand placed on them”*.

Norwood Community Group Services recognises that stress per se is not an illness, but can result in stress related illness such as anxiety or depression. Norwood Community Group Services will complete a risk assessment to identify the main potential stressors and the control measures required in order to reduce the risks to staff.

Refer to the [HSE Management standards](#) for work related stress.

Information, Instruction and Training

The [Health and Safety at Work Act 1974](#), establishes the duty of the employer to supply employees with such information, instruction, training and supervision as necessary to ensure their health and safety at work.

Norwood Community Group Services is committed to providing all staff with the appropriate information, instruction, training and supervision to enable them to undertake their duties safely and without risk to themselves or others.

Induction training will be provided to all new employees appropriate to their role.

Health and safety training and refresher training will be organised for staff as appropriate and training records (including induction) will be kept.

Health and safety training records are kept by Norwood Community Group Services

Ongoing examination reports should be kept until the next examination report is received or for a period of 2 years whichever is later

Lifting equipment documentation is kept by Norwood Community Group Services

Further information and guidance on LOLER can be found in the following documents

Manual Handling

The [Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992](#) apply to a wide range of manual handling activities, including lifting, lowering, pushing, pulling or carrying. These regulations place specific duties on employers and employees.

Employers are required to

Avoid the need for manual handling, so far as is reasonably practicable

Assess the risk of injury from any hazardous manual handling that can't be avoided

Reduce the risk of injury from hazardous manual handling, so far as is reasonably practicable.

Employees are required to:

- Follow appropriate systems of work laid down for their safety
- Make proper use of equipment provided for their safety
- Co-operate with their employer on health and safety matters
- Inform the employer if they identify hazardous handling activities
- Take care to ensure that their activities do not put others at risk
- Make their manager aware of any medical/physical condition which could be made worse by manual handling

All staff members involved in manual handling will be given suitable and sufficient information, instruction, training and supervision. Training will be recorded, monitored and reviewed.

Training records will be maintained by Norwood Community Group Services

Further information can be found in the HSE publication [Getting to grips with Manual Handling](#)

If a member of staff develops any medical/physical condition, the responsible person should be made aware immediately. A specific risk assessment must be carried out to cover the activities/tasks and control measures should be taken accordingly.

Norwood Community Group Services will be responsible for carrying out risk assessments for all manual handling activities, which constitute a significant risk of injury to staff and to update and review as necessary.

Minibuses

The [Provision and Use of Work Equipment \(PUWER\) Regulations 1998](#) set out specific requirements for the selection, maintenance and inspection of work equipment, and the provision of appropriate instruction, information and training, to ensure its safe use. These Regulations cover minibuses that Norwood Community Group Services either owns, or hires.

Each minibus must have a [Section 19 Permit](#) disc displayed on the windscreen to enable its use without having to comply with the full passenger carrying vehicle entitlement (PCV) operator licensing requirements and without the need for their drivers to have PCV entitlement.

It is the responsibility of Norwood Community Group Services to ensure that a Section 19 Permit is displayed on the minibus windscreen at all times

Minibus drivers must be over the age of 21 and hold a Local Authority Minibus Permit.

A list of qualified minibus drivers is held by Rathbone

All minibus drivers must complete the vehicle log each time the minibus is used, and carry out a pre-use check.

The minibus vehicle log is located with Norwood Community Group Services

All vehicles must have

- An MOT if over 1 year old (13 or more passenger seats) or 3 years old (12 or less passenger seats)
- A valid certificate of insurance
- A fire extinguisher complying with BS 5423
- A first aid kit

It is the responsibility of Norwood Community Group Services to ensure all the documents are up to date. The fire extinguisher is inspected annually, and the first aid kit is kept fully stocked

Norwood Community Group Services will be responsible for carrying out risk assessments for all manual handling activities, which constitute a significant risk of injury to staff and to update and review as necessary.

The minibus must, as a minimum, be subject to the following:

- Daily/pre-use checks by the driver

- Annual maintenance (including MOT)
- Two safety checks between annual maintenances

The responsibility to ensure the maintenance checks are undertaken by a competent person lies with Norwood Community Group Services.

Offsite Visits

At Norwood Community Group Services young people/children/adults will be provided with the opportunity to participate in high quality, well organised offsite visits which will enable young people/children/adults to achieve more.

Norwood Community Group Services will ensure that visits are meticulously planned and organised. A thorough risk assessment will be undertaken of every activity to identify potential risks hazards and dangers. And this will be recorded on the risk assessment form. The risk assessment will be shared with adults and staff supervising the trip.

Parents and adults supervising the visit must have the appropriate vetting and checks.

Permission consent must be obtained for all children taking part in any offsite activity without their carer.

Methods of transport must be appropriate for the distance being covered and coaches or vehicles which are hired will be safe, road worthy and meet current legal requirements for carrying children and passengers.

Staff, parents and participants in the offsite activity will be made aware of the key times and meeting points and procedures to follow if they cannot make a designated meeting point.

The Leader will have emergency contact details for all activity participants and First Aiders will accompany every offsite activity with first aid equipment.

Norwood Community Group Services will authorise the site visits and provide carers with detailed information about any offsite visit.

Carers will receive information on suitable clothing, lunch requirements and how they can prepare their young person/child/adult for the visit.

Risk Assessment

The [Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999](#) require employers to make a suitable and sufficient assessment of the risks to health and safety of employees to which they are exposed whilst at work, and any others who may be affected by their undertaking. Risk assessments must be communicated to all relevant parties and those at risk must understand the risks and control measures.

The risk assessment must be recorded, and reviewed if it is no longer valid, if there have been significant changes in the matters to which it relates, or annually, whichever is the sooner.

Norwood Community Group Services will be responsible for ensuring that risk assessments are undertaken, recorded and reviewed.

Employees' have a duty to cooperate with their employer when they are conducting risk assessments and for cooperating with them in implementing any remedial action or control measures to reduce the risk.

Staff involvement and consultation will be ensured during the risk assessment process.

Copies of current risk assessments are located with Norwood Community Group Services

The responsibility for carrying out risk assessments lies with Norwood Community Group Services

Note: the Regulations stipulate that a specific risk assessment must be undertaken for [New and Expectant Mothers](#), [Young Persons](#) (under 18 years of age). Statutory risk assessments are also required for [COSHH](#), [DSE](#), [Personal Protective Equipment](#) & [Manual Handling](#).

Safety, Signs and Signals

The [Health and Safety \(Safety Signs and Signals\) Regulations 1996](#) places duty on employers to use and maintain appropriate health and safety signs, in order to make persons aware of risks, where the risk to health and safety cannot be avoided or adequately controlled by other means.

Norwood Community Group Services ensure that where the requirement for the posting of a safety sign has been identified, such signs are posted at suitable locations, conform to the relevant standards and are adequately maintained.

It is the responsibility of Rathbone/Elm Green School to ensure that health and safety signs are displayed and adequately maintained.

Employees will be provided with appropriate instruction, information and training in the use and understanding of safety signs, as applicable.

Further information on safety signs and signals can be found in the HSE document [Safety Signs and Signals: The Health and Safety \(Safety Signs and Signals\) Guidance on Regulations](#)

Security

Specific responsibility for security is not set down in legislation. However, security is related to health and safety, therefore whoever has responsibility for health and safety should consider what security measures are necessary to ensure, as far as reasonably practicable, the safety of the staff young people/children/adults.

Norwood Community Group Services has responsibility for security issues

Norwood Community Group Services will ensure young people/children/adults stay safe by providing A safe and secure environment.

Examples of security measures:

- Controlled entry system at gates and main entrance.
- Fencing around perimeter
- Intruder alarm system
- Visitors signing book and badge system
- Procedures for dealing with trespassers
- Appropriate recording procedures for incidents relating to security

Smoking

The [Smoke-free \(Premises and Enforcement\) Regulations 2006](#) were introduced in England to make virtually all enclosed public places and workplaces in England smoke free.

As a result, Norwood Community Group Services is strictly no smoking.

The Regulations require the displaying of no-smoking signs in all smoke free premises and vehicles.

No-smoking signs, which meet the requirements of the law, are displayed in the reception area, and on every floor in The Old Library building.

Further information can be found on the [Smoke free England](#) website.

Slips and Trips

The [Health and Safety at Work Act 1974](#) requires employers to ensure the health, safety and welfare of employees and others who may be affected. The Act also requires the provision of a place of work that is maintained in a safe condition, and a means of access and egress that is safe and without risk.

Norwood Community Group Services recognises that good housekeeping is essential to preventing slip and trip accidents. Accordingly, all staff are responsible for undertaking informal daily checks of their own work areas.

Where action is identified during workplace inspections but cannot be implemented immediately, interim measures will be taken (e.g., using warning signs, barriers, etc.) and an action plan produced to outline when the action will be implemented, who will be responsible for ensuring it is implemented and the estimated completion date.

Workplace inspections will be undertaken by Norwood Community Group Services on a weekly/monthly basis.

All staff are responsible for undertaking informal daily checks of their own work areas.

Where action is identified during workplace inspections but cannot be implemented immediately, interim measures will be taken and an action plan produced to outline when the action will be implemented, who will be responsible for ensuring it is implemented and the estimated completion date.

Violence/Personal Safety of Staff

The [Health and Safety at Work Act 1974](#) places a legal duty on employers to ensure the health, safety and welfare of employees at work and the [Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999](#) places a duty on the employer to consider and assess the risks to employees. This would include the risk of reasonably foreseeable violence.

Violence may be defined as any incident in which a person is abused, threatened or assaulted, either physically or verbally, in circumstances relating to their work.

Norwood Community Group Services is responsible for undertaking a risk assessment to cover potential violence at work.

A copy of the current risk assessment is held by Norwood Community Group.

Physical or verbal abuse of *Norwood Community Group* employees will not be tolerated and a risk assessment will be undertaken to identify and minimise the risk to staff from potentially violent persons or situations.

Employees will, where appropriate, receive information, instruction and training on the risks from potential violence and aggression, and how to avoid or minimise potential violent or aggressive situations.

It is the responsibility of Norwood Community Group Services to ensure that staff are provided with appropriate information, instruction and training

All acts of physical or verbal abuse must be reported to Jamal Abdur Rahman/Safeguarding Officer.

Norwood Community Group Services will support any employee who is assaulted or threatened in the course of their duties.

Work Equipment

The [Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations \(PUWER\) 1998](#) apply to all types of work equipment. The Regulations generally apply to any equipment that is used by an employee at work, for example hammers, knives, ladders, drilling machines, circular saws, photocopiers, lifting equipment (including lifts) and motor vehicles.

In general terms the Regulations require that equipment provided for use at work be

- Suitable for the intended use
- Safe for use
- Maintained in a safe condition
- Inspected
- Used only by people who have received adequate information instruction and training

- Accompanied by suitable safety measures, e.g. guards, markings, warnings

In addition to PUWER 1998, the [Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999](#) require employers to carry out suitable and sufficient risk assessment of the risks to which employees are exposed to at work including work equipment.

Norwood Community Group Services will ensure that risk assessments are in place for specific pieces of equipment and effective measures taken to control the hazards associated with the use of equipment.

Norwood Community Group Services requires all employees who use equipment to undertake pre-use inspections to identify any obvious defects (e.g. damaged casings, exposed wiring, etc.). All defects to work equipment must be reported and the equipment taken out of use until the defect is rectified.

Defects should be reported to Norwood Community Group Services

All the equipment provided must only be used for its intended purpose.

Employees must not use work equipment unless they have received appropriate training and must use the equipment in an appropriate manner, according to the information received in training and instructions from their line manager. Young people using the work equipment must be supervised at all times.

It is the responsibility of Norwood Community Group Services to arrange staff training, and to ensure that records of staff training are maintained Norwood Community Group Services

All work equipment, where the failure of said item could result in a significant risk of injury, are to be subject to at least an annual maintenance/inspection by a competent person/organization. Where legislation imposes specific duties to undertake inspections at set frequencies these will be carried out in accordance with the Regulations. The written records of the inspection and maintenance, should be maintained and be available for examination.

Annual inspection and maintenance will be carried out by Norwood Community Group Services and records are maintained by Norwood Community Group Services.

When work equipment has reached the end of its working life or is no longer required it must be disposed of safely.

Work Experience and Young Persons

Students on work placements/experience are regarded in health and safety law as employees and therefore must be provided with the same health, safety and welfare protection given to other employees.

Work experience may be defined as a placement on an employer's premises in which a student carries out a range of tasks or duties, more or less as an employee, but with the emphasis on the learning aspects of the experience

Students who are under the age of 18, taking part in work experience/ placements, are considered Young Persons under health and safety law. [Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999](#) require employers to specifically take account of young persons when carrying out their risk assessments.

If young persons have not previously been employed in the workplace, then existing risk assessments should be reviewed accordingly. The assessment of risks to 'young persons' must be carried out before their employment or work placement period begins.

Norwood Community Group Services will be responsible for carrying out risk assessments and maintaining records. Significant findings will then be brought to the attention of students on work experience, and the measures they need to take to avoid the risk before they work in the area

Norwood Community Group Services will ensure that the parents/guardians of children, i.e. those under minimum school leaving age, are informed of the key findings of the risk assessment before

the placement begins.

Norwood Community Group Services will be responsible for managing work experience placements.

All young people and students on work experience will be provided with appropriate induction, information, instruction, training and supervision.

More information can be found in the HSE document Young People and [Work Experience: A Brief Guide to Health and Safety for Employers](#)

Workplace (Health, Safety & Welfare)

Employers have a general duty under the [Health and Safety at Work Act 1974](#) to ensure the health, safety and welfare of their employees at work, and others who are not employees but use their premises.

The [Workplace \(Health, Safety and Welfare\) Regulations 1992](#) expand on these duties and are intended to protect the health and safety of everyone in the workplace and to ensure adequate welfare facilities are provided for people at work.

The Regulations require employers to make provision for the following

- Maintenance of a safe workplace, equipment and systems of work
- Suitable and sufficient ventilation, lighting and indoor temperature
- A clean workplace and furnishings with easy to clean surfaces
- Sufficient work space with suitable work stations and seating
- Floors and traffic routes of suitable condition and free from damage or hazards
- The prevention of people falling from height, or being struck by falling objects
- Windows (and other transparent/translucent surfaces) made of safe materials, that do not expose people to risks to their health and safety, and are able to be cleaned safely
- Traffic routes organised to allow pedestrians and vehicles to circulate in a safe manner
- Suitable and sufficient toilets and washing facilities
- An adequate supply of drinking water
- Accommodation for personal or work clothing, and adequate facilities for changing clothing where necessary
- Facilities for rest and to eat meals

Norwood Community Group Services will ensure that suitable arrangements are in place to cover these provisions, so far as is reasonable practice.

Access to Policy Statement

A copy of this statement is to be made available to all employees and building users.

Signed: _____ Jamal Abdur Rahman (**Chief Executive Officer**)

Date: 20th May 2022