



Lockdown Policy

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| Date of next review: | March 2026 |
| Reviewed by: | Vicky Collins |
| Date adopted by the Governing Board: | 26 th March 2025 |
| Governing Board Committee: | Full Governing Board |
| Link Governor (if appropriate): | Colin Anderson |
| Publication status (e.g. on the website or available on request?): | Available on request |
| Date next due for review: | November 2028 |

Equality Statement:

At The BAWB Federation we work hard to ensure that the culture and ethos are such that, whatever the abilities and needs of members of the school community, everyone is equally valued and people treat one another with respect. Our schools provide pupils and staff with the opportunity to experience, understand and value diversity. In the operation of this policy, we will endeavour to ensure that all members of our school community receive equal treatment irrespective of their age, gender, race, colour, ethnic origin, family commitments, marital status, sexual orientation, disability or religious beliefs.

Christian Vision

This policy has been written and/or adopted with our Christian Vision in mind:

Inspired by the **compassion** of the Good Samaritan, we:
treat one another with **respect** and **kindness**,
using **courage** and **creativity** to help us as we grow and learn.



Partial Lockdown

- This may be as a result of a reported incident to the site or an occurrence that is happening within the site premises.
- Civil disturbance in the local community with the potential to pose a risk to staff and children in the site.
- It may also be as a result of a warning being received from a recognised emergency service regarding the risk of air pollution, etc.

Alert to staff: 'Partial Lockdown' or an agreed code word that all members of staff recognise and understand to begin the procedure. (A means of communicating the alert to duty staff at break times is required without fail).

Immediate action:

- All outside activity to cease with immediate effect, children and staff to return to the building in a swift and safe manner.
- All staff and children remain inside the building and **all** external doors and windows are to be locked until further notice. Nominated members of staff that are not directly supervising children are required to perform the task if appropriate to ensure the ongoing safeguarding of the children.
- Children / staff and visitor register will be taken – the office will contact each area in turn for an attendance report.
- At the discretion of the responsible person, free movement within the building may be permitted dependent upon the known information or continued reporting of the incident / circumstances.

Each situation is unique and presents differing on-going challenges. Once the children / staff and volunteers etc. are accounted for the responsible person will conduct an on-going dynamic risk assessment basing their decision making primarily on advice received from the Emergency Services. All staff will be updated when applicable, and a written evidence log will be maintained throughout should it be required at a later stage. 'Partial Lockdown' is a precautionary measure and should be recognised that it places the site in a state of readiness (whilst retaining a degree of normality), should the situation be further reported to have escalated.

During the Partial Lockdown procedure, staff will maintain agreed open lines of communication and must not make unnecessary calls until further notice as this may delay the information sharing process to and from the responsible person.

In the event of an Air Pollution Incident being reported, all air vents should be closed / covered (where possible within the premises. If this is not possible, the children / staff should be relocated from the room initially and a further decision is to be made by the responsible person regarding the appropriate room to relocate to and remain.)

The responsible person will remain in contact with the appropriate Emergency Services team(s) and will make future dynamic risk assessment decisions with the assistance and advice of professional bodies regarding the prevailing threat. An evidence log should be completed, should it be required at a later stage.

Full Lockdown

This signifies an immediate threat to the site and may be an escalation of a partial lockdown or a spontaneous incident / event or occurrence in or near to the premises.

Alert to staff: 'Full Lockdown' or an agreed code word that all staff recognise and understand to begin the procedure. (A means of communicating the alert to duty staff at break times is required without fail).

Immediate action:

- All children / staff, volunteers etc. are to rendezvous immediately to a pre agreed area of the premises known by all staff that can ideally accommodate the maximum role numbers. e.g. (Classroom, tutor room, Sports / assembly / dining hall).
- All external doors are to be locked immediately. Classroom doors locked if applicable. Nominated members of staff that are not directly supervising children are required to perform the task if appropriate to ensure the ongoing safeguarding of the children.
- All windows are to be locked, and blinds drawn, (if applicable). Children encouraged to remain quiet and remain out of public glare, (e.g. under a desk or around a corner) until further notice.
- Children / staff and visitor register will be taken – the office will contact each area in turn for an attendance report.

Each situation is unique and presents differing on-going challenges. Once the children / staff and volunteers etc. are accounted for the responsible person will conduct an on-going dynamic risk assessment basing their decision making primarily on advice received from the Emergency Services. All staff will be updated when applicable, and a written evidence log will be maintained throughout should it be required at a later stage.

The lock down procedure will remain in force until it has been established from a member of the Emergency Services that the incident has been successfully resolved and no further risk is posed to the welfare and safety of the children / staff etc. At any time during the lockdown, if the fire alarm sounds an evacuation of the building is required.

During the lockdown procedure, staff will maintain agreed open lines of communication and must not make unnecessary calls until further notice as this may delay the information sharing process to and from the responsible person.

Examples of using discreet communication methods should they be necessary to update the emergency services:

- Staff have access to an internal e-mail/instant messenger system that they can access to inform and await further instructions. In practical terms, staff would need to be familiar with accessing their account through a variety of means e.g. laptop, smartphone or tablet.
- 'Parent mail,' staff may be put into a defined user group. This could then lead to communicating instructions via text message in an emergency.

Communication between parents and the site

Site Lockdown procedures, especially the arrangements for communicating to parents, should be routinely shared with parents / guardians either by newsletter or via the site's website.

Should a Lockdown occur, it is advised that developments are communicated to parents / guardians as soon as is practicable and in some cases in agreement with the emergency services and the most senior member of staff overseeing the incident. Parents will naturally be concerned, anxious and all accurate information releases will assist to alleviate undue anxiety.

Parents / guardians should be given enough information to enable them to understand the potential outcome and when possible time frames so that they:

- Are reassured that the site / emergency services understands their concern for their child's welfare, and that everything possible is being completed to ensure their safety.
- Parents / guardians must be made aware to refrain from directly calling the site's office. Calling the site will tie up telephone lines that will be required to be used by the responsible person and the emergency services.
- Parents / guardians must refrain from initially attending the site. This may interfere with the emergency provider's access / investigation and may put themselves and others in danger.
- Parent / guardians must wait patiently until a safe and satisfactory outcome has been achieved and agreed by all parties, where a designated safe area will be identified for the safe handing over of the children to their parents / guardians.

During the initial "breaking news" of the incident it is vital that all parents are reassured regarding the welfare and safety to their children is paramount and that the matter is being dealt with by the emergency services and NYC jointly to resolve the matter as soon as possible with little impact to the children and the wider community.

However it must also be stressed that at this time **"the site is in a full lockdown procedure. During this period the switchboard and entrances will be un-manned, external doors will be locked and no person is allowed in or out of the premises until further notice."**

Emergency Services

It is vital that the communication lines remain open to the Emergency Services at all times, they are best placed to offer advice / assistance as a situation develops. A decision may be taken to cordon off the premises partially or as a whole by the Emergency Services. This will be dependent on the severity of the incident that has led to a Lockdown procedure taking effect.

The emergency services will support the responsible person and NYC in the decision making processes and the timing of communication to parents, the press etc.

Should a prolonged lockdown incident occur, North Yorkshire County Council and its partners have the capacity to provide humanitarian assistance by establishing a Reception Centre for friends and family outside of the cordoned area and other pre-determined facilities.

Signals

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| Alarm or signal for lockdown shelter | <i>Short blasts on the orange emergency whistles</i> |
| Signal for stand down / all-clear | <i>Most senior teacher on site will inform everyone verbally</i> |

Incident Control Officers & Response Team

| Role | Name | Emergency Contact Number |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Incident Control Officer | Vicky Collins | 07748 806840 |
| Deputies | Eleanor Harrison | 07725 010732 |
| | Matthew Scrafton | 07496 130695 |
| | Scott Greenway | 07487 601537 |
| Communications Officer | Vicky Collins | 07748 806840 |

It is important to remember that it is very much **the exception** to evacuate a building in the event of a hostile intruder. Unless the location of the intruders is known, a "blind" evacuation may be putting people in more danger (e.g. from an intruder or device at one of the entrances/exits) than if they had remained within the building.

| Rooms most suitable for lockdown (in order of suitability) |
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| Classrooms |
| Hall |
| Offices |

It is important to make sure that items that could be used as weapons (kitchen implements, sports equipment, tools, cleaning products) are securely locked away when not in use.

| Communication arrangements |
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| Wherever possible use silent communications and keep noise to a minimum especially if the intruders are close by. Make sure any communications devices are secure and cannot be intercepted. |
| Two-way radios |
| School phones |
| Mobile phones |
| Instant messaging / email |
| Other (TV's / Whiteboards / etc) |
| Classroom workstations |

| Alternative place of safety in the event that it is considered necessary to leave site (for example, partner school/college /leisure centre) <u>must be pre-arranged.</u> | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| | At Bainbridge | At Askrigg | At West Burton |
| Name of venue | Sycamore Hall | St Oswald's Church | Village Hall |
| Type of venue | Residential home | Church | Community building |
| Contact name | Care Manager | Rev Dave Clark | Sally Stone |
| Contact telephone number | 0370 1924 055 | | 01969 663373 |
| Useful info such as distance from school, directions, capacity, opening hours | Walking distance along Back Syke. | In the centre of Askrigg village. | Opposite school – Key is in key press for access. |

Post Lockdown

Further assistance will be provided by North Yorkshire County Council and its partners in dealing with the effects of the incident to all persons involved.

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| Signed: | <i>V Collins</i> |
| Date: | 02.04.25 |
| Review Date: | 02.04.28 |

