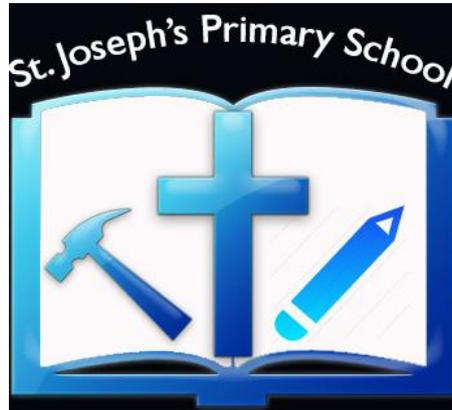


# St. Joseph's Primary School, Meigh



## FIRE SAFETY POLICY

Agreed by Governing Body	October 2018
Review Date	October 2020
Review Schedule	Biennial
Person(s) Responsible	Principal/Safeguarding Team



## **Aims**

It is the overall aim of St. Joseph's Primary School to minimise the risks to pupils, staff and employees which may arise from fire. This will be achieved by working with St. Joseph's School to ensure precautions are taken to avoid fires occurring and by ensuring that procedures for minimising the effects of an outbreak of fire and evacuating the premises are in place.

## **Overall Responsibility for Fire Safety Matters**

The Principal is appointed as the fire safety manager for the school and will have overall responsibility for fire safety matters at the school. He will co-ordinate the implementation of fire safety measures, ensure that staff and pupil training takes place and monitor the standard of fire precautions maintained. He will also ensure that a fire evacuation drill is undertaken at least twice per year, that fire action notices are kept up to date and that fire safety equipment is being maintained.

## **The School Fire Evacuation Procedure**

Notices displaying the school fire procedure will be displayed at each fire alarm call point, in each room and general areas. (appendix A)

## **Responsibility of all School Staff**

All school staff are responsible for maintaining a high standard of fire precautions in areas under their control or influence. In particular, staff should ensure that they are fully aware of the fire procedure. They should ensure that door vision panels and fire exits are kept clear and fire doors are kept shut. They should also ensure that pupils for whom they are responsible are informed of the fire procedure.

## **Fire Risk Assessment**

The school will carry out a fire risk assessment for the building. The fire risk assessments identify who will be at risk if there is a fire, where people may be working and who else may be at risk, either in the premises or nearby, such as members of the public, visiting contractors, etc., and where these people are likely to be located. The fire risk assessment will be reviewed and amended on a six month cycle to see if it is either no longer valid or if any changes are planned, such as:

- any structural changes (alterations to the layout of the premises, erection of partitions, refurbishment etc.) which may affect the spread of fire;
- any change to the use of the premises which may affect the risk rating;
- any change to work processes or work equipment which may introduce new fire hazards;
- any change to the numbers of people using the premises to ensure that escape routes can accommodate the numbers safely.

## Fire Training and Evacuation Drills

All employees shall be provided with adequate fire safety information and training. All staff, whether temporary or permanent, will have the fire procedure explained to them, together with information on the location of the fire alarm call points, the sound of the fire alarm and the location of the escape routes, exits and assembly points. It is the responsibility of the fire safety manager to ensure this instruction is given in accordance with the Checklist below.\*

As part of their induction training, the Fire Safety Manager shall provide new employees on the day on which they commence work with information (emergency plan) on the fire safety and emergency evacuation arrangements that apply to their workplace.

\*This information shall include: -

- what to do if they discover a fire or hear the fire alarm, what the fire alarm sounds likemeans
- of raising the alarm, siting of nearest alarm point and nearest fire extinguisher;
- showing them the fire evacuation routes, emergency exits, means of operating any exit
- devices such as panic bars, and the fire assembly point;
- an explanation of the reporting arrangements in the event of a fire or drill.
- an explanation of the importance of keeping fire doors shut, escape routes clear of
- combustible materials, and good housekeeping etc. as detailed in duties of employees.

Managers shall bring to the attention of employees a copy of the emergency plan detailing the evacuation procedures for the premises. They must ensure that employees under their control comply with the emergency fire evacuation procedures and fire precautions.

The fire safety manager will also ensure that all fire safety records are maintained and are available for inspection by any enforcement authority. The fire safety manager will provide a written report to the Governing Body on an annual basis.

### Personalised Emergency Evacuation Plans (PEEPs)

In the case of any person using the site having a condition that may prevent them from evacuating quickly and safely, the school will devise a PEEP for that person.

### Maintenance of Fire Doors, Fire Exit Doors, Fire Equipment and Systems

Fire extinguishers, fire alarm systems and emergency lighting are maintained under a central contract administered by the Education Authority. However, St. Joseph's Primary School, Meigh will carry out the following tests on the systems and precautions between maintenance visits:

System	Frequency	Method of Test
Fire Alarm	Weekly	Test key operation of different call point each week in rotation
Fire Alarm	Daily	Visual check of panel for fault indications

Emergency Lighting	Monthly	Operation of test switch or circuit breaker and check that light illuminates
Fire extinguishers, hose reels, fire blankets etc.	Weekly	Check that seals are intact, equipment has not been removed or tampered with and annual inspection and maintenance is in date.
Fire Doors	Weekly	Check that doors are closing fully and, where fitted, latches are operating
Corridors, Escape Routes and Fire Exit Doors	Daily	Check exit doors are unlocked and that escape routes are free of obstruction
Fire Exit Doors	Weekly	Check that doors are opening freely and that emergency exit fittings are operating correctly.

### **Appointment and Duties of Fire Marshals**

The school will appoint a number of teaching or administrative staff as fire marshals one of which will be appointed as senior fire marshal (Principal). These staff will have responsibility for ensuring that all areas of the school have been evacuated and that this is reported to the senior fire marshal in charge of the evacuation (see appendix b).

### **Raising the alarm**

In the event of alarm failure a hand bell will be rung in order to raise the alarm. A hand bell will be kept in the staffroom.

### **Calling the Fire Brigade**

It is the school policy that the fire brigade will be called on any confirmed outbreak of fire. The school's office staff are responsible for calling the fire brigade when the alarm is sounded. Where the alarm is raised by the school's automatic smoke detection the school office/ secretary will call the fire brigade if a fire is confirmed, or within 60 seconds of the alarm being raised if a false alarm is not confirmed.

### **Meeting the Fire Brigade**

The fire safety manager is responsible for ensuring that one member of staff is available to meet the fire brigade on arrival and in their absence there is a member of staff to deputise for them.

Events Taking Place Out of School Hours Such as School Plays or External Lettings Where events are organised outside normal school hours, or by outside organisations, it is the responsibility of the

member of staff organising the event or arranging the letting to ensure that the Fire Safety Manager is consulted and appropriate precautions including arrangements for evacuation and calling the fire brigade are put in place.

### **Notices**

All fire exit routes will be signed by clear signs with directional arrows. (Running Man)

### **Records**

Fire Alarm Tests / Practice Fire drills / Maintenance logs etc. will be the responsibility of the Building Supervisor. These records will be kept in the main office.

# FIRE SAFEGUARDING

Any person discovering a fire should:

**Break glass at nearest Fire Alarm Point**

The building should be evacuated as follows:

- Resource Room and Classroom 3 & 4 exit through Resource Room Exit door
- Classroom 2 & 5 exit through the Main Entrance doors
- Classroom 1 exit through their patio doors
- Primary 5 & 6 exit mobiles and proceed to Fire Assembly Area
- Assembly Hall exit through fire exit doors near the stage
- Staffroom exit through door immediately opposite staffroom to playground
- Principal Office & Main Office exit through Main Entrance
- If any exit is in an area affected by fire use the nearest alternative exit

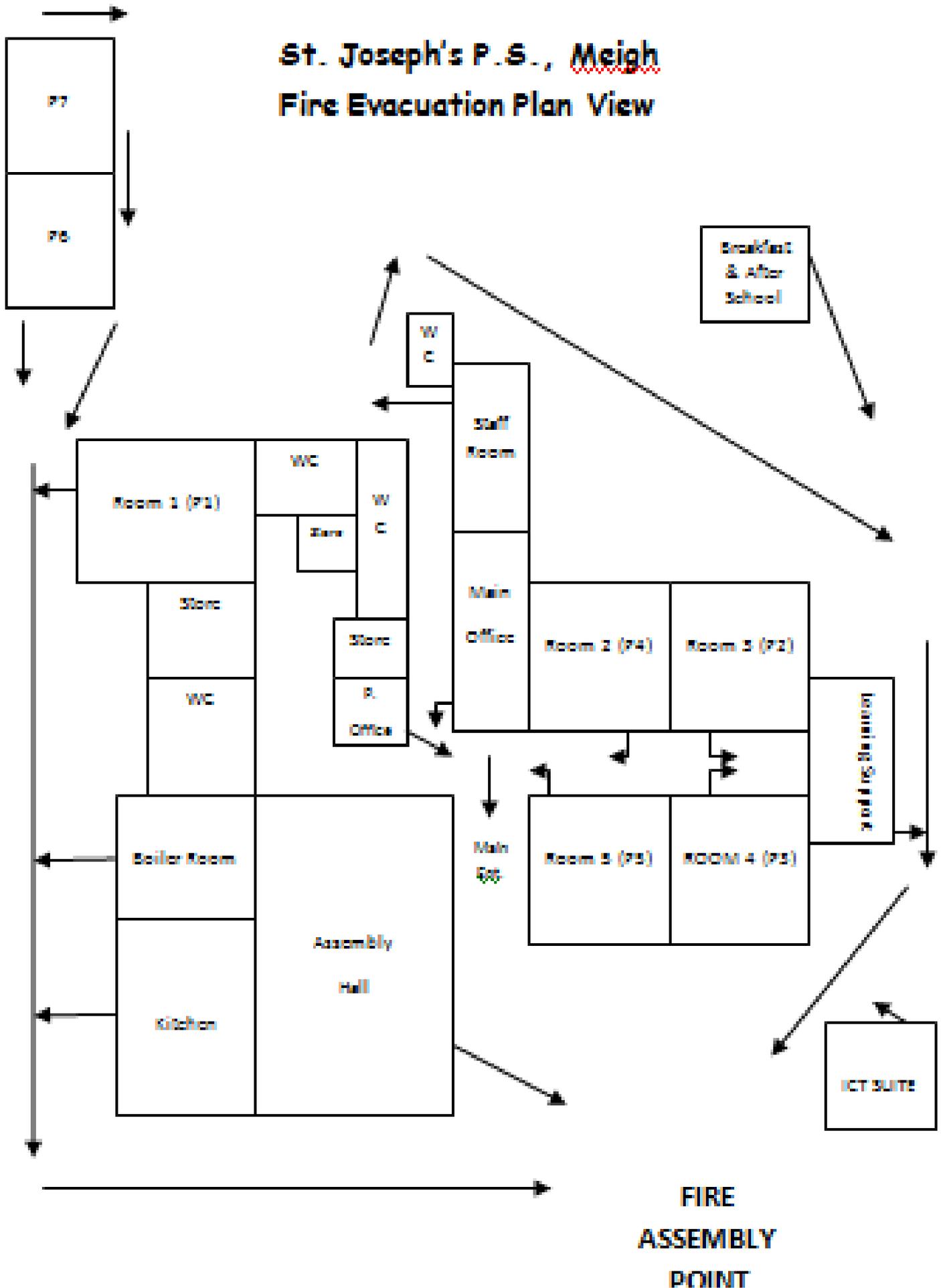
The main assembly point is in the grass area to the front of school (near willow structure)

Class teachers should take their class register with them (do a roll call) and supervise their class until the all clear is given

Office staff to check pupil toilets and School Meals Kitchen

**Do not return to the school building for any reason until instructed to do so**

# St. Joseph's P.S., Meigh Fire Evacuation Plan View



**Appendix B**

Role	Person Responsible	In Case of Absence
Fire Safety Manager	Principal	Vice Principal
Fire Marshals	Building Supervisor Office Staff	SLMT
Calling Fire Brigade	Office Staff	Building Supervisor
Meeting the Fire Brigade	Principal	Vice Principal