



High Risk Areas Policy

Diversity, Equality & Inclusivity Statement:

The commitment to diversity, equality, and inclusivity is at the heart of our values at Austin Friars. Equality means creating an environment where pupils have the chance to achieve their full potential, free from barriers, prejudice, and discrimination. Inclusion is about recognising that each pupil is unique and that their needs can be met in different ways. Diversity means recognising, respecting, and celebrating the added value that differences bring. Our unwavering dedication to our school values – Truth, Love and Unity - is how we fulfil our mission at Austin Friars. It is through our commitment to diversity, equality, and inclusivity that our pupils are empowered to be authentic and succeed.

This policy is the responsibility of the Bursar and will be reviewed biennially.

Aim

The aim of this Policy is to state the School's procedures for controlling or denying unauthorised access by pupils to potentially dangerous or risky areas of School Buildings and grounds.

Introduction

The School, Trustees and Senior Management Team are fully committed to ensuring the safety and welfare of all pupils. On the School site there are areas within the buildings or the grounds that are considered to present risks to the safety of pupils who may accidentally or deliberately stray into them. Such areas include the Design and Technology Dept, Science Labs, Art Dept, Maintenance workshops, areas where building work is going on, scaffolding, car parks etc

Procedures

The School makes every effort to ensure that all potentially dangerous areas are, wherever possible, made secure by fencing, locking, signage or otherwise physically preventing access to them. Areas temporarily out of bounds are, where possible, fenced or cordoned off and/or appropriate warning notices are placed to describe the danger.

Traffic control measures, such as speed bumps and speed limitation signs are in place to manage the risks from vehicle movement around the School. When a large volume of traffic is expected (e.g. for major events), stewards are in place as a further traffic control measure. The school has double yellow lines in place, as well as dedicated pick up and drop off points for the Pre-School children.

All Classroom blocks / Teaching areas are accessed by keypad/code. Pupils are briefed formally, at the start of academic year and periodically, about safety measures in classrooms as appropriate (e.g. Science, Design, Art).

Pupils are not allowed to use the gym or climbing equipment without supervision. (4th, 5th and VI Form pupils are allowed to use the conditioning suite unsupervised having completed an induction session).

Specific Areas out of Bounds to Pupils at all times

- Maintenance Workshops
- Machinery store
- Boiler rooms
- Kitchen Area of Refectories
- Anywhere over 1.5m above ground

Forest School

The Forest School Leader shall identify and clearly demarcate all high-risk areas within the Forest School site prior to each session. These include, but are not limited to:

- Fire circle
- Tool use zones
- Water bodies
- Construction areas

Bursar
September 2025

Reviewed and endorsed by Full Trustees Meeting on: 7 November 2025

Next Review by Trustees: Michaelmas Term 2026