



Premises and Site Security Policy

Keys

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Section No	Table of Contents
Section 1	Supporting Documents
Section 2	Introduction
Section 3	Aim & Scope
Section 4	Abbreviations/Definitions
Section 5	Policy Content
Section 6	Responsibilities
Section 7	Training Requirements
Section 8	Equality Impact Statement
Section 9	Sources of Information / References
Section 10	Version Control (where else is this policy located, i.e. Circle, Radar)
Section 11	Appendices

Section 1 - Supporting Documents

- Health and Safety Policy
- Critical Incidents Policy
- Fire Safety Policy, Procedures & Guidance
- Safeguarding Children in Education Policy
- Supervision of Pupils Policy
- Risk Assessment Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Educational Visits Policy

Related policies are held within Radar in the school's policy folder.

Section 2 - Introduction

At Denby Grange School, we keep our site safe and secure so that pupils, staff and visitors are protected and our pupils can learn in a calm and settled environment. A secure site is part of how we safeguard children. This policy sets out how we control access to our buildings and grounds, how we keep the premises safe, and how we prepare for and respond to a security threat.

We are a special school, and we design our security to fit our pupils. Some of our pupils become distressed and may try to leave a room, a building or the site. Our arrangements keep them safe without making the school feel like a locked or institutional place. We aim for a site that is secure, welcoming and therapeutic at the same time.

Section 3 – Aim and Scope

This policy applies to all staff, governors, pupils, parents and carers, visitors and contractors at Denby Grange School, and to the whole of our site, including buildings, grounds and any premises we use off site. It aims to:

- Keep the site secure and control who can enter our buildings and grounds.
- Make sure the premises are safe, well maintained and fit for our pupils.
- Reduce the risk from intruders, violence and terrorism, and prepare a clear response.
- Balance strong security with a calm, welcoming and therapeutic environment.

It is read with our Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Supervision of Pupils and Critical Incidents policies, which carry the detail of the related procedures.

Section 4 - Abbreviations and Definitions

Site security. The arrangements that control who can enter our buildings and grounds and that keep the premises safe.

Access control. How we manage entry to and exit from the site, for example through locked doors, gates and signing in.

Lockdown. Securing the building and keeping everyone inside and away from a threat. Invacuation means bringing people in from outside as part of a lockdown.

Public protection procedures. Under Martyn's Law, the procedures staff follow if there is reason to suspect a terrorist act, covering evacuation, moving people to safety, controlling who can enter or leave, and communication.

Standard duty premises. Under Martyn's Law, premises where it is reasonable to expect that 200 or more people may be present from time to time. Larger premises where 800 or more may be present are enhanced duty premises.

Section 5 - Policy Content

5.1 Principles and Approach

Our approach rests on the following principles:

Secure and therapeutic - We keep the site secure in a way that fits our pupils and keeps the school calm and welcoming.

Safeguarding first - Site security is part of safeguarding, and we treat it that way.

We know who is here - We control access and we can account for everyone on site. We plan for the worst and practise.

We assess the risks to our premises, including terrorism - We rehearse our response.

Security is integrated - Our counter-terrorism, fire, lockdown and safeguarding procedures work as one system, not separate ones.

Proportionate - We match our security to the real level of risk to our site, and we keep it under review.

5.2 Premises and Site Security in Practice

Controlling access to the site

At Denby Grange School, we control who can enter our buildings and grounds. External doors and gates are kept secure, entry is through a controlled point, and the boundary is maintained so that people cannot enter or leave unseen. We balance this with the needs of our pupils, so that the site is secure without feeling like a locked institution. The arrangements for our site are set out in the annex.

Visitors and contractors

Every visitor and contractor signs in, shows identification where appropriate, is given a badge, and is supervised in line with our Safeguarding Policy. We check the identity and, where required, the vetting of contractors and visiting professionals before they have any contact with pupils. Contractors working on site follow our health and safety and safeguarding rules, and we manage their work so that it does not put pupils at risk.

Knowing who is on site

We keep an accurate record of everyone on site, including pupils, staff, visitors and contractors, so that we can account for everyone in an evacuation or lockdown. This works with our fire and emergency procedures and our Supervision of Pupils Policy.

CCTV and surveillance

Where we use CCTV, we do so lawfully and proportionately to keep the site secure, and we manage the images in line with our Data Protection Policy. We make clear where CCTV is in use.

Keeping the premises safe and maintained

We keep our buildings and grounds safe, clean and properly maintained, in line with Part 5 of the Independent School Standards. We carry out regular premises checks, deal with hazards promptly, and keep records of inspections, servicing and repairs. The detail of premises health and safety is in our Health and Safety Policy.

Counter-terrorism and Martyn's Law

We assess the risk of a terrorist act affecting our site and we put proportionate protective measures and procedures in place. The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, known as Martyn's Law, places duties on premises where 200 or more people may be present from time to time. At Denby Grange School, we assess whether our site meets this threshold, including at events, and we apply the duty where it does. Whether or not the threshold is met, we adopt sensible protective security and public protection procedures as good practice, and we keep our assessment under review as the law comes into force.

Public protection procedures

If there is reason to suspect a terrorist act on or near our site, staff follow our public protection procedures. These cover getting people out by evacuation, bringing people in and securing the building by invacuation and lockdown, controlling who can enter or leave, and communicating quickly with everyone on site and with the emergency services. They are the same procedures we use for other serious threats, and the step-by-step response sits in our critical incidents and emergency plan. We plan them with our pupils in mind so that they prompt a safe response rather than panic.

Public-facing events

When we hold an event that the public can attend, for example a performance, fair or sports fixture, we assess the additional security risk, plan access and supervision, and consider whether the event itself falls within Martyn's Law. The arrangements for each event are recorded with the event planning.

Lone working and out-of-hours security

We have arrangements to keep staff safe when they work alone or out of hours, and to keep the site secure when it is closed, including alarms and secure locking up.

Pupils who try to leave the site

Given the needs of our pupils, some may try to leave the building or site when they are distressed. Our access control reduces the chance of this, and where a pupil has a known risk, we put an individual plan in place. Staff respond with relationship and de-escalation first. The full response to a pupil who is missing on site or who has left the site is in our Supervision of Pupils Policy.

5.3 Recording, Monitoring and Reporting

Premises checks, servicing and security incidents are recorded, and any incident with a safeguarding dimension is recorded on CPOMS. Our premises and counter-terrorism risk assessments are documented and dated. Leadership reviews premises and security risks and incidents, reports to the proprietor and governors, and updates the risk assessments and this policy so that Denby Grange School learns from each incident and from any change in the law.

The school undertakes an annual security risk assessment which includes visitor management, access control, lone working, site vulnerability and counter-terrorism considerations.

5.4 Equality and Inclusion

At Denby Grange School, this policy is applied fairly and in line with the Equality Act 2010. We make sure our premises and security arrangements are accessible to disabled pupils, staff and visitors, and that they do not disadvantage any pupil. Our security is designed to keep pupils safe without restricting them more than is necessary. Any concern that this policy disadvantages a pupil should be raised with the headteacher.

Section 6 - Responsibilities

6.1 Pupils:

- Follow the rules about doors, gates and signing in and out.
- Tell a member of staff if they see a stranger on site or a door or gate left open.

6.2 Staff:

- Follow the access control and signing in arrangements.
- Challenge or report anyone on site who should not be there.
- Keep doors and gates secure.
- Know the lockdown signal and the public protection procedures and act on them.

6.3 Leadership:

- Make sure the site is secure.
- Ensure premises are safe and maintained.
- Ensure premises and counter-terrorism risk assessments are in place and current.
- Ensure staff are trained.
- Lead the response to a security incident.

6.4 Governance:

- Review premises risks and security incidents.
- Proprietors and governors at Denby Grange School make sure the school has effective premises and site security arrangements and that this policy is followed.

6.5 Parents and carers:

- Follow the site's arrangements for entering and leaving the building.
- Wear a visitor badge when asked.
- Do not hold doors or gates open for people they do not know.

6.6 Named leads:

- Responsible person for premises and site security is Jennie Allport – Headteacher.
- Designated Safeguarding Lead is Abigayle Chambers.
- Where Martyn's Law applies to our site, the senior individual responsible for it is Jennie Allport - Headteacher.

Section 7 - Training Requirements

All staff are trained on access control, signing in and out, challenging strangers, and the lockdown and public protection procedures, as part of induction and regular updates. Staff receive counter-terrorism awareness training appropriate to their role, for example the nationally recognised Action Counters Terrorism training, and we rehearse our lockdown and public protection procedures so that staff and pupils can act quickly at Denby Grange School.

Section 8 - Equality Impact Statement

All policies will be developed and implemented in a manner that promotes equality, diversity, and inclusion, ensuring fair and equitable treatment for all individuals. Policies must align with relevant equality legislation and reflect the expectations and standards set by our regulatory bodies. They will demonstrate a commitment to eliminating discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity, and fostering an inclusive environment that respects and values the diverse needs, backgrounds, and experiences of those we support, as well as our workforce.

Section 9 - Sources of Information / References

This policy reflects current statutory guidance and legislation, including:

- The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014, Part 5 on the premises and accommodation of pupils, read with the Independent School Standards guidance (April 2026).
- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974.
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999.
- The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.
- Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, known as Martyn's Law, whose duties are expected to come into force in 2027 after an implementation period, and which is regulated by the Security Industry Authority.
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026, in particular site security and the checks on visitors and contractors.
- Prevent Duty guidance (Home Office).
- Equality Act 2010, so that our premises and security arrangements are accessible to disabled pupils, staff and visitors.
- DfE guidance on emergency planning and response, and on school and college security.

Section 10 - Version Control

This document can be found in Radar.

This policy is reviewed annually, or sooner if legislation or statutory guidance changes, including as the duties under Martyn's Law come into force. The next review date and version history are recorded in the control table above. The named owner for review at Denby Grange School is the headteacher.

Section 11 – Appendices

Appendix A – School Specific Information

Appendix A: School-Specific Information

At Denby Grange School, the following local arrangements apply:

- Site boundaries, gates and controlled entry points:
 - There is a monitored electric gate at the top of the school road for the Denby Grange site.
 - At both Denby Grange and the Annex sites the external school gate and front door are access controlled.
- Visitor and contractor sign-in and badging:
 - All visitors and contractors sign in at reception on both sites and are given a badge, safeguarding procedures and any relevant information they may need for the duration of their visit.
- CCTV locations and management:
 - CCTV is managed by an external company – AC Secure.
 - It films the exterior of the school at both sites for security purposes.
 - At the main Denby Grange site the internal school corridors, school office and meeting room are also covered by CCTV.
 - Data is stored for 28 days.
- Lockdown signal and procedure:
 - 'Lockdown now' will be sent over the walkie talkies (earpieces in use will not alert pupils).
 - The headteacher will call the emergency services on 999 and state the name of the school, the address and the known details about the nature of the threat and the location on the premises.
 - Classroom teachers and TA's will proceed with 'locks, lights, out of sight' immediately on receipt of lockdown signal:
 - Lock the classroom door, close all windows, pull down blinds and cover the viewing panel.
 - Turn of lights, smartboard and anything that emits light.
 - Direct the pupils to be silent and to sit on the floor under the window if the threat is outside of school or by the wall next to the door if the threat is inside school.
 - If the threat arises during a break time and is outside, staff direct the pupils to their tutor rooms and follow the procedure stated above.
 - If the fire alarms sounds, staff and pupils remain locked down unless smoke or fire present as an immediate threat to life.
 - If the threat is inside the building, staff direct the pupils to the assembly point (play area on the circuit in Earnshaw's wood).
 - The lockdown will cease only when the headteacher or appointed person declares the all-clear using the word '**avocado**' spoken twice over the walkie talkie

- Whether the site meets the Martyn's Law threshold, and the public protection procedures:
 - **Denby Grange does not meet the Martyn's Law threshold**, however we work to ensure pupils, staff and visitors are kept as safe as possible.
 - Under Martyn's Law, all qualifying schools in the UK are placed strictly in the **Standard Tier**, regardless of how many pupils or staff they have
 - **Standard Tier**: Covers premises expecting between 200 and 799 **individuals** simultaneously. These venues must put low-cost, basic public protection procedures in place, such as evacuation and lockdown plans.
- Premises lead and senior individual for site security:
 - Jennie Allport - Headteacher
- Pupils with an individual plan for leaving the site: N/A
- Out-of-hours security, alarms and locking up:
 - A member of SLT will always ensure the school is locked securely.
 - AC Secure are our out-of-hours security company who monitor CCTV and the intruder alarm.

Appendix B: Site Security Quick-Reference

Use these steps if there is an intruder or a suspicious person on or near the site. Protect pupils first. Record the incident afterwards.

1. Stay calm and do not approach anyone who may be dangerous. Keep pupils with you and away from the person.
2. Alert the person leading the response and nearby staff. Say where the person is and what they are doing.
3. If there is a threat to people, start lockdown using the agreed signal and follow the public protection procedures. Move pupils away from doors, windows and sight lines.
4. Account for pupils, staff and visitors, and report anyone missing to the person leading the response.
5. Call 999 if there is any threat to safety. Follow the instructions of the police when they arrive.
6. Keep pupils calm, supervised and informed at a level they can manage, and follow individual plans for those who need support.
7. Wait for the all-clear from the person leading the response or the police before returning to normal.
8. Once it is safe, record the incident, inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead, and review what happened to improve the arrangements.