



Chantlers
Primary School

Chantlers Primary School Lockdown Policy

Approved by: Governing Body **Date:** September 2023

Last reviewed on: September 2023

Next review due by: September 2024

As part of a Bury Council directive we have a plan for "lockdowns". Lockdown procedures are important and would be used in response to an internal or external incident which could be a threat to the safety of staff and pupils in the school.

Lockdown procedures may be activated in response to any number of situations, these may be:

1. A reported incident, disturbance in the local community
2. An intruder on the site
3. A warning is being received regarding a local risk of air pollution (smoke plumes, gas clouds etc.)
4. A major fire in the vicinity of the school
5. The proximity of a dangerous dog roaming close

In the event of an actual lockdown, parents will be notified by text message as soon as it is reasonably possible.

Chantlers Primary School Lockdown Procedures

Lockdown procedures should be seen as a sensible and proportionate response to any external or internal incident which has the potential to pose a threat to the safety of staff and pupils in the school. Procedures should aim to minimise disruption to the learning environment whilst ensuring the safety of all pupils and staff.

The school's lockdown plan is as follows

Signals	
Signal for lockdown	Alert to staff: 'Full lockdown' via a siren that is a different, (recognised) sound to the fire alarm. The siren will sound for approximately 30 seconds.
Signal for all clear	The same siren sounds as an alert to "Full lockdown"
Lockdown	
Areas/rooms for lockdown	All classes are to remain in their classrooms. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lock the door • Lock windows • Draw blinds • Take a head count • If possible cover up the glass on the door/s • Keep pupils calm and reassure • Be alert for further communication
Entrance points (e.g. doors, windows) which should be secured	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main External doors • Fire Doors • Internal doors • All windows
Communication arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile phones if accessible
Notes	If someone is taken hostage on the premises, the school should seek to evacuate the rest of the site

Initial Response Lockdown	
All available staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all pupils are inside the school building
Class Teachers SLT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lone pupil, e.g. those who may be going to the toilet or delivering a message to the office etc. are advised to make their way to the nearest lockable area, i.e., office/s toilet cubicle or if safe to do so return to class • Pupils and staff that are on the school field when a lockdown occurs are to exit the field via the gate on the back of the perimeter fencing leading to St Catherine's Park where they are to remain until further notice • To take cover, if necessary under tables
Office staff SLT All staff Site Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lock / secure entrance points (e.g. doors, windows) to prevent the intruder from entering the building • If evacuation of the school office is necessary: take the yellow Emergency bag to a safe area
Office staff SLT Site Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dial Emergency Services • Contact: Pupil, Young People & Culture's senior officers: <p>School's Emergency phone Number:0161 253 6606 Paul Cooke: 0161 253 5674 Rachel Stirk: 0161 253 5685 Carol Gill: 0161 253 6499</p>
All staff Class Teachers SLT Office staff Site Manager SLT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure people take action to increase protection from attack: • Block access points (e.g. move furniture to obstruct doorways) • Sit on the floor, under tables or against a wall • Keep out of sight, draw curtains/blinds • Turn off lights • Stay away from windows and doors • Ensure that pupils, staff and visitors are aware of an exit point in case the intruder does manage to gain access. • If possible, check for missing/injured pupils, staff and visitors • Remain inside until an all-clear has been given, or unless told to evacuate by the emergency services

Procedures

- Staff will be alerted to the activation of the plan through a siren which will ring for approximately 30 seconds
- Pupils who are outside of the school buildings are brought inside as quickly as possible unless this endangers them and others.
- Those inside the school should remain in their classrooms
- All external doors and, as necessary, windows are locked (depending on the circumstances, internal classroom doors may also need to be blocked)
- Once in lockdown mode, staff should notify the office immediately of any pupils not accounted for by mobile phone and instigate an immediate search for anyone missing, (if reasonably possible),
- Staff should encourage the pupils to keep calm
- As appropriate, the school office will establish communication with the Emergency Services and notify Bury Council via mobile phone
- Parents will be notified as soon as it is practicable to do so via text messaging
- Pupils will not be released to parents during a lockdown
- If it is necessary to evacuate the building, the fire alarm will be sounded

It is of vital importance that the school's lockdown procedures are familiar to all members of the school staff. To achieve this, a lockdown drill should be undertaken at least once a year. Depending on their age, pupils should also be aware of the plan. (Regular practices will increase their familiarity).

Partial Lockdown

This may be as a result of a reported incident / civil disturbance in the local community with the potential to pose a risk to staff and pupils in the school. It may also be as a result of a warning being received regarding the risk of air pollution, etc.

Immediate action:

- All outside activity is to cease immediately, and pupils and staff return to the building.
- All staff and pupils remain in the building and external doors and windows locked
- Movement may be permitted within the building depending upon circumstances but this must be supervised by a member of the staff

All situations are different, once all staff and pupils are safely inside, senior staff will conduct an on-going and dynamic risk assessment based on advice from the Emergency Services. This can then be communicated to staff and pupils.

'Partial lockdown' is a precautionary measure but puts the school in a state of readiness (whilst retaining a degree of normality) should the situation escalate.

In the event of an air pollution issue, air vents can be closed (where possible) as an additional precaution. Emergency Services will advise as to the best course of action in respect of the prevailing threat.

Communication between parents and the school

- School lockdown procedures, especially arrangements for communicating with parents, will be shared via the school website.
- In the event of an actual lockdown, any incident or development will be communicated to parents as soon as practicable.

Parents should be given enough information about what will happen so that they:

- Are reassured that the school understands their concern for their child's welfare and that it is doing everything possible to ensure his/her safety
- Do not need to contact the school. Calling the school could tie up telephone lines that are needed for contacting emergency providers
- Do not come to the school. They could interfere with emergency provider's access to the school and may even put themselves and others in danger
- Wait for the school to contact them about when it is safe for them to come and get their child and where this will be from.

In the event of a lockdown, parents will be informed that:

Chantler School is in a full lockdown situation. During this period the switchboard and entrances will be unmanned, external doors locked and nobody allowed in or out".

Emergency Services

It is important to keep lines of communication open with Emergency Services as they are best placed to offer advice as a situation unfolds.

The school site may or may not be cordoned off by Emergency Services depending on the severity of the incident that has triggered the Lockdown.

Emergency Services will support the decision of the Headteacher regarding the timing of communication to parents.

In the event of a prolonged lockdown or more severe scenario, the Bury Council can provide humanitarian assistance by establishing a Reception Centre for friends and family outside of the cordoned area.