

Dove Nest Group Health & Safety Policy

DOVE NEST GROUP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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Approved at full Board Meeting on

Signed: 

Managing Director

V Hannant

Date

General Statement of Policy, Duties & Responsibilities

1.1 Policy Statement

The **Dove Nest Group** recognises and accepts its health and safety duties for providing a safe and healthy working environment (as far as is reasonably practicable) for all its workers (paid or volunteer) and other visitors to its premises under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, the Fire Precautions (Workplace) Regulations 1997, the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, other relevant legislation and common law duties of care.

Throughout this Statement, terms such as “staff”, “workers”, “employees”, refers to paid workers and volunteers, whilst “associates” refers to subcontractors.

The overall and final responsibility for Health and Safety in Dove Nest Group is that of Vince Hannant, (Managing Director). The Health and Safety Representative (Colin Hodgson- Director of Apprenticeship Delivery) is responsible for ensuring all employees throughout the company receive the appropriate health and safety training during their induction, which includes details regarding the company’s policy, procedures, manual handling and appropriate and relevant first aid.

It is the policy of the Company to promote the health and safety of staff, clients, learners, associates and of all visitors to the Company’s venues (“the venues”) and to that intent to:

- Take all reasonably practicable steps to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of all personnel on the premises;
- Provide adequate working conditions with proper facilities to safeguard the health and safety of personnel and to ensure that any work which is undertaken produces no unnecessary risk to health or safety;
- Encourage persons on the premises to co-operate with the Company in all safety matters, in the identification of hazards which may exist and in the reporting of any condition which may appear dangerous or unsatisfactory;
- Ensure the provision and maintenance of plant, equipment and systems of work that are safe;
- Maintain safe arrangements for the use, handling, storage and transport of articles and substances;
- Provide sufficient information, instruction, training and supervision to enable everyone to avoid hazards and contribute to their own safety and health;
- Provide specific information, instruction, training and supervision to personnel who have particular health and safety responsibilities (eg a person appointed as a Health and Safety Officer or Representative);
- Make, as reasonably practicable, safe arrangements for protection against any risk to health and safety of clients, visitors, learners, associates and the general public or other persons that may arise for the company’s activities;
- Make suitable and sufficient assessment of the risks to the health and safety of employees and of persons not in the employment of the Company arising out of or in connection with the Company’s activities;
- Make specific assessment of risks in respect of new or expectant mothers and young people under the age of eighteen;
- Provide information to other employers of any risks to which those employer’s workers on the Company’s premises may be exposed.

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This policy statement and/or the procedures for its implementation may be altered at any time by the Dove Nest Board. The statement and the procedures are to be reviewed annually by the Health and Safety Subcommittee *or by other persons appointed by the Committee*. A report on the review, with any other proposals for amendment to the statement of procedures, is to be made to the next following ordinary meeting of the Dove Nest Board.

1.2 Statutory Duty of the Company

The Dove Nest Group will comply with its duty to ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare at work of its workers and of visitors to its premises and, in general, to:

- Make workplaces safe and without risks to health;
- Ensure plant and machinery are safe and that safe systems of work are set and followed;
- Ensure articles and substances are moved, stored and used safely;
- Give volunteers/ workers the information, instruction, training and supervision necessary for their health and safety.

In particular, the Dove Nest Group will:

- Assess the risks to health and safety of its workers, clients, learners and associates;
- Make arrangements for implementing the health and safety measures identified as necessary by this assessment;
- Appoint someone competent to assist with health and safety responsibilities;
- Draw up a health and safety policy statement; including the health and safety arrangements in force, and bring it to the attention of its workers;
- Set up emergency procedures;
- Take precautions against danger from flammable or explosive hazards, electrical equipment, noise or radiation;
- Avoid hazardous manual handling operations and, where they cannot be avoided, reduce the risk of injury;
- Provide training in accordance with the 1988 COSHH control of substances hazardous to health regulations.
- Ensure the correct procedures are followed during the use and storage of dangerous substances.
- Ensure the correct procedures are followed during the handling and transportation of heavy or bulky items.
- Provide adequate First Aid facilities;
- Ensure that appropriate safety signs are provided and maintained;
- Maintain and inspect vehicles to the manufacturer's recommended standards;
- Make sure that work equipment is suitable for its intended use as far as health and safety is concerned, and that it is properly maintained and used;
- Maintain and inspect the work premises (venues) and the equipment used at work;
- Provide free any protective clothing or equipment, where risks are not adequately controlled by other means;
- Maintain and inspect mechanical and electrical appliances and wiring to the manufacturer's recommendation;
- Provide training in appliance usage and where appropriate the provisions of protective clothing;
- Provide adequate heating, lighting, ventilation, noise control (in accordance with the Control of Noise at Work regulations 1989) and first aid facilities in accordance with the HASAWA;
- Provide adequate toilet and washing facilities in accordance with the HASAWA;
- Record the significant findings of the risk assessment and the arrangements for health and safety measures;

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- Report certain injuries, diseases and dangerous occurrences to the appropriate health and safety enforcing authority;
- Prevent any person operating any vehicles, mechanical or electrical without having first been cleared to do so by a director;
- Ensure that an accident report form is completed on any occasion that requires it;
- Prevent any person handling or transporting heavy or bulky items or using or storing dangerous substances without having first been cleared to do so by a director;
- Provide training to all employees in accordance with the HASAW regulations in order that they may appreciate the hazards which exist in situations not normally associated with their role within the company;
- Prevent any person operating outside their normal jurisdiction or workplace without having first been cleared to do so by a director;
- Ensure employees are aware of fire exits at all places of work and the procedures to follow in the event of a fire;
- Provide safe, clear and well-lit passageways, floors and stairways.

1.3 Statutory Duty of the Company's Workers

All employees should make themselves familiar with the Health and Safety Policy and their own health and safety duties and responsibilities, as shown separately.

It is the duty of all employees to take reasonable care of themselves and others. Employees must not take any action, which could threaten the health and safety of themselves, other employees, clients or members of the public. Employees at all times are obliged to co-operate with the health and safety officers and representatives in order to achieve a healthy and safe environment in which we can work.

Protective clothing and other equipment that may be issued for employee protection because of the nature of their job must be worn at all appropriate times. Failure to do so could be a contravention of the employee's health and safety responsibilities. Once issued, this protective wear is the responsibility of the employee.

When an employee notices a health and safety hazard they must address this immediately. If they are not able to do so they should alert the company's health and safety representatives.

Employees also have legal duties, and the Company confidently requests non-employed (voluntary) workers also to observe these. They include the following:

- To take reasonable care for their own health and safety, and that of other persons who may be affected by what they do or do not do;
- To co-operate with the Company on matters of health and safety;
- To use work items provided by the Company correctly, including personal protective equipment, in accordance with training or instructions;
- Not to interfere with or misuse anything provided for health, safety and welfare purposes;
- To report at the earliest opportunity injuries, accidents or dangerous occurrences at work, including those involving the public and participants in activities organised by the Company;

1.4 Policy for Visitors and Contractors

On arrival all visitors should be met by their host. This person is to take responsibility for the visitor(s) and assist in their evacuation from the building during an emergency or arrange help in the event of an accident.

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On arrival, all visitors, including contractors and/or their workers, must sign a record of the date and time of their arrival and, before leaving, should further record their time of departure.

Contractors working in the building should report any concerns relating to their own safety or suspected unsafe working practices to their host who should inform the Health and Safety representative who will investigate and report to the Company.

1.5 Policy for Learners

On arrival all learners should be given a health and safety briefing by their host at the earliest opportunity. The content of this briefing is specified in the “H&S introduction for Away Venues/ Crosthwaite Mill/ Fallbarrow Hall” documents and includes how to respond to emergencies (Fire and Medical), local hazards and how to contact the company in an emergency. This person remains the primary contact for learners throughout their visit.

In an emergency, the company’s employees are required to take responsibility for the learner(s) and assist in their evacuation from the building during an emergency or arrange help in the event of an accident.

1.6 Policy for Associates

On arrival all associates should be met by their host. This person is to take responsibility for the associate(s) and remains the primary contact for the associate(s) throughout their visit.

On arrival, all associates, including contractors and/or their workers, must sign a record of the date and time of their arrival and, before leaving, should further record their time of departure.

Associates working in the building should report any concerns relating to their own safety or suspected unsafe working practices to their host who should inform the Health and Safety representative who will investigate and report to the Company.

1.7 Responsible Persons

Vince Hannant – Managing Director

Colin Hodgson – Director of Apprenticeship Delivery and Health and Safety Representative

Dave Moore – Chairman

Darren Ready – Technical Manager

Beth Burrow – Financial Director

1.8 Venues

Fallbarrow Hall

The Health and Safety Representative is responsible for the up-keep of the Hall, the co-ordination of health and safety issues, and implementation of the health and safety policy and procedures within the Hall.

Crossthwaite Mill

The Health and Safety Representative is responsible for the up-keep of the Mill, the co-ordination of health and safety issues, and the implementation of the health and safety policy and procedures within the Mill.

Millness Mill

The Health and Safety Representative is responsible for the up-keep of the office, the co-ordination of health and safety issues, and the implementation of the health and safety policy and procedures within the office.

Organisation of Health and Safety

2.1 Health and Safety Committee

The Dove Nest Board will appoint a Health and Safety committee, including representation both of themselves and of staff (both paid and volunteer):

- To have a broad overview of Health and Safety matters;
- To keep the Company's Health and Safety policy and procedures under review;
- To conduct safety tours of the premises;
- To ensure that risk assessments are carried out, including assessments regarding substances hazardous to health (COSHH Regulations);
- To take such action as may be required to ensure that the Company's responsibilities for Health and Safety are fulfilled;
- To report to the Board on their performance of these responsibilities.

Contractors working in the building should report any concerns relating to their own safety or suspected unsafe working practices to the Duty representative of the Committee who will investigate and report to the Company.

Safety Tours

The Health and Safety Committee shall carry out 6-monthly tours and inspections of the premises and make a report to the next ordinary meeting of the Executive team. All necessary actions as a result of the tour shall, where reasonable and practicable, be implemented.

2.2 Health and Safety Rules

All workers must exercise ordinary care to avoid accidents in their activities at work and comply with the following general rules and with any further rules which the Company may publish from time to time.

Accident Forms and Book

The accident book is held in digital format, on the company server. Copies of the form to report accident, incident and near misses are available at all three venues

Any injury suffered by a worker or visitor in the course of employment or otherwise on the Company's premises, however slight, must be recorded, together with such other particulars as are required by statutory regulations, on an accident form maintained by the Company.

Fire Precautions

All personnel must familiarise themselves with fire escape routes and procedures and follow the directions of the Company in relation to fire.

Equipment and Appliances

No equipment or appliance may be used other than as provided by or specifically authorised by or on behalf of the Group/ Company and any directions for the use of such must be followed precisely.

Safety Clearways

Corridors and doorways must be kept free of obstructions and properly lit.

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Maintenance

Defective equipment, furniture and structures must be reported as such without delay.

Hygiene and Waste Disposal

Facilities for the disposal of waste materials must be kept in a clean and hygienic condition. Waste must be disposed of in an appropriate manner and in accordance with any special instructions relating to the material concerned.

Display Screen Equipment (See separate DSE Policy)

The Company recognises its responsibility to ensure the well-being of workers who habitually use display screen equipment for a significant part of their normal work. Volunteers/Workers are advised to ensure that they take a five-minute break from the display screen equipment at least once an hour and are advised that, if they experience vision defects or other discomfort that they believe may be wholly or in part a consequence of their use of such equipment, they have the right to an eye-test at the Company's expense.

Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco

Smoking within the premises and the use of Drugs (except under medical supervision) on the premises are prohibited always. The use of intoxicants (alcohol) is prohibited during working hours, and no employee/volunteer may undertake his/her duties if under the influence of alcohol or drugs (except under medical supervision)

Arrangement and Procedures

The Health and Safety Representative, is responsible for ensuring that the safety policy is carried out and that responsibilities for safety, health and welfare are properly assigned and accepted at all levels. His/her details and contact number will be displayed on the notice boards at each venue

3.1 First Aid and Accident Reporting

3.1.1 First Aid

- A list of trained First Aider(s) for the premises is/are displayed on Notice Boards in the following locations;
 - Fallbarrow – Main corridor on ground floor; Adjacent to First Aid Kit near kitchen
 - Crosthwaite – Adjacent to First Aid Kit near coffee machine
 - Millness - Adjacent to First Aid Kit in kitchen
- First Aid Boxes are provided in the following location(s):
 - Fallbarrow – Adjacent to kitchen; in kitchen; in safety sacks issued to learners; in vehicles
 - Crosthwaite – Adjacent to coffee machine; in kitchen; in staff kitchen; in safety sacks issued to learners; in vehicles
 - Millness - in kitchen

3.1.2 Accidents

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- In the event of an injury or illness, call for a member of staff or ring for an ambulance directly. To call an ambulance – dial 999 and ask for “ambulance”;
- All accidents must be reported to the Health and Safety Officer or another member of staff on duty immediately or as soon as practicable;
- All accidents must be entered on an accident form, available from the technical team, the admin desk at Crosthwaite or on the server G:\Health and Safety\Current documents. The procedures for “notifiable” accidents as shown in Appendix A below must be followed;
- The Health and Safety Representative will investigate incidents and accidents, writing a detailed report for the Company’s Board to consider the actions necessary to prevent recurrence.

3.2 Fire Drills and Evacuation Procedures

3.2.1 Fire Drills

- All workers and volunteers must know the fire procedures, position of fire appliances and escape routes.
- The fire alarm points, fire exits and emergency lighting system will be tested by The Fire Officer/Health and Safety Representative during the first week of each month and entered in the log book provided.
- Fire extinguishers are inspected and checked on an annual basis, by a qualified and appropriate 3rd party. Fire alarms and Emergency lights are checked twice a year by a qualified and appropriate 3rd party.
- The Fire Officer will arrange for Fire Drills and Fire Prevention Checks to be carried out at least once every three months and entered in the log book. In addition, these Drills will be carried out at different times and on different days, so that all users/hirers know the procedures.
- The last person securing the premises will ensure Fire Prevention Close Down Checks are made of all parts of the premises at the end of a session.

3.2.2 in the event of Fire

- Persons discovering a fire should sound the nearest alarm;
- The first duty of all workers is to evacuate the building by the nearest exit immediately the fire is discovered;
- All persons must evacuate the building and, where possible without personal risk, leave all doors and windows closed;
- The assembly point for the venues are
 - Fallbarrow Hall - Adjacent to the exit from the southern car park
 - Crosthwaite Mill - Adjacent to the exit from the western car park
 - Millness Mill - at the east end of the car park
- No-one should leave the assembly point without the permission of a member of staff;
- If **any** fire occurs, **however minor**, the Fire Brigade must be called immediately by dialling 999 and asking for “Fire”;
- When the Fire Brigade arrives advise whether all persons are accounted for and location of fire.

3.2.3 Bomb Warnings

- If you receive a warning try to find out from the caller:

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- i) The approximate location of the bomb and likely time of detonation;
- ii) Whether the police and fire brigade have been notified;
- iii) Try to RECORD EXACTLY WHAT IS SAID:
- Notify the Police immediately on 999;
- DO NOT SOUND THE FIRE ALARM but evacuate the building taking into consideration any information from the bomb warning;
- Assemble in the locations below unless the bomb warning implies otherwise.
 - Fallbarrow Hall - Adjacent to the exit from the southern car park
 - Crosthwaite Mill - Adjacent to the exit from the western car park
 - Millness Mill - at the east end of the car park

3.3 Cleaning Materials, General Machinery and High-Risk Areas

- All portable machinery must be switched off and unplugged when not in use;
- Wandering cables are a hazard; use with caution and safety in mind;
- Slippery floors and dangerous; use warning signs;
- The kitchen areas are to be kept clean and all spills wiped;
- All gangways and fire escapes are to be kept clear;
- Use protective clothing and equipment provided and as instructed on machinery/equipment/material. It is the duty of a worker to report any loss of or defect in protective clothing or equipment.

3.4 General

- All thoroughfares, exits and gates must be left clear at all times;
- Corridors and fire exits must not be blocked by furniture or equipment;
- Vehicles must not be parked near to the building so as to cause any obstruction or hazard;
- Hazards or suspected hazards or other health and safety matters should be reported to the Health and Safety Officer or the staff member on duty immediately or as soon as practicable, so that action can be taken. If the hazard is of a serious nature, immediate action must be taken to protect or clear the area to prevent injury to staff or other users.
- Visitors and Contractors spending more than one day in the office must be made aware of the fire escape routes and procedures. This is the responsibility of their host.

Appendix

APPENDIX A – ACCIDENT REPORTING

1. Accidents

All accidents which occur during work for the Company and/or for the User/Hirer, or on premises under the control of the Company must be recorded.

2. Accidents to Workers or Contractor's Staff

- a) For ALL Accidents

Complete Accident Form and give to Health & Safety Representative

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b) For accidents reportable to the Health & Safety Executive

If accident results in incapacity for work for more than 3 calendar days then complete the online form F2508 with copies to the Managing Director.

If accident results in fatality, fracture, amputation or other specified injury (see section 4, below) then **immediately notify**:

Health & Safety Executive on HSE's Infoline Tel: 0345 300 9923 **And** the Managing Director

Follow up within seven days with completed online form F2508 with copies to the Managing Director

- c) If a reportable accident involves a contractor's employee and the premises are under the control of someone other than the contractor then the person in control of the premises is responsible for reporting the accident.

If a contractor's employee is at work on premises under the control of the contractor then it is the contractor or someone acting on his/her behalf who is responsible for reporting the accident.

3. Accidents to Members of the Public

1. For ALL Accidents

Complete Accident Form and give to Health & Safety Representative

2. For accidents reportable to the Health & Safety Executive

If an accident results in fatality, fracture, amputation or other specified injury (see section 4 below) then **immediately notify**:

Health & Safety Executive, Incident Contact Centre, 0345 300 9923 **And** the Managing Director

Some injuries may not be fully identified until the casualty has been to hospital. It is therefore essential that, if it is known that an individual has gone to hospital as a result of an accident, follow up action is carried out.

4. Definition of Specified Major Injuries or Conditions

- Fractures, other than to fingers, thumbs and toes
- Amputations
- Any injury likely to lead to permanent loss of sight or reduction in sight
- Any crush injury to the head or torso causing damage to the brain or internal organs
- Serious burns (including scalding) which:
 - Covers more than 10% of the body
 - Causes significant damage to the eyes, respiratory system or other vital organs
- Any scalping requiring hospital treatment
- Any loss of consciousness caused by head injury or asphyxia
- Any other injury arising from working in an enclosed space which:
- Leads to hypothermia or heat-induced illness

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- Requires resuscitation or admittance to hospital for more than 24 hours

IF IN DOUBT REPORT IT

5. Dangerous Occurrences

In the event of any of the following:

- Collapse/Overturning of machinery
- Explosion/collapse of closed vessel/boiler
- Electrical explosion/fire

Notify the following immediately:

Health & Safety Executive, Incident Contact Centre.

All incidents can be reported online but a telephone service remains for reporting fatal and major injuries only - call the Incident Contact Centre on 0345 300 9923 (opening hours Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 5 pm). **And** the Managing Director

6. Occupational Diseases

- Poisoning
- Skin Diseases
- Lung Diseases
- Infections

On receipt of a written diagnosis from a Doctor, report the disease using online form F2508A to:

hse.infoline@natbrit.com **And** the Managing Director

Full details of Dangerous Occurrences and Occupational Diseases can be found in HSE RIDDOR Booklets 11 and 17.

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We request that our Staff, Clients, Learners, Associates and Visitors respect this Policy, a copy of which will be available on demand.