



# **Risk Assessment Policy**

**By Paddy Sandham, Principal**

## **Risk Assessment Policy Statement**

Cambian Whinfell School undertakes rigorous risk assessments of the buildings, all activities undertaken by our young people and staff, and the risk that the young people could present to themselves or others. It also assesses the people within the building and the buildings contents, including a comprehensive fire risk assessment document. These documents help to ensure that no one, (pupils, staff or visitors,) are subjected to unnecessary hazards within the school and it's grounds or while taking part in off-site activities. All gas, electrical installations, boilers, fire-fighting equipment, fire alarms, water temperatures and risk of legionella, safety of electrical appliances and emergency lighting systems are checked to BS standards on a rolling programme of inspection and maintenance.

Risk assessments are carried out when necessary and reviewed at least annually by the Principal, (this review may be more often than annually if necessary, e.g. change in the facilities.)

We use two different processes for risk assessments so we can adopt the most appropriate model to the task in hand:

- The process used to risk assess the buildings and activities is the 'likelihood x severity = risk' model. This model is used as it draws staff into thinking analytically about the risks involved in an activity
- The model used to assess young people's risks to themselves and others is a sliding scale from 0 – 3 to indicate the 'level of risk'. This model is used because it is a single digit so very clearly illustrates a heightening or lowering of a risk at a particular point

The Principal or Registered Manager oversee the writing of all risk assessments. They enforce and closely monitor their implementation and effectiveness. No venue is visited or activity undertaken without a risk assessment in place.

Through the school induction process, both staff and pupils know the schools emergency evacuation procedures, including those at night time, the practice of which is logged in the school fire log. All staff are made aware of the risk assessment process, the writing of risk assessments and how these link in to the care and education that we provide at Cambian Whinfell during their induction