



Policy Title:	LETTINGS POLICY	
Author:	Head of Operations	Signed off by the Head
Date of most recent review:		October 2024
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1. INTRODUCTION

The Governing Body make every reasonable effort to ensure the school building and grounds are available for community use. However, the overriding aim of the Governing Body is to support the school in providing the best possible education for its pupils. Any lettings of the premises to outside organisations will be considered with this in mind.

1.1 DEFINITION OF A LETTING

A letting may be defined as ‘any use of the school premises by either a community group or a commercial organisation’, regardless of whether a letting fee is charged. It must not interfere with the primary activity of the school, which is to provide a high standard of education for all its pupils.

1.2 CHARGES FOR A LETTING

The Head of Operations is responsible for setting the charges for the letting of the school premises and full details will be provided upon request.

2. APPLYING TO USE THE SCHOOL

Applying to use the school premises should be made to the Head of Operations and the Letting Agreement should be completed 21 days before first use, wherever possible.

The Head of Operations will resolve any conflicting requests for the use of the premises, with school functions always receiving priority.

The Head of operations is responsible for the management of lettings, in accordance with the School’s policy, but the Head retains overall responsibility.

If the Head/Head of Operations have any concern about the appropriateness of a particular request for a letting, he/she will consult the Chair of Governors, who has the authority to determine the issue on behalf of the Governing Body.

The Governing Body has the right to refuse an application and no letting should be regarded as 'booked' until approval has been given in writing. No public announcement of any activity or function taking place should be made by the organisation concerned until the booking has been confirmed in writing.

3. LETTING AGREEMENT

Once a letting has been approved, a letter will be sent to the hirer, confirming the details of the letting, along with a copy of the terms and conditions (Appendix A) and the letting agreement (Appendix B).

The letting agreement needs to be signed and returned to the School before the letting can take place. It should be signed by a named individual and the agreement should be in their name, giving their permanent private address.

The named individual applying to hire the premises will be invoiced for the cost of the letting.

All letting fees will be paid into the School's bank account to offset the costs of services, staffing etc.

3.1 TERMINATION OF LETTING AGREEMENT

The Head/Head of Operations or the Chair of the Governing Body, has the immediate power to terminate any letting agreement relating to the hire of the school premises, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the model agreement attached.

4. SAFEGUARDING

- 4.1** The Hirer shall ensure that all staff/volunteers providing or offering a service on behalf of the Hirer;
- Comply with the requirements set out in the "Keeping Children Safe in Education September 2003" guidance.
 - Are familiar with and agree to follow the requirements of the School's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy – this policy can be found on the School's website.
 - Where services or activities are not under the direct supervision or management of the school, the School will require sight of the hirer's Child Protection and Safeguarding policy.
 - **In the event that an allegation is made relating to an incident that occurred on School premises, the hirer must notify the School's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), Tom Southee – telephone 01483 277313 or email tsouthee@dokschool.org within 24 hours noting that the School may be required to notify the LADO and any other relevant agencies and follow the safeguarding procedures set out in the School's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.**
- 4.2** The Hirer will ensure that where relevant for the role, all staff/volunteers providing or offering a service on behalf of the Hirer are subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Scheme check (Enhanced DBS check) including a "children's barred list" check and subscribe to the Disclosure and Barring Scheme Update Service at the point of

renewing their Disclosure and Barring Scheme Certificate and maintain their registration at all times during the Hire Period.

- 4.3** The Hirer will ensure that all staff who will be present or have a position of responsibility whilst on school premises have completed basic safeguarding and health and safety training relevant to children to include updates within the last year, or have received an appropriate briefing regarding safeguarding.
- 4.4** The Hirer will ensure that regular performance reviews are undertaken to check the suitability and training requirements of staff and volunteers after their appointment.
- 4.5** The Hirer will conduct a risk assessment based on the proposed activities and to provide first aid supplies that relate to the risk assessment (no medical cover or equipment will be provided by the school), with risk assessments reviewed and updated annually, or earlier if the circumstances or public health advice changes, and put in place active arrangements to monitor whether the controls for managing risks are effective and working as planned.
- 4.6** The Hirer will ensure that an emergency plan is in place to respond effectively to an emergency whilst on school premises and to have a fire safety and evacuation plan in place. Please liaise with the Head of Operations for any help in this respect.
- 4.7** The Hirer will ensure that a complaints procedure is in place that includes provision for children, young people and families to raise a safeguarding concern, together with a whistleblowing policy so that staff can raise concerns about the maltreatment of any children and a staff behaviour policy.
- 4.8** If for any reason the Governors are not satisfied that the above safeguarding conditions are being complied with, then they reserve the right to cancel any hiring and there shall be no liability to the Hirer other than to refund any hiring fee.



Appendix A

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF LETTING OF THE SCHOOL PREMISES

These terms and conditions must be complied with.

The 'hirer' shall be the named individual on the letting agreement and this person will be personally responsible for payment of all fees or other sums due in respect of the letting.

1. STATUS OF THE HIRER

Lettings will not be made to persons under the age of 18, or to any organisation or group with an unlawful or extremist background.

The letting agreement is personal to the hirer only, and nothing in it is intended to have the effect of giving exclusive possession of any part of the school to them or of creating any tenancy between the school and the hirer.

2. DISCLOSURE AND BARRING SERVICE CHECKS

It may be necessary for the hirer to undergo a disclosure and barring services check via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). If a particular letting involves contact with children and young people, it is the responsibility of the hirer to ensure that they have complied with the appropriate safeguarding and vetting checks including the provision of Enhanced DBS checks for all their staff/volunteers.

When there is a requirement for DBS checks to be undertaken, the hirer must keep appropriate records and report to the School any safeguarding concerns which may arise.

The hirer will be required to provide evidence that DBS checks have been carried out on request.

Please see safeguarding section in the School's Lettings policy for further details.

3. INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE

Lettings are made on the agreement that the Governing Body are indemnified by the hirer against any loss, damage, costs and expenses during the use of the school premises by the hirer except where such loss, damage costs and expenses are directly attributable to the negligence of the employees of the Governing Body (refer to Lettings Indemnity Form – Appendix C).

The hirer shall insure, with a reputable insurance office, against such funds as the hirer may become liable to pay as compensation, arising out of bodily injury or illness (fatal or otherwise) to any person and/or costs, fees, expenses, loss or damage caused to property or the premises by any act or

neglect of himself, his servants, agents, or any person resorting to the premises by reason of the use of the premises by the hirer.

The insurance cover should provide a sufficient indemnity limit in respect of any one incident and to include liability for the premises including liability for fire and explosion risks arising from the let of the premises.

The hirer shall produce the policy of insurance and receipts for the current premium or premiums upon request by the Head/Head of Operations or Governing Body within seven days of a request.

The School will not be responsible for any injury to persons or damage to property arising out of the letting of the premises.

4. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

The hirer must not do or permit any act, matter or thing which would, or might, constitute an illegal or immoral activity affecting the school premises or which would, or might, vitiate in whole or in part any insurance affected in respect of the premises from time to time.

5. LICENSES AND PERMISSIONS

The hirer shall be responsible for obtaining any public licenses necessary in connection with the booking and should confirm with the school the licenses they hold.

Permission or license must be obtained from the copyright owner, the owner of the sound recordings (if appropriate) and the publisher for any public performance of music, musicals, operas, or stage plays. The borrowing of music scores or plays from a local library does not constitute permission to perform.

Regulated entertainment, public music, singing and dancing can only take place on premises which have a Premise's License authorising entertainment, or by applying for a Temporary Event Notice.

Hirers are reminded that it is illegal to photocopy music or plays without the express permission in writing of the copyright holder except in certain circumstances. Any infringement of this is liable to prosecution.

The hirer shall indemnify the Governors against all sums of money which the Governors may have to pay by reason of an infringement of copyright or performing right occurring during the period of hire covered by this agreement.

6. PUBLIC SAFETY

All conditions attached to the granting of the license, stage play or other licenses and the School's health and safety policy shall be strictly observed. Nothing shall be done which will endanger the users of the building, or invalidate the policies of insurance relating to it and its contents. In particular:

- a) Obstructions must not be placed in gangways or exits, nor in front of emergency exits, which must be available for free public access and exit at all times
- b) Fire – fighting apparatus shall be kept in its proper place and only used for its intended purpose

- c) The fire brigade shall be called to any outbreak of fire, however slight, and details of the occurrence shall be given to the Head or Head of Operations.
- d) The hirer is responsible for familiarising his/herself with the procedure for evacuation of the premises, the escape routes, assembly points, and shall be familiar with the fire-fighting equipment available and this should be incorporated into a plan – see 5.6 of the School’s Lettings Policy under “Safeguarding”.
- e) Performances involving danger to the public shall not be permitted
- f) Highly flammable substances shall not be brought into, or used, in any part of the premises. No internal decorations of a combustible nature (e.g. polystyrene, cotton, hay, etc.) shall be undertaken or erected without the consent of the Head/Head of Operations.
- g) No unauthorised heating appliances shall be used on the premises
- h) All electrical equipment brought into the building shall be subject to regular PAT testing and certification provided in evidence. The intention to use any electrical equipment must be notified on the hire application form. The Governing Body disclaim all responsibility for all claims and costs arising out of or in any way relating to such equipment.
- i) Adequate supervision must be provided to maintain order and good conduct, and, where applicable, the hirer must adhere to the correct adult/pupil ratios at all times when these are specified for particular activities, e.g. by national governing bodies of sports, scouts etc.
- j) Appropriate footwear to be worn in the Sports Hall and on the All-weather pitch. Pitch side rules must also be followed for the All-weather pitch.

7. THE HIRER’S RESPONSIBILITIES

The hirer must inform the school of any fault, damage or other problems with the premises or equipment encountered during the letting.

No part of the premises is to be used otherwise than for the purpose of the premises requested.

No part of the premises requested is to be used for any unlawful purpose or in any unlawful way.

7.1 OWN RISK

It is the hirer’s responsibility to ensure that all those attending are made aware of the fact that they do so in all respects at their own risk.

7.2 FIRST AID FACILITIES

It is the responsibility of the hirer to make their own first aid arrangements, such as the provision of a first aid kit, and the provision of first aid training for supervising personnel, particularly in the case of sports lettings. There is no legal requirement for the School to provide first aid facilities and use of the School’s resources is not available.

7.3 FURNITURE AND FITTINGS

Furniture and fittings shall not be removed or interfered with in any way. Nor shall they be rearranged except by prior agreement and will be subject to reinstatement at the end of each session of use. No fittings or decorating of any kind necessitating drilling, or the fixing of nails or

screws into fixtures which are part of the school fabric, is permitted. In the event of any damage to premises or property arising from the letting, the hirer shall pay the cost of any repair required.

Hall floors are used by children for physical education and no substance is to be applied to floors to prepare them for dancing or any other activity. No footwear liable to damage floors may be worn in school buildings. If activities involve outdoor use, participants should ensure footwear is cleaned before re-entering the building.

7.4 FOOD AND DRINK

No food and drink may be prepared or consumed on the property without the direct permission of the Head in line with current food hygiene regulations.

7.5 KITCHEN/FOOD PREPARATION, FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

The School's kitchen facilities and equipment are not available to hire.

7.6 INTOXICATING LIQUOR

No intoxicating liquors are permitted to be bought, sold or consumed on any part of the premises without the permission in writing of the Head, whose written consent must also be obtained prior to seeking any Temporary Event notice for the sale of alcoholic liquor from the local Licensing Authority. All evidence of intoxicating liquor must be removed from the premises at the end of the letting.

7.7 SMOKING

The whole of the school premises, which includes the grounds, is a non-smoking area, and smoking is not permitted.

7.8 BETTING, GAMING AND LOTTERIES

Nothing shall be done on, or in relation to, the premises in contravention of the law relating to betting, gaming and lotteries, and the persons or organisations responsible for functions held in the premises shall ensure that the requirements of the relevant legislation are strictly observed.

7.9 NUISANCE/DISTURBANCE

Hirers and organisers of events in the school premises are responsible for ensuring that the noise level of their function does not interfere with the other activities within the building nor to cause inconvenience for the occupiers of nearby houses or property.

7.9 DISPOSAL OF WASTE

The hirer must comply with the School's arrangements for disposal of any rubbish or waste materials using the waste bins provided.

7.10 ANIMALS

Dogs are permitted within the School grounds (not buildings) although must be kept on a lead and there is a strict policy of no dog fouling.

7.11 RULES

The hirer shall comply with any rules and regulations which the Governing Body shall make from time to time.

7.12 CHARGES AND CANCELLATIONS

The hirer acknowledges that the charges are as set out in the letting agreement, including any review arrangements specified. The letting may be cancelled, provided that in each circumstance at least 28 days' notice either way is given. It is the hirer's responsibility to notify people appropriately of any changes in dates or venues at least a week in advance.

The Governing Body will not accept any responsibility for any loss, or other expenses however incurred by the hirer, in the event of a cancellation by the Governing Body of the letting as a result of circumstances beyond its control (including, without prejudice to the generality of the same, industrial action by its employees, or others, oil shortage, failure of electricity/gas supply). The decision of the Governing Body as to whether a letting should be cancelled shall be binding on the hirer.

Where payment for the hiring of the school facilities is not reached by the prescribed deadlines, and/or without prior agreement by the Head of Operations, the Governing Body reserves the right to terminate the letting with notice of one week. The Governing Body will not accept any responsibility for any loss, or other expenses, however incurred by the hirer, in the event of the cancellation of the letting as a result of the circumstances described above. The decision of the Governing Body as to whether a letting should be cancelled shall be binding on the hirer.

It is the hirer's responsibility to notify its club members appropriately of the withdrawal of the school facilities in the event of the letting being cancelled for the reason outlined above

7.13 SUB-LETTING

The hirer shall not sub-let the premises, underlet or share possession with any other parties.

7.14 STORAGE ANCILLARY TO THE LETTING

The permission of the Head/Head of Operations must be obtained before goods or equipment are left or stored on the premises, except that the Head/Head of Operations is authorised to grant permission for the overnight storage of goods and equipment brought to the school for a particular event.

7.15 LOSS OF PROPERTY

The Governing Body cannot accept responsibility for damage to, or the loss or theft of, hirer's property and effects. It is the responsibility of the hirer to make his/her own insurance arrangements if required.

7.16 CAR PARKING

Cars shall not be parked so as to cause an obstruction at the entrance to, or exits from, the school. In particular, the Hirer must ensure that access to the school by emergency vehicles is not obstructed or delayed and parking on the main drive is strictly forbidden. Where parking accommodation is available (Lower Car Park) this must be used, and users of the School should avoid undue noise on arrival and departure.

7.17 TOILET FACILITIES

Access to the designated School's toilet facilities is included as part of the letting arrangements.

7.18 ACCESS TO BUILDINGS

The building is accessed by means of a code unique to the hirer and this will be provided by the Head of Operations. This code should only be shared on a "need to know basis" and not with any children.

7.19 RIGHT OF ACCESS

The Governing Body reserves the right of access to the premises during the letting for emergency or monitoring purposes (The Head/Head of Operations or members of the Governing Body may monitor activities from time to time).

7.20 VACATION OF PREMISES

The hirer shall ensure that the premises are vacated promptly at the end of the letting session and is responsible for supervising any children taking part in an activity until they are collected by a responsible adult.

Upon leaving the building, the hirer should ensure that any exit doors are fully engaged on their magnetic locks.



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APPENDIX B

LETTING AGREEMENT

(Please complete this form in block capitals)

Facilities required:

Other requirements:
(e.g. chairs set out, equipment, etc.)

Dates and times:

Purpose of letting:

Name of organisation:

Full name of hirer:

Address of hirer:

.....

.....

Contact Number.....

Signature of hirer:

Date:

Please complete and return to the school at least 21 days before the event. We will confirm the booking and notify you of the charges. You will need to send copies of any licenses required on confirmation.

Head/Head of Operations acceptance of booking

Signed Date



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LETTINGS INDEMNITY FORM

INSURANCE COVER – To comply with the conditions of the hiring agreement.

I hereby indemnify the school against any claims made against it arising from the use of hired premises. In addition, I accept responsibility for any claims the school may have for any damage to its property arising from its use during my hire.

I maintain a Public Liability Insurance Policy, the details of which are as under:

Policy Number Expiry Date

Name and Address of Insurance Company:

.....
.....
.....
.....

Indemnity Limit:

Signature: Date:



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SAFEGUARDING

The hirer agrees that systems are in place with regards to safeguarding measures as per the Lettings Policy (Section 4.1 to 4.8 refers):

Name:

Name of Organisation:

Purpose of Letting:

Date:

Signature:

DECLARATION (Please read before signing)

I have received a copy of the Lettings policy and Terms and Conditions for the Letting of School Premises and agree to be bound by them. I agree to pay the charges due as required and hereby certify that the premises and grounds will be used only for the purpose stated.

I am over 18 years of age.

Signature Date of application

NAME (BLOCK CAPITALS)