

South Gloucestershire and Stroud College

Trip Policy and Procedures

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Date:	03/11/2021			

SGS College Trip Policy and Procedures

1. Policy Intent

1.1 As an employer, South Gloucestershire and Stroud (SGS) College is responsible for ensuring so far as is reasonably practicable the health, safety and welfare of its employees and other people who may be affected by its activities. These duties extend to assessing the risks arising from Trips and ensuring implementation of the appropriate control measures to comply with Health and Safety legislation.

2. Policy Scope

- 2.1. This Policy must be followed when any trip or offsite lessons are organised at the College, regardless of the trip type, duration or whether in the UK or abroad. It applies to all Governors, College Employees and learners.
- 2.2 The procedure describes the planning process for trips or offsite lessons, it contains the formal documentation (including a Risk Assessment) that must be completed and authorised by the appropriate College Management in order to gain formal approval.

3. Our core commitments

- 3.1. SGS is committed to keeping children and young people safe in education and recognises that a 'child' is anyone under the age of 18.
- 3.2. Through the operation of this policy we will ensure that our employees and learners understand the nature of Trips they may engage with and the measures in place to reduce risk.

4. Policy Implementation

4.1 Implementation of the Trip Policy will be monitored by the Senior Leadership Team and the Finance department as part of the College's Quality and Improvement Strategy.

5. Enforcement

5.1 Failure to adhere to this Policy will result in Disciplinary Action.

6. Fundamental Steps Stakeholders must take

- 6.1 Before engaging in Trips of any duration, all stakeholders must identify, read, and ensure they understand and comply with the practice outlined in the procedures annexed to this Policy.
- 6.2 Before engaging in Trips of any duration, stakeholders must ensure that all relevant consents and permissions have been obtained, inclusive of details of those attending the Trip and those authorising the Trip to proceed.

7. Related Policies, Procedures, Charters, Plans, Guidance and Legislation

Note: This list is not intended to be exhaustive or exclusive

Staff	Learners
Health and Safety Policy	Application, admissions and enrolments policy and procedure
SGS College Risk Assessment Procedure	Anti-bullying and harassment policy and procedure
SGS College minibus Procedure	Curriculum strategy
Disciplinary Policy and Procedure	Disciplinary policy and procedure
Administration of Medication Procedure	Students as partners policy and procedure
Safeguarding children, young persons and vulnerable adults Policy	Work experience and volunteer's policy and procedure
Data Privacy and Protection Policy	College Administration of Medication Procedure
Professional Boundaries Guidelines	
Abuse of Trust Policy	
College Administration of Medication Procedure	

The above policies and procedures, (relevant to this Policy), can be located on the SGS College Sharepoint Data Hub.

SGS College Trip Policy and Procedures

Annex A - Trip Approval Process

- The Trip Organiser is responsible for ensuring that ALL completed documentation is sent for approval to the appropriate LAM and HoF.
- The Approval Form
 https://sgscol.sharepoint.com/sites/staff/Hub/Lists/TripApprovals/AllItems.aspx
 gives detailed information on the names of learners and staff attending, medical conditions, religious considerations, transport used, rooms vacated, emergency contact details for every staff member and learner and accommodation details. This can be completed after the full list of learners is known, i.e. after initial deposits have been paid by learners.
- The Approval Form has the capacity to complete a Risk Assessment (for trips and activities under the direct supervision of College staff) and/or to attach a Risk Assessment supplied by third parties where they will be responsible for supervising aspects of the trip or any of the planned activities.
- A Risk Assessment must be completed for all trips (available on Sharepoint (see step 2
 of the 'organising a trip' section on Sharepoint). The object of the Risk Assessment is
 to identify the foreseeable hazards associated with the trip and to ensure that suitable
 controls have been selected in order to reduce the risk to an acceptable level.
- The Risk Assessment should record the significant risks identified for the trip and must include any activities under the direct supervision of College staff.
- The Risk Assessment must remain valid for the period of the trip and reflect current knowledge of the activity therefore, staff must be prepared to review the Risk Assessment during the trip should conditions change significantly.
- Staff must be competent to carry out Risk Assessments training can be arranged through Ellis Whittam.
- Where appropriate, an exploratory trip can be beneficial if economically viable to do so, so that potential hazards can be observed and appropriate control measures introduced. However, if this is not feasible then the Trip Organiser should, as a minimum measure, obtain specific information from the venue, Tourist Information, etc. so as to ensure a suitable and sufficient Risk Assessment is completed for the trip. This should include any licensing documentation relating to specific activities covered under the Adventure Activity Licensing Regulations 2004, e.g. caving, trekking. A college Risk assessment must be completed and those supplied by the venue used to develop this, and not serve as a replacement to the College Risk Assessment.
- The Risk Assessment should consider:
 - ✓ The location, routes and modes of transport, including:
 - ✓ Passenger safety;
 - ✓ Competence and training of driver, inclusive of appropriate valid licence;
 - ✓ Number of driving hours required and length of driving day;

- ✓ Type of journey;
- ✓ Contingency in case of breakdown;
- ✓ Stopping points;
- ✓ Supervision, competence, experience and qualifications required;
- ✓ Special educational or medical needs of learners and staff. Any limitations or issues should be considered and incorporated into the Risk Assessment;
- ✓ Religious considerations for learners and staff;
- ✓ Seasonal conditions, weather and timing;
- ✓ Supervision, including remote supervision arrangements;
- ✓ Telephone numbers and emergency contacts if lost;
- ✓ Money;
- ✓ Maps/plans and any other information for them to act effectively;
- ✓ Location of local phones and appropriate actions;
- ✓ A knowledge of how to summon help;
- ✓ A knowledge of restricted areas and activities; and
- ✓ Identity cards and a rendezvous point.
- As stated, Risk Assessments must also consider learners with special educational or medical needs, and arrangements for coping with any emergencies, this is particularly important in remote areas or for hazardous activities.
- The Risk Assessment controls, where appropriate, can also include details on:
 - ✓ Any particular equipment required;
 - ✓ Communication arrangements (loan phones are available from Reception);
 - ✓ Competency of supervising staff;
 - ✓ Emergency procedures (including provision of First Aid staff should the need be identified). Regardless of risk, there must always be formal arrangements in place to cover First Aid for low risk, local trips, it may be appropriate to "appoint" someone to take charge in an emergency (in effect, responsible for calling the emergency services) rather than to take a fully qualified First Aider.

Annex B - Itinerary

- A full itinerary for all trips over one day must be completed within the Trip Approval Form.
 https://sgscol.sharepoint.com/sites/staff/Hub/Lists/TripApprovals/AllItems.aspx
 This allows authorising Management to check Risk Assessments are in place for all activities planned during the trip.
- It is also however, important that even where trips are short, e.g. of one day or less, that emergency arrangements are included within the Risk Assessment.
- Trip Organisers must ensure they have a copy of the relevant Approval Form (including Risk Assessment) and list of learner details with them during the trip and emergency contact details for the College Management should an issue arise.

Annex C - Supervision

- When considering supervision on trips, it is paramount that there is a high enough ratio
 of supervisors to learners. Factors that need to be considered include: gender, age,
 ability, special educational needs, medical needs, religious considerations, disabilities,
 behavioural history, nature of activities, duration of journey and type of accommodation.
- Staffing ratios are difficult to prescribe, as there are many variables that need to be considered. However, as a very general guide:
- DAY TRIP At least one staff member for day trips for every 20 learners;
- RESIDENTIAL At least one staff member for residential trips for every 10 learners.
 Note For residential, or where medical conditions / disabilities dictate, supervision and/or First Aid arrangements must include staff of the same gender as the learner;
- ABROAD Trips abroad require one extra member of staff for contingency planning, e.g. supporting a learner who needs to return home;
- Staff cannot include family members, their own children or partners on trips without the express approval of their Head of Faculty.

Annex D - Register Details

- A register of all attendees (staff and learners) must be completed for all trips the Trip Approval System will not progress your proposed trip without this information.
- A register of all attendees must also be left with your 24-hour emergency contact for all trips where an overnight stay is planned.
- Personal Details Form and Code of Conduct (see step 2 of the 'organising a new trip' section at DataHub - Trips (sharepoint.com))
- A Personal Details Form must be completed for all staff and learners attending a trip, residential or trip aboard (see step 2 of the 'organising a new trip section on Sharepoint).
- Where a Risk Assessment has identified significant risks, the information will be passed
 on to parents/guardians in order to allow them to make an informed decision with regards
 to parental/guardianship consent. This information must be included with any trip
 information packs sent to parents/guardians or covered within parental/guardianship
 briefings as appropriate.
- Parental/Guardianship consent is required for any learners under 18 or for adults where they have been identified as vulnerable.
- Learners must sign to declare that they will abide by the College's Learner Code of Conduct.
- The Personal Details Form also gives the individual's Medical Information.
- If medical conditions are highlighted, consider if:
 - > A doctor's note is required in order to participate;
 - ➤ An individual Risk Assessment is required:
 - College insurers should be informed; and
 - Extra staff/Support Workers are required.

Annex E - Medical Conditions and the Administration of Medication

For guidance on the Health and Safety aspects of managing learners who may need assistance with medication, please refer to the College Administration of Medication Procedure.

Annex F - Accident and Emergency Considerations

- Contingency planning must be implemented for reasonably foreseeable emergencies, bearing in mind the likely hazards and the type of trip.
- The Risk Assessment process must be used to identify the level of First Aid cover required for each trip. All trips must have at least one member of staff appointed to take appropriate action in an emergency. However, the Risk Assessment process may identify the need for a member of staff to hold a full First Aid Certificate when more hazardous activities are planned or the trip is remote from normal emergency assistance.
- There must always be a travel First-Aid kit in any vehicle used for Educational Study Trips.
- Insurance:
 - ➤ The College's insurance covers all Educational Study Trips organised by the College that does not include specialist activities, however, exclusions in respect of certain locations are advised by, and updated by, the Foreign Office on a regular basis. For up to date information on restrictions, Trip Organisers must check on the Foreign and Commonwealth Office website at Foreign & Commonwealth Office.
 - ➤ There are also exclusions regarding extreme sports and activities, e.g. Jet Skiing, etc. If however, a particular trip organised through a travel company is inclusive of travel insurance, details of the insurance cover, insurance company and policy number must be included and detailed in the Educational Study Trip Approval Form.

Annex G – Transport

- Use of Private Cars:
 - > Staff and others who drive learners in their own car must ensure their passengers' safety, that the vehicle is roadworthy, and that they have the appropriate driving licence and insurance cover for carrying learners or colleagues (Business Use).
- Minibuses:

Please refer to SGS Minibus Procedures.

- Trips Abroad:
 - > There are additional factors to consider when arranging trips abroad. These include:
 - ➤ Transport drivers must be aware of driving regulations/rules in the countries being visited and those on route, including driver's hours and record keeping. Information is available at Driving Abroad.
 - A full Public Service Vehicle (PSV) licence is required for any staff taking a minibus abroad (D or D1 categories are only permitted within the UK).
 - If a tour operator is being used, then Trip Organisers must ensure that it is reputable, i.e. Air Travel Organisers Licence (ATOL).
 - ➤ If it is not possible to undertake an exploratory trip, as much information as possible from the area to be visited must be collated from the provider, Foreign and Commonwealth Office's Travel Advice Unit, National Travel Offices in UK, Embassies, Travel Agents, etc.
 - > Details of any vaccinations required.
 - Passport and Visa requirements (at least 6 months on a Passport).
 - ➤ UK Global Health Insurance Card (replaced European Health Insurance Card when the latter reaches its expiry date) or EHIC if this has not yet reached its expiry date—please note these must be carried on your person in order to be of use (not left at the hotel).
 - At least one supervising member of staff must be First Aid at Work (3-day course) qualified for all trips abroad.
 - Copies of all Personal Detail Forms must be submitted with approval forms to allow the HoF to check that medical conditions or disabilities have been considered and that appropriate controls have been put in place, monitored and recorded through the trip Risk Assessment.
- Consumption of Alcohol:
 - > The age restrictions for the consumption of alcohol for the country being visited must be observed at all times.

A	The consumption of alcohol, by both staff and learners, must be restricted to the drink drive limit for the country concerned – as insurance may not cover injuries sustained whilst under the influence of alcohol. This must be reflected in the Code of Conduct for the trip and learners advised accordingly.

Annex H - Adding additional participants to the trip after Approval

- Learner to staff ratios and Risk Assessment must be reviewed as necessary.
- A copy of both the updated Registration Form must be given to Reception (Berkeley, Filton, WISE, Queen's Road or Stroud) and your 24-hour emergency contact (for trips of more than one day duration) prior to departure.

Annex I - Preparing Learners

•	Learners must be provided with information and guidance prior to trips so that they know what is expected of them, what the trip entails and arrangements in place. Learners must also be informed of the behaviour expected of them and the rules of trip. Information should include:				
		The Aims and Objectives of trip;			
		Background information about trip;			
		Relevant culture or custom if visiting abroad;			
		Safety precautions in place;			
		Special arrangements for anyone with a disability/special needs;			
		Standard of behaviour expected (including the consumption of alcohol);			
		Who is responsible for cohort;			
		Rendezvous procedures;			
		What to do if separated from group; and			
		Emergency procedures, inclusive. details of accommodation and contact numbers.			

Annex J - Child Protection and Safeguarding

- The College's Safeguarding Children, Young People & Vulnerable Adults Policy and Procedure and other Safeguarding Policies and Procedures (along with all other College Policies) will apply during College trips and trips.
- Any incident amounting to an allegation or suspicion of abuse which occurs whilst on the trip or trip must be reported to a Safeguarding Officer immediately (or to the Vice Principal if it involves a member of staff).
- Note: It is against the College Safeguarding Policies for staff to provide learners with their personal phone number. Loan phones for use during trips can be obtained via all Receptions.

Annex K - Financial Considerations

- Classification of trips. All trips are classified under two categories, Essential and Non-Essential:
 - Essential these are trips that need to take place because the teaching and understanding cannot be achieved in a classroom (or equivalent) or within the College campus. This means that the learners cannot pass the course without this trip having taken place. The College cannot charge the learners for attending this trip and therefore the costs are met by the funding the College receives. These trips need to be planned as part of the Curriculum Planning in the year prior to the academic year that the trip is to take place so that budget can be allocated to cover the costs of the trip.
 - ➤ Non-Essential these are trips that do not prevent the learner from passing their course if they do not attend the trip but are designed to enhance the learning experience. These trips are chargeable to the learner and payment must be received before any expenditure is committed, as the College cannot subsidise the trip except for HE students, where HE tuition fees can be used. If the Learner does not pay they cannot attend the trip and no costs can be incurred unless income has been received in advance. Learners must pay fees as set out by the Trip Organiser. Deposits are non-refundable but might be returned if another learner can fill the space.
- Once expenditure in relation to the trip has been committed for the learner no refund will be made should they change their mind and decide they no longer wish to participate in the trip. Also, no refund can be made for any other event that prevents attendance on a trip which is outside of the control of the College, i.e. a learner falling ill on the day of the trip. This must be communicated to learners at the time they are making the decision to participate in the trip.
- Expenditure can only be made after the relevant income has been received from the learner.
- Approved trips will be allocated a Trip Code within the Finance system and learners will be given receipts for all card, cheque or cash payments made into the Trip Code.
- The payment of trip fees must be made to representatives of Finance or the Customer Experience Teams, thereby enabling the monies paid to be correctly allocated against the correct Trip Code, a receipt will be issued when payments are made.
- No money must be collected by Curriculum Departments under any circumstances in relation to trip payments.
- Once on the trip, should circumstances transpire where a learner needs to return home earlier than planned the learner will normally be required to meet the costs of such arrangements.
- Trip Fees are not to be included within Material Fees charged at Enrolments. This needs to be separately charged to the learner.

• Trip Costing Forms:

- > Trip Costing Forms capture a break-even income and expenditure account associated with the trip. SGS College must charge for trips with the exception of essential trips or for HE students (where HE tuition fees can be used).
- ➤ Trip Costing Forms no longer require approval from Finance see the Trip Procedure.
- Where the income incorporates fees chargeable to learners, these are to be flexed appropriately to achieve a break-even position (including a contribution to College overheads, see below. Fees charged to learners should be charged to the nearest £ ensuring all costs are covered, including a contribution to College overheads.
- ➤ Depending on the number of staff members accompanying the trip, staff cover costs may result. In these circumstances the cost of the supply cover are to be incorporated into the trip costing.
- Cost of transporting learners on the visit are a cost of a trip. Where SGS College minibuses are used to transport learners, a cost equivalent to a commercial rate for Coach/Minibus hire including driver costs must be factored into the trip's cost. Staff claiming additional hours for attending the Trip in any capacity must be included on the Trip Form. SGS College does not charge for the use of the Minibus if the distance travelled is less than 25 miles (including return journey) and there are no other costs associated with the trip.
- Staff subsistence costs are a cost of the trip. Subsistence expenses incurred by staff whilst on the trip are to be incurred and reimbursed in line with the Travel, Subsistence and Personal Expenses Policy and Procedure. Meal allowances are expressly forbidden from being included within a pre-paid 'credit card' style card or a cash float, due to important tax implications.
- ➤ Before agreeing to accompany a trip, staff members must consider the timing difference between incurring subsistence expenses whilst on the visit and when these expenses will be reimbursed.
- When costing the trip an 'overhead fee' is to be calculated based on the cost of the trip charged as follows:
- ➤ All UK based trips of any duration 5% of the total trip cost, up to a maximum of £500.
- ➤ All overseas based trips of any duration 10% of the total trip cost, up to a maximum of £1,000.
- This contribution to overhead costs represents the administration involved in the planning and organising of the visit by the various College departments (e.g. Trip Organiser's and other administrative time, purchase order and invoice processing, risk assessment) and protects the College from any unforeseen expenditure increases brought about through, for example, exchange rate movements in respect of overseas costs, or price rises for entrance tickets not purchased in advance, etc. This excess of income over expenditure can also provide a contingency for any unforeseen costs of the trip.

Annex L - Trip Form Completion and File Process

- When filling out your Trip Form, you are required to include 3 documents which cover the Student Details, Registers and Risk Assessments associated with your visit. These 3 documents are mandatory for you to complete your request and require you to upload the files to the Trip Site of SharePoint.
- Trip File Process Via the Data Hub.
- If you do not have the template file for any of the files, simply double click the file button to download a copy to your computer.
- Once downloaded, you can open the file and update the details as required and save the file ready to be uploaded.
- With your changes complete, navigate back to the form, and click on the Hyperlink (Web Link) to take you to the corresponding library.
- Upload your file, by clicking on Add Document, or clicking on the Document Tab and selecting Upload Document. Follow the instructions to browse, and locate your file and add it to the library.
- Now that you have uploaded your file to the appropriate Library, the most important step is to add the file location details onto the Trip Form. To do this, simply right click your file and select Copy Shortcut.
- With the shortcut pasted, navigate back to your form and Right Click & Paste the link into the field.
- Now that you have completed this process, the final step is to check the box to confirm that you have followed the correct procedure and uploaded the information as required.
- Completing this process will ensure that the correct departments will be able to access
 the information quickly, and easily and also ensure that we can get access to information
 at any time in an emergency.
- You will need to do this for all 3 documents (Registers, Student Details and the Risk Assessment).

Annex M – Logging Learner Completion

Following the completion of the trip, a list of learners, the activities undertaken and total number of hours must be submitted to the Enrichment and Tutorial Co-ordinator at your site, to ensure that Enrichment hours are logged for the activity that has been undertaken.

MANDATORY INITIAL IMPACT SCREENING	sgs estances	
I have read the guidance document: Completing a Policy Impact Assessment?		
If this policy raises equality, diversity or inclusion concerns, the Inclusion Committee has been consulted?		
If this policy raises environmental or sustainability issues, the Estates Team have been consulted?		
If this policy has been up-dated, please tick to confirm that the initial impact screening has also been reviewed:		
Please list each College Strategic Priority that this policy is designed to address/implement:		

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IMPACT ASSESSMENT				
Characteristic	This policy seeks to:			
Age	No appreciable impact			
Disability	No appreciable impact			
Faith or Belief	No appreciable impact			
Gender	No appreciable impact			
Race or Ethnicity	No appreciable impact			
Orientation	No appreciable impact			
Gender reassignment	No appreciable impact			
Economic disadvantage	No appreciable impact			
Rural isolation	No appreciable impact			
Marriage	No appreciable impact			
Pregnancy & maternity	No appreciable impact			
Carers & care leavers	No appreciable impact			
Vulnerable persons	No appreciable impact			
	s of the policy that specifically seek to			
	nprove diversity within any of the College's			
stakeholder groups:				
	s of the policy that specifically seek to improve			
equality of opportunity within any of the College's stakeholder groups:				
Is there any possibility that				
could operate in a discriminatory way?				
	Choose an item.			
	e Policy has been sent for a full Click or tap to enter a			
Equality & Diversity Impact	Assessment, and note the date:			

Note: if the policy does not seek to increase diversity or improve equality you should go back and review it before submitting it for approval.

MAPPING OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS			
Which United Nations Convention on	Art. 31 Right to leisure, play & culture		
the Rights of the Child (UNCRC),	Art. 28 Right to education		
Right does this policy most protect:	Art. 6 Life, survival & development		
Which Human Right (HRA) does this	Choose an item.		
policy most protect:	Choose an item.		

DATA PROTECTION & PRIVACY BY DESIGN SCREENING	
Tick to confirm that you have considered any data protection issues as part of the design	
and implementation of this policy; and, that implementing this policy will not result in the	✓
collection, storage or processing of personal data outside of official College systems:	
Tick to indicated that this policy has or requires a Data Privacy Impact Assessment:	

8. ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT						
	ASSESSMENT					
Does this policy relate directly or indirec	tly to any	y legal, regulat	ory	Yes □	No	\square
environmental or sustainability standard(s)?			res 🗆	NO		
If so, please list them:						
Will any aspects of this policy result in:						
Reduced miles travelled or provide / improve	e / promo	ote alternatives	to car			
based transport (e.g. public transport, walking				Yes [□ No	· 🖂
use of low emission vehicles, community transport, environmentally friendly				Tes L		
fuels and/or technologies)	1/2 - 1 - 1 -					
Reduced waste, environmental hazards and by reducing PVC, photocopier and printer us			•			
mining or deforestation? Or increase the am				Yes [□ No	
recycled or composted?		Jonege Macte ti	iat io			
Reduced water consumption?				Yes [□ No	×
Reduced instances of single use plastic?				Yes [□ No	×
Reduced use of natural resources such as r	aw matei	rials and energy	' to	Yes [□ No) X
promote a circular economy?				103		
Improved resource efficiency of new or reful			20213	Yes [□ No	
energy, density, use of existing buildings, de Will this policy improve green space or acce			pan):	Yes [☐ No) X
Please list the sections of this policy whi		ен зрасе:		103 L	_ 140	
specifically target an improved environm						
	•					
Will any aspects of this policy result in:						
The promotion of healthy working lives (included the promotion of healthy working live			at work,	Yes [□ No	
work-life/home-life balance and family friend Greater employment opportunities for local p		ces)?		Yes [□ No	· 🛛
The promotion of ethical purchasing of good		vices for exampl	e hv			
increasing transparency of modern slavery i			СБу	Yes [□ No	
Greater support for the local economy throu			iers,	Yes [□ No) 🛛
SMEs or engagement with third sector or co				163 L	_ 140	
The promotion of better health, increased co				Yes v	/ No	
cohesion, reduced social isolation or support Mitigation of the likely effects of climate characteristics.						
and community support for vulnerable group				Yes [□ No	
flood/snow, heatwaves and other weather e						_
The promotion of better awareness of susta			urs,	Yes [□ No) 🛛
mental wellbeing, living independently or se		ement?		.00 L	_	
Please list the sections of this policy whi specifically target improved sustainabilit						
specifically target improved sustainability	.y.					
Milest in the *estimated* coulon impost of	f Albio	Increased	Decre	ased	Net Z	ero
What is the *estimated* carbon impact of this policy (in terms of tCO2e) (+tCO2e)		(-tCC	O2e) CO2		2	
policy (iii terms of tooze)		×				
	Г					
Mandatory initial impact screening		St	uart Evai	าร		
completed by:	29/10/2021					
Initial impact screening supported by (Please list each individual)						
,	1					