RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

TRINITY CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL	**Reviewed by:**	Audit and Risk Committee
	Approved by:	Full Governing Body
	Date approved:	15th July 2025
	Date adopted:	1st September, 2025
	Next review due by:	End of 2027/28 academic year

AIM/PURPOSE

Taking risk management seriously is a priority. The Risk Management Policy forms part of the school's internal control & scrutiny and governance arrangements. It is designed to provide assurance that the school has adopted best practice in this area and to meet expectations of the Department for Education/ESFA as detailed in the Governance Handbook and Academies Financial Handbook.

The policy should be read in conjunction with the School's Risk Register

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The School aims to:

- Identify and evaluate risks which could prevent the school from achieving one or more of its strategic aims and objectives and delivery targets or make their achievement substantially more difficult.
- Assess the likelihood and impact of such risks occurring (high, medium, low) and the potential impact of such occurrences with particular reference to the areas of finance, reputation and planning/operations.
- Enable decisions to be taken on how much risk to accept, the actions/controls applied to avoid or mitigate the likelihood of such circumstances arising, to transfer risk or insure against the consequences and assign responsibility for implementation.

The following key principles outline the school's approach to risk management and internal control in pursuing the aims set out above:

- The school has responsibility for overseeing risk management.
- The school carries out this responsibility through its Audit and Risk Committee.
- An open and receptive approach to solving risk problems is adopted by the school.
- The school uses a risk matrix to determine the level of risk. Each risk is assessed in terms of seriousness vs likelihood to occur and is given an overall score. This score informs if the risk is high, medium or low. This score is then recalculated taking into account any mitigating factors (existing controls and actions) along with any further assurances.
- Senior Leaders and Governors review the School's Risk Register, existing controls and actions on an annual basis at the Summer term Audit and Risk Committee meeting.
- The school makes conservative and prudent recognition and disclosure of the financial and non-financial implications of risks.
- All colleagues within the school are encouraged to be involved in the risk management process by the reporting of risks.
- The school has procedures for whistleblowing as detailed in the Whistleblowing Policy. The school will ensure all concerns raised with them by whistle-blowers are responded to properly and fairly.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Risk Management Policy will be reviewed by the Business Manager and the Head. Changes will be approved by the Audit & Risk Committee.