

North Petherton Community Primary School Arson Policy



Version 1

Date Approved by FGB: 22/10/2025

Date for Review: 21/10/2026

Chair of Governors: Jodie Scarrott

Headteacher: Melanie Lawson



Purpose

This policy outlines the measures our school takes to prevent, detect, and respond to incidents of arson. It aims to protect pupils, staff, visitors, property, and ensure a safe learning environment.

Scope

This policy applies to:

- All school staff (teaching and non-teaching)
- Pupils
- Parents and carers
- Visitors and contractors

Prevention Measures

a. Physical Security

- Secure perimeter fencing and gates
- Controlled access to buildings during and after school hours
- Bins stored away from buildings
- Regular maintenance of fire alarms and CCTV systems

b. Environmental Design

- External lighting around vulnerable areas
- Removal of combustible materials from school grounds

c. Staff Training

- Annual fire safety awareness training available for all staff
- Clear reporting procedures for suspicious behaviour or materials
- All staff responsible for monitoring risks

d. Pupil Education

- Age-appropriate fire safety education integrated into the curriculum
- Assemblies and workshops on the dangers of fire and vandalism

Detection and Reporting

All staff must report suspicious behaviour or signs of tampering with fire safety equipment immediately to the Headteacher or School Business Manager.

CCTV footage will be reviewed after any incident.

Any fire-related incident will be logged and investigated.

Response Procedures

a. In Case of Fire

Activate the fire alarm and evacuate according to the Fire Evacuation Plan.

Call emergency services (999) immediately.

Ensure all pupils, staff and visitors are accounted for at the assembly point.

b. Post-Incident

Secure the site and preserve evidence for investigation.

Notify parents and carers as appropriate.

Conduct a full review and risk assessment.

Implement corrective actions and update safety measures.

Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Responsibility
Headteacher	Overall responsibility for policy enforcement
School Business Manager	Risk assessments, training, and incident response
Staff	Vigilance, reporting, and pupil supervision
Pupils	Follow safety instructions and report concerns

Review and Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed annually or after any arson-related incident.

Updates will be communicated to all stakeholders.