Westminster Abbey Choir School



## S47 Pupil access to risky areas of school buildings and grounds

**Reviewed: Education and Policy Committee** 

**Approved: Full Governing Body** 

**Approved Date: December 2024** 

**Next Review Date: December 2025** 

## INTRODUCTION

Generally speaking, the school offers a very safe environment for children given that it can only be entered by ringing the doorbell or through the kitchen or works yard which are both kept locked.

## **Risky Areas**

We have identified seven areas which require restricted access:

- (i) the kitchens, which are strictly out of bounds to all pupils and locked when not in use by catering staff;
- (ii) the cellars, which are also out of bounds and kept locked when not in use by a member of staff,
- (iii) the laundry room which is out of bounds to pupils and kept locked when not in use;
- (iv) the surgery and
- (v) the linen room and
- (vi) the science lab, to which pupils are not admitted unless an adult is present. When not in use these rooms are also kept locked.
- (vii) the lift, which can only be used with the express permission of a member of staff to accommodate an injury or to transport a large instrument.

Other areas which are out of bounds to pupils and kept locked are cupboards containing cleaning materials.

Another area of potential danger is the road outside the school. Whenever boys are playing on Dean's Yard they will be supervised by a member of staff who will ensure that the road is crossed sensibly. When boys walk to the Abbey they will never do so alone, and they are instructed to use the pavement at all times, crossing only in the designated crossing place.

Since it is a public place, boys are potentially at risk when in Westminster Abbey. For this reason, they are always chaperoned by members of school or Abbey staff, who hold an enhanced DBS check and have had appropriate safeguarding training, whenever they visit the Abbey.