



TREE MANAGEMENT POLICY

Endeavour Multi Academy Trust

DOCUMENT CONTROL		
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September 2025	V1.0	New policy drafting

Endeavour Multi Academy Trust Tree Management Policy

Purpose

To ensure the safety and well-being of students, staff, and visitors by managing trees within school grounds effectively.

Policy Statement

Endeavour Multi Academy Trust is committed to:

- Recognising that trees within school grounds should be subject to appropriate management.
- Seeking advice from a competent person (arboriculturalist) to undertake an initial review.
- Completing a risk assessment for trees in conjunction with the competent person.
- Taking any necessary action resulting from the risk assessment process to ensure risks are reduced to as low as reasonably practicable.
- Putting in place an appropriate regime for the ongoing care, inspection, and maintenance of trees.

Why Manage Trees

Trees are an essential part of the environment, but they can pose risks if not managed properly. The Trust acknowledges the importance of:

- Avoiding harm to those occupying or visiting premises.
- Preventing damage to buildings, including neighbouring properties.
- Ensuring safety on public highways and neighbouring areas.
- Regulating tree felling, especially in conservation areas.
- Protecting trees of special amenity value and wildlife habitats.

Legal Responsibility

The Trust understands its legal duty of care under UK laws, which holds the occupier liable for any personal injury or damage caused by hazardous trees. Community

schools and nurseries are responsible for managing trees appropriately, following best practices and guidelines.

Management of Trees

To meet the requirements of the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, the Trust will:

- Instruct specialist competent persons to assist in tree management.
- Set an appropriate policy, including determination of responsibilities.
- Assess the risks associated with trees.
- Take appropriate action to manage trees to achieve an acceptable level of risk.
- Define a monitoring and inspection cycle.
- Keep records of risk assessments, actions, monitoring, and inspections.

Competent Advice

The Trust will ensure that:

- Initial specialist assessments are undertaken by individuals with Level 3 competence (e.g., arboriculturalists).
- Higher-risk trees are inspected by professionally trained arboriculturalists at intervals determined by the risk assessment.
- Recommendations for remedial work come from appropriately qualified arboriculturalists.
- Staff involved in regular monitoring have the necessary experience and knowledge.
- External consultants are registered with the Arboricultural Association.

Risk Assessment

The Trust will:

- Assess targets that may be vulnerable (e.g., playgrounds, neighbouring premises, buildings).
- Assign target zones to target areas as appropriate.

- Determine tree inspection types and priorities.
- Assess trees for hazards and identify those needing more detailed inspection.
- Make tree risk assessments and assign risk categories.
- Implement a management system, including remedial actions, monitoring, and inspection regimes.

Taking Management Action

When a tree presents an elevated risk, the Trust will:

- Plan and take action to manage the risk.
- Balance safety with landscape and wildlife considerations.
- Manage targets by moving pathways, preventing access, or protecting targets from impact damage.
- Ensure any arboricultural work is carried out by competent arboriculturalists and kept to a minimum to reduce environmental impacts.

Ongoing Inspection and Monitoring

The Trust will:

- Ensure trees in high-usage areas are inspected by competent persons.
- Conduct inspections after severe weather events.
- Make detailed inspections of trees showing signs of deterioration.
- Encourage staff to report defects, near misses, and accidents related to trees.
- Maintain records of service level agreements, risk assessments, remedial work, inspections, and staff training.

This policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure its effectiveness and compliance with current regulations and best practices.