

Oakwood Manual Handling Policy

The risks associated with lifting and handling tasks are complex and each situation must be judged on its own merits bearing in mind the principles of manual handling as taught by a specialist in back-care training.

In the ideal situation lifting of children should be avoided. However, it is not practical to avoid all lifting of children. Therefore, the risk to the child and staff member should be assessed and a safe system of work put in place to reduce the risk of injury to the lowest level that is reasonably practicable.

When lifting is unavoidable a minimum of two members of staff should work in partnership to ensure maximum safety for the child and themselves. Where two or more staff are required specialist guidance should be sought and the use of a hoist recommended. Necessary risk assessments should be carried out and signed off by the school Health and Safety Officer and Principal.

Individual children with manual handling needs will be identified by the physiotherapist and advice given in writing to the staff members involved in that child's care.

All staff members involved with the manual handling of children should be trained in safe and effective moving techniques and as far as is possible will have this training regularly updated (maximum every three years).

Once trained, it is the individual staff member's duty to implement the principles of manual handling and to ensure their co-workers maintain the highest standards of safety when moving children.

The Senior Leadership Team will ensure appropriate training is made available to staff.

Art 3: the best interest of each individual child is at the heart of everything we do in
Oakwood

Art 19: every child has the right to be safe.



Oakwood School and Assessment Centre

I have read and agree to abide by the Manual Handling Policy for Oakwood School. I have received training on the principles and techniques as follows:

Name	Manual Handling (Initial & date)	Hoist (Initial & date)