REGULATORY REFORM (FIRE SAFETY) ORDER 2005

FIRE EMERGENCY PLAN

This Emergency Plan has been developed following fire risk assessments of the relevant building.

The purpose of the Plan is

- to ensure the safety of all persons in the event of a fire
- to ensure compliance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005
- to ensure adherence to official guidance and related Standards.

Copies of this Emergency Plan will be made available to any person on request.

Copies of the building Fire Risk Assessment are kept by the Responsible Person and the Safety, Health & Environment Unit, and are available for inspection by Fire Service officers and building occupants.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** despite the presence of a lift, the upper floors of this building must not be accessed at any time by persons with certain mobility disabilities – see section 13.

1. **Address of the premises to which this Fire Emergency Plan relates**
   - Bridge Wardens’ College
   - University of Kent
   - Clocktower Building, Chatham Historic Dockyard, Kent ME4 4TE
   - Medway Building Reception telephone number 01634 888800

2. **Occupier of the premises**
   - University of Kent
   - Various departments

3. **Uses of the premises**
   - Academic
   - **Occupancy on each floor must be strictly limited to a maximum of 80 persons per end of the building (south-west or north-east, i.e. either side of the central staircase).**

4. **Responsible Person**
   - The Director of Estates has primary executive responsibility for building management, and is therefore the Responsible Person (in conjunction with Council and the Vice Chancellor) within the meaning of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.
   - Telephone number (01227 82)3611

5. **Other management responsibilities for fire safety**
   - The Facilities Manager and Support Services Supervisor are nominated Building Fire Officers and are jointly responsible for overseeing fire safety management in the building.
   - Telephone numbers 01634 (88)8906, 8801
   - All Heads of departments occupying or using the building at any time, and all relevant managers and Health & Safety coordinators, have duties
     - under the above legislation and associated official guidance,
     - in accordance with the arrangements described in this Plan, and
     - according to University policy (see Safety, Health & Environment Unit’s published guidance).
   - These duties include cooperation and coordination between areas/departments/functions occupying or using the building at any time, as necessary, to ensure that full, adequate and uniform fire safety arrangements are implemented and maintained.

6. **Fire warning arrangements**
   - An electrical fire alarm system with manual call points and heat and smoke detectors is provided throughout the premises. Estates hold relevant plans. The alarm panel is located in the main entrance lobby.
Alarm signals are relayed to Chatham Historic Dockyard 24 hour Security.

The general alarm signal is clearly audible throughout the premises. The alarm sound is a siren.

| 7. Action in the event of fire | On discovering a fire, persons should immediately retreat from the fire, raise the alarm at the nearest call point and evacuate. If an alarm call point is not available, they should telephone 43333 (or 01634 883138) from a safe place - this is the emergency Security number (main Medway campus).

On hearing the alarm signal, all persons present should immediately and calmly evacuate the premises by the nearest available emergency escape route, and proceed to the Assembly Point opposite the main entrance (as displayed on local Fire Action Notices).

Persons evacuating must
- obey Security and Fire Marshals’ instructions;
- ensure others in the vicinity also evacuate;
- assist any person who needs help, if safe to do so;
- not stop to collect any personal belongings;
- not use lifts;
- proceed directly to the Assembly Point (no. 4 jetty opposite);
- remain there until officially instructed otherwise. |

| 8. Emergency escape routes | Emergency escape routes are clearly signed, and are kept immediately available and unobstructed at all times.

All users of the building should ensure they are fully aware of both obvious/familiar and alternative escape routes. |

| 9. Arrangements for fighting fires | Fire fighting equipment is provided as determined by fire risk assessment, and maintained.

Persons with no specific training are not expected to fight a fire, but all occupants and staff should familiarise themselves with the location and basic operating principles of the equipment, in case they need to use it (i.e. only in order to effect their escape, if cut off by fire).

Departmental management is responsible for nominating and training persons to use fire fighting equipment, as necessary and/or determined by fire risk assessment.

Security staff are nominated and trained to use the fire fighting equipment provided. |

| 10. Procedures for coordinating evacuation | Security staff from Chatham Historic Dockyard respond immediately to any fire alarm signal and call the Fire & Rescue |
and for liaising with the fire brigade (in conjunction with 11 below) Service as necessary, in accordance with their procedures. On arrival, their Security Supervisor will usually take charge of the building until the arrival of the Fire & Rescue Service.

The Security Supervisor will give the following information to the officer-in-charge of the first fire appliance to arrive:

- whether the building is known to be fully evacuated; or whether persons remain in the building; or which areas have not been checked;
- any dangerous substances stored in the building that are likely to become involved (see sect. 16) including substances known/logged as temporarily present;
- where the seat of the fire is thought to be located; and
- the best route to get to trapped persons or the seat of the fire.

During inclement weather, the decision may be taken to accommodate evacuated persons in a nearby building, if practicable.

| 11. Other key responsibilities in the event of fire | Insofar as practicable, arrangements ensure that adequate Fire Marshals and/or other nominated, trained staff are available at all material times for:
- checking that each designated area is clear of all personnel, and closing doors and windows if safe to do so;
- directing evacuating persons to the assembly point;
- reporting each area as clear (or otherwise) to the Security Supervisor;
- preventing persons from entering the building; and
- conducting regular fire safety inspections of their area and recording the results.

Individual departments hold records of all nominated persons.

Academic staff and persons leading or facilitating events have responsibility for ensuring that all students present at lectures, tutorials etc. evacuate safely to the final assembly point, and for reporting that the area is clear (or otherwise) to a local Fire Marshal or the Security Supervisor.

Note - Any University employees who adopt a voluntary role in relation to emergency evacuation, such as that of Fire Marshal, will not be held personally liable for any injury or loss suffered while they are carrying out those duties in accordance with information, instruction and training they have received.

Security and departmental staff conduct regular fire safety inspections and record the results.

| 12. Persons who are especially at risk | Fire risk assessments have determined that no persons are considered to be especially at risk from fire, provided that all relevant fire safety arrangements, as described in this Plan and the Fire Risk Assessment(s) for the building, are fully implemented and maintained.

Particular reference should be made to section 13 below in this context. |
| **13. Special arrangements for disabled, young and elderly persons’ evacuation** | **Due to staffing within the building and remoteness of Security, it is not possible to provide assisted means of escape in this building reliably and therefore, apart from ground floor locations to the north of the main entrance, this building must be regarded as inaccessible to most persons with mobility disabilities such as wheelchair users and others who would need assistance to escape promptly using the stairs.**  
**Persons with mobility disabilities wishing to access the upper floors or southern end of the ground floor may do so only if they are fully able to evacuate unassisted within a reliable maximum of 3 minutes.**  
**A prior assessment must be carried out by management in all cases.** |
|---|---|
| **See also Appendix B** | **Persons with [other] disabilities which might affect their ability to perceive and respond to the alarm signal and evacuate promptly, or which might impede others evacuating, should report to Medway building Reception or departmental management and ask for the Fire Emergency Plan. Arrangements for the safe evacuation of persons with disabilities are as follows:**  
(a) All persons are provided with comprehensive information (this Plan).  
(b) Standard Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans (PEEPs) are set out in Appendix B. These are available to visitors and form the basis for individual PEEPs.  
(c) Visitors with disabilities should make themselves known to Medway building Reception and/or departmental management where they should receive information on the Standard PEEPs available, and guidance on what to do in an evacuation.  
(d) Regular users of the building are consulted and their needs discussed and assessed with appropriate members of staff. Individual PEEPs are agreed, documented and implemented.  
Refer to **Performance Standard:** Provision of Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans (PEEPs) and associated documents (Safety, Health & Environment Unit).  
**Note** - Any University employees who adopt a voluntary role in relation to emergency evacuation, such as assisting a disabled person, will not be held personally liable for any injury or loss suffered while they are carrying out those duties in accordance with information, instruction and training they have received.|
| **14. Presence of visitors, contractors, service providers etc** | **Building contractors, window cleaners, external security staff etc and other visitors (members of the public) may be present from time to time.**  
Where planned events exceed normal conditions and arrangements for evacuation, the Responsible Person will ensure that a Fire Risk Assessment is undertaken and appropriate provisions made.  
The Director of Estates and/or Facilities Manager are responsible for ensuring that all contractors formally agree to all fire safety arrangements and are adequately informed and instructed, that Safe Systems of Work are adhered to throughout (e.g. Permit To Work arrangements), and that all Dangerous Substances present and their exact locations are declared and made known to appropriate persons (as necessary/relevant to sections 10, 11 & 16).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>15. Shutdown/isolation of critical machines, appliances, processes, power supplies etc in the event of a fire</th>
<th>N/A.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 16. Specific arrangements, if necessary, for high fire risk areas of the workplace, and dangerous substances | No areas of the building are considered high fire risk.  
It is recognised that the building (including means of escape) has inherently poor fire resistance due to its historic nature. This has been mitigated to acceptable and safe standards (refer to Fire Risk Assessment).  
Possible presence of asbestos containing materials – refer to Estates database.  
Quantities of fine art materials such as white spirit are present in studio spaces, in suitable marked metal cabinets (and waste in lidded metal bins). Small quantities of various janitorial substances may be present in other relevant areas. No other significantly dangerous substances are normally present.  
If any dangerous substances are brought into the building (e.g. by contractors) the following details must be given to Security for each substance: chemical identity and/or trade name, quantity, location, brief details of use and storage, Material Safety Data Sheet, and name of person. These details are held by Security. The person concerned must report when the substance has been removed. |
| 17. Arrangements for an Emergency Plan to be used by a hirer of part of the premises | The Responsible Person will ensure that  
- procedures are in place to ensure that this Plan, together with appropriate information and instruction, will be made available to any person or organization hiring, using or occupying the premises  
- any occupancy or activity not adequately addressed by the current Fire Risk Assessment and arrangements will be suitably assessed, controlled and planned for, in advance of the event.  
See also 12 above. |
| 18. Contingency plans for when life safety systems (such as fire detection & warning systems, emergency lighting or disabled evacuation arrangements) are out of order | In the event of temporary disablement of any critical system, management arrangements are in place to assess and provide suitable compensating features, practices or restrictions to ensure that an adequate level of protection is maintained to tolerable risk levels.  
Should a serious, widespread or significant disablement of a life safety system occur, the [affected parts of the] building must not be occupied without suitable and sufficient alternative arrangements in place.  
The Director of Estates and/or Facilities Manager are responsible for ensuring that planned temporary disablements (e.g. for building work) are risk assessed, authorised in advance, suitably monitored, and minimised in extent and duration. |
| 19. Fire information & instruction – residents, students & visitors | Information and instruction is conveyed to residents and visitors by the following means:  
- Fire Action Notices  
- Student Life booklet  
- Specific communications with visiting organisations |
The above are supplemented by other means such as talks, demonstrations, email circulars, website content, Kent Union activities etc.

**Academic staff and persons leading or facilitating events must** brief students & visitors on
- action in the event of fire, and
- local fire safety features

at least at the start of the first session or event in each and every location.

This Fire Emergency Plan is available at Medway building Reception in both full and reduced (information sheet) formats.

| 20. Fire training programme – all staff (including fire drills) | (a) Local information, instruction and training is based on the arrangements described in this Fire Emergency Plan and includes the following:
- The action to be taken on discovering a fire
- The action to be taken when the fire alarm sounds
- Familiarisation with the means of escape from the premises
- Other relevant local features of the Emergency Plan such as fire marshalling, persons who may be in need of assistance, safe shutdown of critical equipment, etc
- The location of the assembly point(s)
- Appreciation of the importance of fire resisting doors and of the need to close all doors in the event of a fire
- The location and safe use of fire fighting equipment
- Local fire safety awareness and prevention

(b) Generic fire safety training consists of the Safety, Health & Environment Unit’s “Fire & Safety Awareness” course or its equivalent. Alternative arrangements are available from the Safety, Health & Environment Unit for part-time sessional teachers etc.

Instruction, training and exercises should be carried out not less than once in each of the following periods:

**Instruction and training**  
For new staff, as above: (a) delivered immediately on induction and (b) arranged immediately, ideally for the next available course.  
The same or fully equivalent refresher training is carried out at not less than three year intervals.

**Exercises (fire drills)**  
At least every 12 months, preferably more frequently. The Responsible Person arranges these with reference to official guidance.

| 21. Fire training programme – nominated staff | As above (Section 20), and additionally as follows:

Users of fire fighting equipment: recognised specific fire extinguisher course (must include hands-on practical experience).
Fire Marshals, Door Wardens, Receptionists etc:
(a) local briefing on their duties in relation to departmental & local arrangements for evacuation, and other assigned duties e.g. inspection
(b) generic training consisting of the Safety, Health & Environment Unit’s “Fire Emergency Response” course or its equivalent

Persons nominated to assist those with disabilities: specific training as appropriate (e.g. use of Evac chairs) and specific briefing including content of relevant Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans and associated arrangements.

Academic staff: local briefing on evacuation arrangements and familiarity with the Fire Emergency Plan for all locations where they conduct lectures, tutorials, etc.

Relevant senior staff and managers:
(a) suitably detailed briefing on this Emergency Plan and relevant local and departmental fire safety provisions, including coordination with neighbouring departments;
(b) the Safety, Health & Environment Unit’s “Risk & Safety Management” and “Fire Emergency Response” (full version) courses.

The same or fully equivalent refresher training is carried out at not less than three year intervals.

22. Fire safety arrangements: drawings and plans

Locations of the following fire safety features are indicated on drawings and plans held by Estates:
- essential structural features - workplace layout, escape routes, doorways, walls, partitions, corridors, stairways;
- means for fighting fire - fire extinguishers, hose reels, fire blankets;
- manually operated fire alarm call points and all other features of the fire alarm system;
- the electrical supply intake, the main water shut-off valve and the main gas shut-off valves
- other features (as per 23 below).

23. Fire safety systems

The ground floor kitchen and the first floor teaching corridor are provided with alarm-linked automatic self closing devices fitted to fire doors.
The servery off the main entrance lobby is provided with an alarm-linked automatic fire shutter.
Several areas are provided with alarm-linked automatic lock release devices fitted to doors along escape routes.
1. FIRE SAFETY RECORDS

Records relating to fire safety precautions are kept in various locations as detailed below, and can be made available for inspection by any officer of the Fire Authority. Dates and details of training, inspection, testing and maintenance of the following are recorded:

- the means for detecting fire and for giving warning in case of fire (Estates);
- the means for fighting fire, eg portable equipment, hose reels, and fixed fire suppression systems (inspection – Local Department(s) and/or Medway Administration; maintenance – Estates);
- the emergency escape lighting system (Estates);
- instruction and training (Local Department(s) and/or Medway Administration and Safety, Health & Environment Unit); and
- fire drills (Medway Administration and Safety, Health & Environment Unit).

Records should include:

- the date on which inspection, testing and maintenance was carried out and by whom;
- the date on which any defects were reported and the action taken to remedy such defects; and
- the date on which the defect was remedied and by whom.

2. MEANS OF ESCAPE

Escape routes (corridors, stairways, gangways, walkways etc.) and exits are sited as shown on the plan(s). Unless otherwise specifically approved via formal Fire Risk Assessment, all escape routes are kept free from

- potential sources of ignition
- combustible materials
- obstructions and trip hazards
- the holding open of designated fire doors, unless by a fire alarm linked release device.

3. FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

INSPECTION

The fire alarm control panel is checked on a daily basis to see that it indicates normal operation, or if not, that any fault shown is reported to Estates and remedial action taken. All faults are rectified without delay.

TESTING AND MAINTENANCE

Testing and maintenance is carried out in full compliance with legislation, guidance and applicable British Standards and/or as authorized by the Fire Service.

4. LIGHTING

All escape routes are adequately lit when the premises are in use. External lighting must switch on automatically when there is insufficient daylight, or individual lights may be operated by an internal switch next to the nearest exit door.
5. **ESCAPE LIGHTING**

The emergency lighting system utilises self-contained battery operated luminaires, trickle charged from the main electrical supply coming into operation on failure of the local mains lighting. The batteries have sufficient capacity to operate the luminaires for not less than one hour. All component units of the system are located as indicated on the plans. The lamps will remain lit by emergency power for one hour and provide enough illumination for safe evacuation and for reading of all "Exit" signs.

**TESTING AND MAINTENANCE**

Testing and maintenance is carried out in full compliance with legislation, guidance and applicable British Standards and/or as authorized by the Fire Service.

6. **FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT**

First-aid fire fighting equipment is distributed throughout the building as shown on the plan(s). All fire extinguishers conform to British Standard EN 3 and are hung on wall brackets with the base of the extinguisher at a suitable height for use by the occupants of the building, or they are sited in permanent Fire Points. The extinguishers are of a suitable size and weight for use by the occupants of the building.

Departmental managers are responsible for nominating and training a suitable number of persons in the use of fire fighting equipment, as/where necessary.

**INSPECTION**

See Appx A Section 7 para. 2 below.

**TESTING AND MAINTENANCE:**

Testing and maintenance is carried out in full compliance with legislation, guidance and applicable Standards.

7. **FIRE SAFETY INSPECTIONS, AUDITS & RISK ASSESSMENTS**

All staff should be encouraged to maintain awareness and check for fire safety defects and deficiencies. Nominated persons (typically Fire Marshals) should be tasked with unrecorded weekly inspections of fire safety equipment, features and practice in their designated areas.

Nominated persons (typically Fire Marshals) carry out monthly recorded checks on fire fighting equipment to ensure that it is present and apparently fully operational.

A full Fire Safety Audit and/or Fire Risk Assessment Review must be conducted at least once every two years, or prior to and/or in the event of significant change or any significant incident. Various staff of departments occupying and/or managing the building will be required to assist or participate in this process.
STANDARD PERSONAL EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLANS
for persons with disabilities

The following matrix of Standard PEEPs is based on HM Government guidance ‘Means of Escape for Disabled people’, and elements of BS 9999:2008. Visitors to the building should report to Medway building Reception and ask for the Fire Emergency Plan. They should discuss their needs and specify (a) which of the following options are suitable for them, and (b) whether any additional provisions are required. In many cases a combination of several Standard PEEPs will apply.

The use of mobile phones should not be discounted (Reception and/or building Security should ask for and record phone numbers) but emergency evacuation provisions must not rely on them.

Options shown in grey are not currently available in this building.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Type of escape and/or requirement</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Assistance typically from *</th>
<th>Typically inform &amp; instruct:-</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Use of lift</td>
<td>N/A, no firefighting lift, &amp; safe use of standard lift not established</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Meet assistance at refuge</td>
<td>N/A; see section 13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Meet assistance at workstation</td>
<td>N/A; see section 13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Horizontal evacuation to place of relative safety</td>
<td>N/A; see section 13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Make own way down stairs slowly after main flow, on foot or on bottom</td>
<td>Only viable if unassisted escape takes less than 3 minutes and will not impede other escaping persons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Use Evac chair or similar</td>
<td>N/A; see section 13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Carry-down 2, 3 or 4 people</td>
<td>N/A; see section 13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Travel down in own chair with support</td>
<td>N/A; see section 13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Cannot transfer readily</td>
<td>N/A; see section 13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Needs assistance to walk down stairs, 1 or 2 people</td>
<td>Only as buddy system (25) and only if buddies will be reliably available</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Needs orientation information or assistance</td>
<td>Could be as buddy system (25)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Needs tactile map of building</td>
<td>Not yet available – use other options</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Needs colour contrasting on stairways</td>
<td>Person</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Needs step edge markings</td>
<td>Person</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Needs showing escape routes</td>
<td>D, S Assister</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Needs assistance for person and dog</td>
<td>Could be as buddy system (25) D Assister</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Needs doors opening</td>
<td>Could be as buddy system (25)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Needs information in large print</td>
<td>Reception to provide large print version of Fire Emergency Plan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Identification of escape route</td>
<td>i.e. predetermine most suitable escape route(s) from intended location</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Provision of flashing beacons</td>
<td>Not yet provided – use other options</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Buddy system **</td>
<td>Nominate companion or person(s) nearby</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Provision of vibrating pagers/pillows</td>
<td>C, L, D Assister(s)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Provision of alternative alarm</td>
<td>Not yet provided – use other options</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Additional checks by fire marshals etc</td>
<td>Unlikely to be suitable (see section 13)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Needs information in audio format</td>
<td>Not yet available – use other options</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* (shown above in order of preference/likelihood): L = local (staff or persons in vicinity of person with disability, if reliably present); D = local department; R = Reception; S = Security; C = carer