

Policy 13

First Aid Policy 2026/2027

13.1 Policy Statement

13.1.1 First Aid is the immediate treatment necessary for the purpose of preserving life and minimising the consequences of injury or illness until expert medical assistance can be obtained. First aid also includes the initial treatment of minor injuries, which will not need treatment of a medical practitioner.

13.1.2 The requirement of first aid is to help anyone injured or suddenly taken ill before expert help is available, or before an ambulance arrives. The objectives of first aid are:

- Saving life by prompt and initial action
- Preventing an injury or condition from deteriorating
- Reassurance to the casualty helping recovery, and protection from further danger.

13.1.3 Under the Health and Safety First Aid Regulations 1981, employers must provide adequate equipment, facilities and personnel to enable first aid to be rendered to employees.

13.1.4 To ensure that first aid arrangements within the Company are provided relative to the risk of injury or ill health at work, and that these are clearly communicated throughout, the Company will:

- Evaluate the level of first aid provision
- Provide adequate equipment, facilities and appropriate training for first aiders
- Review this Policy at least annually or more frequently if significant changes occur.

13.2 Terms and Definitions

13.2.1 The below table sets out terms and definitions used within this document.

Term	Definition
EFAW	Emergency First Aid at Work
FAW	First Aid at Work

13.3 Data Protection

13.3.1 Reach supports the objectives of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018 and other legislation relating to Data Processing, including the Human Rights Act 1998, Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Reach has a statutory obligation to process personal data in accordance with the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018

13.3.2 Every member of Reach has an obligation to ensure that the information they process (use) is collected, maintained and disclosed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Reach Data Protection Policy.

13.4 Disclosure of Information

13.4.1 Any use or disclosure of information held within Reach, without there being a legitimate purpose or legal basis, will be classed as unauthorised and is a criminal offence under Section 55 of the Act Right of Access (Subject Access Requests).

13.5 Responsibilities

13.5.1 Director and Atlas Safety

13.5.1.1 The Director is accountable for compliance with the relevant legislation relating to first aid and the provision of sufficient resources to meet the requirements.

13.5.1.2 The Director in cooperation with the Health and Safety Consultant is responsible for assessing the level of first aid provision relating to training.

13.5.1.3 The Director is responsible for carrying out the first aid risk assessment to ensure that adequate first aid can be provided during all work hours and for employees to know what to do in the event of an accident or illness.

13.5.2 First Aiders

13.5.2.1 First aiders are responsible for maintaining their skills and knowledge and assisting in recording accidents when they administered first aid.

13.5.3 Nominated Person

13.5.3.1 Nominated person(s) are responsible for maintaining stocks in first aid kits and appropriate signage is in place.

13.6 Responsibilities

13.6.1 At Reach, there must be adequate and appropriate provision of first aid equipment, facilities and appropriately trained staff to enable first aid to be administered to employees and non-employees if they become injured or ill.

13.6.2 The level of first aid provision will be assessed by the Direct Health & Safety Consultant.

13.6.3 First Aid Needs Assessment for Department documents will be used to assess the level of first aid provision.

13.6.4 As a minimum requirement, Reach Establishments & Offices will provide a minimum of a suitably stocked first aid box, and an 'Emergency First Aid at Work' trained staff member nominated to look after first aid arrangements and take charge in emergencies.

13.6.5 All staff will be made aware of the location of our nearest defibrillator.

- South Petherton base - Located on the Sports Pavilion next to base
- North Curry - Located on the garage next to the Pavilion
- Evercreech – Located on the village hall a short walk away
- Hornets' Nest (East Lambrook) – Located in the telephone box in East Lambrook centre
- Frogmary offices - Closest is located on the David Hall in the village centre

13.6.6 However, where the work involves risks, for example work with hazardous substances or with dangerous tools or machinery, first aid needs may be greater, and Managers may need to increase the number of first aiders.

13.6.7 It is important to ensure that first aid provision is adequate and appropriate during all working hours, so planned annual leave, maternity leave of first aiders must be covered.

13.6.8 All site Managers are responsible for undertaking first aid assessments, ensuring adequate first aid arrangements at individual premises.

- There are enough first aid trained personnel to meet the need identified in the assessment throughout the times that premises are in use
- There is adequate provision of first aid equipment which is stored in suitable containers
- Sufficient notices are displayed at appropriate places indicating the location of first aid equipment and trained first aiders so that assistance can be quickly summoned. These should be reviewed and amended regularly
- Adequate access to a telephone is always available to call emergency services when required
- Managers inform employees of the local first aid arrangements at induction and whenever changes are made
- Staff are made aware of the location of first aid equipment/facilities and personnel
- A suitable first aid room is available when the need is identified
- Visitors and contractors are provided with information regarding first aid procedures and how to access first aid provision prior to commencing work, if this will be available to them whilst working on-site.

13.6.9 Records will be maintained of:

- Checking of first aid boxes by nominated person
- All first aid administered must be recorded on the appropriate accident form
- Location of equipment.

13.6.10 Managers are responsible for assessing the first aid requirements for off-site activities where there may be an increased risk of injury.

13.7 Levels of First Aid Provision & Roles

13.7.1 A First Aider

13.7.1.1 (FAW) is someone who has undergone an approved training course in First Aid at Work and who holds a current First Aid at Work Certificate.

Their role involves:

- Undertaking first aid treatment in accordance with their training
- Summoning an ambulance or other external medical services
- Ensuring a record of the accident and treatment given has been made on the Company accident form on clear care.

13.7.2 An Emergency First Aider

13.7.2.1 (EFAW) is someone who has undergone an approved Emergency First Aid at Work training course (of minimum one-day duration) and who holds a current Emergency First Aid at Work Certificate. They are normally used in low hazard locations; their role involves:

- Undertaking basic emergency first aid in accordance with their training
- Summoning the assistance of a First Aider where available
- Summoning an ambulance or other medical services
- Ensuring a record of the accident and treatment given has been made on the Company accident form on clear care.

13.7.3 First Aid Materials and Equipment

13.7.3.1 Once the assessment of first aid provision has been undertaken, the necessary materials, equipment and facilities must be provided and maintained in accordance with the determined need. This will involve ensuring that first-aid equipment is suitably marked, easily accessible and available in all places identified by the assessment.

13.7.3.2 Each site should have at least one first aid box supplied with a sufficient quantity of first-aid materials suitable for the circumstances, and if necessary, a body spills kit.

13.7.3.3 First-aid boxes should be easily accessible, and sited, if possible, near to hand washing facilities. First aid boxes must only be used to store first aid materials and nothing else. They must not contain tablets, medications, creams etc.

13.7.3.4 The nominated person must regularly inspect the contents of first-aid boxes and the contents must be restocked as soon as possible after use.

13.7.4 Paediatric First Aid

13.7.4.1 The Company recognises that children and young people of various ages are cared for, therefore paediatric first aid will be included in the EFAW training.

13.7.5 Training First Aid Personnel

13.7.5.1 All employees who undertake first aid duties must be competent to carry out their role. The content and duration of training necessary will depend on the role of an individual.

Course	Intended for	Duration of course	Revalidation required	Refresher training	Revalidation training
First Aid at Work Certificate	First Aiders	3 days	Before certificate expires (3 years from date of certificate)	Annual	2 day revalidation
Emergency First Aid at Work Certificate	Emergency First Aiders	1 day	Before certificate expires (3 years from date of certificate)	Annual	Repeat of original 1 day course

13.8 Infection Control

13.8.1 To minimise risk of infection whilst administering first aid (for example, from hepatitis B and HIV), first-aid personnel must cover all exposed cuts/abrasions on their own bodies with a waterproof dressing before administering treatment.

13.8.2 They must also wash their hands before and after applying dressings. If the casualty is bleeding from the mouth the blood must be wiped away using a clean cloth or handkerchief.

13.8.3 Although mouthpieces are available for administering mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, they should only be used by trained personnel as incorrect use may cause bleeding.

13.8.4 Disposable nitrile/vinyl gloves and aprons must be worn whenever blood, or other body fluids are handled, and disposable materials, such as paper towels must be used to mop up any substances. Contaminated work areas must be suitably disinfected and soiled clothing should be washed on a hot cycle or advice given to this effect if washing sent home.

13.8.5 If contact is made with any other person's body fluids the area should be washed immediately and medical advice sought.

Any further questions regarding guidelines in this policy then please contact one of the leadership team.

To ensure the effectiveness of this document our 'First Aid' policy will be reviewed annually.

Signed:



Date: 2nd Sept 2026

Dan Palmer

Founder / Director