A fire safety maintenance checklist can be used as a means of supporting your fire safety policy. This list is not intended to be comprehensive and should not be used as a substitute for carrying out a fire risk assessment.

You can modify the example, where necessary, to fit your premises and may need to incorporate the recommendations of manufacturers and installers of the fire safety equipment/systems that you may have installed in your premises.

Any ticks in the grey boxes should result in further investigation and appropriate action as necessary. In larger and more complex premises you may need to seek the assistance of a competent person to carry out some of the checks.

### Appendix A

#### A1 Example fire safety maintenance checklist

A fire safety maintenance checklist can be used as a means of supporting your fire safety policy. This list is not intended to be comprehensive and should not be used as a substitute for carrying out a fire risk assessment.

You can modify the example, where necessary, to fit your premises and may need to incorporate the recommendations of manufacturers and installers of the fire safety equipment/systems that you may have installed in your premises.

Any ticks in the grey boxes should result in further investigation and appropriate action as necessary. In larger and more complex premises you may need to seek the assistance of a competent person to carry out some of the checks.

### Daily checks (not normally recorded)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>N/A</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Escape routes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can all fire exits be opened immediately and easily?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are fire doors clear of obstructions?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are escape routes clear?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire warning systems</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the indicator panel showing ‘normal’?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are whistles, gongs or air horns in place?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escape lighting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are luminaires and exit signs in good condition and undamaged?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is emergency lighting and sign lighting working correctly?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firefighting equipment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are all fire extinguishers in place?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are fire extinguishers clearly visible?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are vehicles blocking fire hydrants or access to them?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Weekly checks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>N/A</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Escape routes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do all emergency fastening devices to fire exits (push bars and pads, etc.) work correctly?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are external routes clear and safe?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire warning systems</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does testing a manual call point send a signal to the indicator panel? (Disconnect the link to the receiving centre or tell them you are doing a test.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did the alarm system work correctly when tested?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did staff and other people hear the fire alarm?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did any linked fire protection systems operate correctly? (e.g., magnetic door holder released, smoke curtains drop)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Three-monthly checks

### General
- Are any emergency water tanks/ponds at their normal capacity?
- Are vehicles blocking fire hydrants or access to them?
- Additional items from manufacturer’s recommendations.

### Firefighting equipment
- Is the pressure in ‘stored pressure’ fire extinguishers correct?
- Additional items from manufacturer’s recommendations.

### Escape lighting
- Do all luminaires and exit signs function correctly when tested?
- Have all emergency generators been tested? (Normally run for one hour.)

## Six-monthly checks

### General
- Has any firefighting or emergency evacuation lift been tested by a competent person?
- Has any sprinkler system been tested by a competent person?
- Have the release and closing mechanisms of any fire-resisting compartment doors and shutters been tested by a competent person?

### Fire warning system
- Has the system been checked by a competent person?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>N/A</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Six-monthly checks</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Escape lighting</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do all luminaires operate on test for one third of their rated value?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional items from manufacturer’s recommendations.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Annual checks</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Escape routes</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do all self-closing fire doors fit correctly?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is escape route compartmentation in good repair?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Escape lighting</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do all luminaires operate on test for their full rated duration?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has the system been checked by a competent person?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Firefighting equipment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has all firefighting equipment been checked by a competent person?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Miscellaneous</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has any dry/wet rising fire main been tested by a competent person?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has the smoke and heat ventilation system been tested by a competent person?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has external access for the fire service been checked for ongoing availability?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have any firefighters’ switches been tested?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has the fire hydrant bypass flow valve control been tested by a competent person?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are any necessary fire engine direction signs in place?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Risk Assessment - Record of significant findings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk assessment for</th>
<th>Assessment undertaken by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Company</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Completed by</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Signature</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sheet number</th>
<th>Floor/area</th>
<th>Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Step 1 - Identify fire hazards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sources of ignition</th>
<th>Sources of fuel</th>
<th>Sources of oxygen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Step 2 - People at risk**

**Step 3 - Evaluate, remove, reduce and protect from risk**

1. **(3.1) Evaluate the risk of the fire occurring**
2. **(3.2) Evaluate the risk to people from a fire starting in the premises**
3. **(3.3) Remove and reduce the hazards that may cause a fire**
4. **(3.4) Remove and reduce the risks to people from a fire**

**Assessment review**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment review date</th>
<th>Completed by</th>
<th>Signature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Review outcome (where substantial changes have occurred a new record sheet should be used)**

### Notes:
(1) The risk assessment record of significant findings should refer to other plans, records or other documents as necessary.
(2) The information in this record should assist you to develop an emergency plan; coordinate measures with other ‘responsible persons’ in the building; and to inform and train staff and inform other relevant persons.
Appendix B
Technical information on fire-resisting separation, fire doors and door fastenings

B1 Fire-resisting separation

General
The materials from which your premises are constructed may determine the speed with which a fire may spread, affecting the escape routes that people will use. A fire starting in a building constructed mainly from readily combustible material will spread faster than one where modern fire-resisting construction materials have been used. Where non-combustible materials are used and the internal partitions are made from fire-resisting materials, the fire will be contained for a longer period, allowing more time for the occupants to escape.

Because of the requirements of the Building Regulations you will probably already have some walls and floors that are fire-resisting and limitations on the surface finishes to certain walls and ceilings.

You will need to consider whether the standard of fire resistance and surface finishing in the escape routes is satisfactory, has been affected by wear and tear or alterations and whether any improvements are necessary.

The following paragraphs give basic information on how fire-resisting construction can provide up to 30 minutes protection to escape routes. This is the standard recommended for most situations. If you are still unsure of the level of fire resistance which is necessary after reading this information, you should consult a fire safety expert.

Fire-resisting construction
The fire resistance of a wall or floor is dependent on the quality of construction and materials used. Common examples of types of construction that provide 30-minute fire resistance to escape routes if constructed to the above standards are:

- internal framed construction wall, non-load bearing, consisting of 72mm x 37mm timber studs at 600mm centres and faced with 12.5mm of plasterboard with all joints taped and filled (see Figure 60);
- internal framed construction, non-load bearing, consisting of channel section steel studs at 600mm centres faced with 12.5mm of plasterboard with all joints taped and filled; and
- masonry cavity wall consisting of solid bricks of clay, brick earth, shale, concrete or calcium silicate, with a minimum thickness of 90mm on each leaf.
There are other methods and products available which will achieve the required standard of fire resistance and may be more appropriate for the existing construction in your premises. If there is any doubt about how your building is constructed, then ask for further advice from a competent person.

**Fire-resisting floors**

The fire resistance of floors will depend on the existing floor construction as well as the type of ceiling finish beneath. If you need to upgrade the fire resistance of your floor it may not be desirable to apply additional fire resistance to the underside of an existing ornate ceiling. In older buildings there may be a requirement to provide fire resistance between beams and joists.

A typical example of a 30-minute fire-resisting timber floor is tongue and groove softwood of not less than 15mm finished thickness on 37mm timber joists, with a ceiling below of one layer of plasterboard to a thickness of 12.5mm with joints taped and filled and backed by supporting timber.

There are other, equally valid, methods and products available for upgrading floors. If you are in any doubt you should ask the advice of a competent person and ensure that the product is installed in accordance with instructions from the manufacturer or supplier.

**Fire-resisting glazing**

The most common type of fire-resisting glazing is 6mm Georgian wired glazing, which is easily identifiable. Clear fire-resisting glazing is available and can quickly be identified by a mark etched into the glass, usually in the corner of the glazed panel, to confirm its fire-resisting standard. Although this is not compulsory, the marking of glass is supported by the Glass and Glazing Federation, you should check whether the glazing will be marked accordingly before purchase. The glazing should have been installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions and to the appropriate standard, to ensure that its fire-resisting properties are maintained.

The performance of glazed systems in terms of fire resistance and external fire exposure should, wherever possible, be confirmed by test evidence. Alternatively, where there is a lack of test information, ask for an assessment of the proposed construction from suitably qualified people.

**Fire separation of voids**

A common problem encountered with fire separation is fire-resisting partitions which do not extend above false ceilings to true ceiling height. This may result in unseen fire spread and a loss of vital protection to the escape routes. It is important therefore to carefully check all such partitions have been installed correctly.

**CLASP and SCOLA type construction**

CLASP (Consortium of Local Authorities Special Programme) and SCOLA (Second Consortium of Local Authorities) are total or systematic methods of construction that were developed.
to provide consistent building quality, while reducing the need for traditional skilled labour. They consist of a metal frame upon which structural panels are fixed. This results in hidden voids through which fire may spread. It is important that cavity barriers that restrict the spread of fire are installed appropriately, especially to walls and floors that need to be fire-resisting. If you are in any doubt as to whether any remedial work will be required, then ask for advice from a competent person.

Breaching fire separation
To ensure effective protection against fire, walls and floors providing fire separation must form a complete barrier, with an equivalent level of fire resistance provided to any openings such as doors, ventilation ducts, pipe passages or refuse chutes.

The passing of services such as heating pipes or electrical cables through fire-resisting partitions leaves gaps through which fire and smoke may spread. This should be rectified by suitable fire stopping and there are many proprietary products available to suit particular types of construction. Such products should be installed by competent contractors.

Décor and surface finishes of walls, ceilings and escape routes
The materials used to line walls and ceilings can contribute significantly to the spread of flame across their surface. Most materials that are used as surface linings will fall into one of three classes of surface spread of flame. The following are common examples of acceptable materials for various situations:

Class 0: Materials suitable for circulation spaces and escape routes
- Such materials include brickwork, blockwork, concrete, ceramic tiles, plaster finishes (including rendering on wood or metal lathes), wood-wool cement slabs and mineral fibre tiles or sheets with cement or resin binding.

Note: Additional finishes to these surfaces may be detrimental to the fire performance of the surface and if there is any doubt about this then consult the manufacturer of the finish.

Class 1: Materials suitable for use in all rooms but not on escape routes
- Such materials include all the Class 0 materials referred to above. Additionally, timber, hardboard, blockboard, particle board, heavy flock wallpapers and thermosetting plastics will be suitable if flame-retardant treated to achieve a Class 1 standard.

Class 3: Materials suitable for use in rooms of less than 30m²
- Such materials include all those referred to in Class 1, including those that have not been flame-retardant treated and certain dense timber or plywood and standard glass-reinforced polyesters.

The equivalent European classification standard will also be acceptable. Further details about internal linings and classifications are available in Approved Document B. Appropriate testing procedures are detailed in BS 476-7 and where appropriate BS EN 13501-1.

Further guidance on types of fire-resisting construction has been published by the Building Research Establishment.

B2 Fire-resisting doors
Requirements of a fire-resisting door
Effective fire-resisting doors (see Figure 61) are vital to ensure that the occupants can evacuate to a place of safety. Correctly specified and well-fitted doors will hold back fire and smoke preventing escape routes becoming unusable, as well as preventing the fire spreading from one area to another.

Fire-resisting doors are necessary in any doorway located in a fire-resisting structure. Most internal doors are constructed of timber. These will give some limited protection against fire spread, but only a purpose-built fire-resisting door that has been tested to an approved standard will provide the necessary protection. Metal fire-resisting doors are also available and specific guidance for these follows.

All fire-resisting doors are rated by their performance when tested to an appropriate standard. The level of protection provided by the door is measured, primarily by determining the time taken for a fire to breach the integrity (E), of the door assembly, together with its resistance to the passage of hot gases and flame.

It may be possible to upgrade the fire resistance of existing doors. Further information is available from the Building Research Establishment or Timber Research and Development Association.

Timber fire-resisting doors require a gap of 2-4mm between the door leaf and the frame.
However, larger gaps may be necessary to ensure that the door closes flush into its frame when smoke seals are fitted. Further information is available in BS 4787-1. For fire-resisting purposes the gap is normally protected by installing an intumescent seal, in either the door or, preferably, the frame. The intumescent seal expands in the early stages of a fire and enhances the protection given by the door. Additional smoke seals will restrict the spread of smoke at ambient temperatures. Doors fitted with smoke seals, either incorporated in the intumescent seal or fitted separately, have their classification code suffixed with an ‘S’.

The principal fire-resisting door categories are:

- E20 fire-resisting door providing 20 minutes fire resistance (or equivalent FD 20S).
  (Note: Many suppliers no longer provide an E 20 type fire-resisting door.)
- E30 fire-resisting door providing 30 minutes fire resistance (or equivalent FD 30S).
- E60 fire-resisting door providing 60 minutes fire resistance (or equivalent FD 60S).

Timber fire-resisting doors are available that will provide up to 120 minutes fire resistance but their use is limited to more specialised conditions which are beyond the scope of this guidance.

**Metal fire-resisting doors**

Although the majority of fire-resisting doors are made from timber, metal fire-resisting doors, which meet the appropriate Standard, can often be used for the same purpose. However, there are situations where they are more appropriate. The majority of metal fire-resisting door manufacturers will require the use of bespoke frames and hardware for their door sets.

See BS EN 1634-1 and BS 476-22 for more information.

For detailed guidance refer to Approved Document B.

**Glazing in fire-resisting doors**

Although glazing provides additional safety in everyday use and can enhance the appearance of fire-resisting doors, it should never reduce the fire resistance of the door. The opening provided in the door for the fire-resisting glazing unit(s), fitted in a proven intumescent glazing system, and the fitting of the beading are critical, and should only be entrusted to a competent person. In all cases the door and glazing should be purchased from a reputable supplier who can provide documentary evidence that the door continues to achieve the required rating.

**Fire-resisting door furniture**

**Hinges**

To ensure compliance with their rated fire performance, fire-resisting doors need to be hung with the correct number, size and quality of hinges. Normally a minimum of three hinges is required, however the manufacturer’s instructions should be closely followed. BS EN 1935 including Annex B, is the appropriate standard.

**Alternative door mountings**

Although the most common method of hanging a door is to use single axis hinges, alternative methods are employed where the door is required to be double swing or mounted on pivots for other reasons.

Floor mounted controlled door closing devices are the most common method regularly found with timber, glass and steel doors while transom mounted devices are commonly used with aluminium sections. In each case reference should be made to the fire test report for details as to compliance with the composition of the door assembly including the door mounting conditions.

**Self-closing devices**

All fire-resisting doors, other than those to locked cupboards and service ducts should be fitted with an appropriately controlled self-closing device that will effectively close the door from any angle. In certain circumstances, concealed, jamb-mounted closing devices may be specified and in these cases should be capable of closing the door from any angle and against any latch fitted to the door; spring hinges are unlikely to be suitable. Further information is available in BS EN 1154.

Rising butt hinges are not suitable for use as a self-closing device due to their inability to close and latch the door from any angle.

**Automatic door hold-open/release devices for self-closing fire doors**

These devices are designed to hold open self-closing fire doors or allow them to swing free during normal use. In the event of a fire alarm the device will then release the door automatically, allowing the self-closing mechanism to close the door.
Such devices are particularly useful in situations where self-closing doors on escape routes are used regularly by significant numbers of people, or by people with impaired mobility who may have difficulty in opening the doors.

Typical examples of such devices include:

- electro-magnetic devices fitted to the fire-resisting door which release when the fire detection and warning system operates, allowing a separate self-closer to close the door;
- electro-magnetic devices within the controlled door closing device which function on the operation of the fire detection and warning system; and
- ‘free swing’ controlled door closing devices, which operate by allowing the door leaf to work independently of the closing device in normal conditions. An electro-magnetic device within the spring mechanism linked to the fire detection and warning system ensures that the door closes on the operation of the system.

Note: Free swing devices may not be suitable in some situations, such as corridors, where draughts are a problem and the doors are likely to swing uncontrolled, causing possible difficulty or injury to certain people e.g. those with certain disabilities, the elderly and frail, or young children.

Automatic door hold open/release devices fitted to doors protecting escape routes should only be installed in conjunction with an automatic fire detection and warning system incorporating smoke detectors, that is designed to protect the escape routes in the building (see Part 2, Section 2).

In all cases the automatic device should release the fire-resisting door allowing it to close effectively within its frame when any of the following conditions occur:

- the detection of smoke by an automatic detector;
- the actuation of the fire detection and alarm system by manual means, e.g. operation of break glass call point;
- any failure of the fire detection and alarm system; or
- any electrical power failure.

Other devices, including self-contained devices which perform a similar function, that are not connected directly to a fire alarm system and are not therefore able to meet the above criteria are available and may be acceptable where a site-specific risk assessment can show that they are appropriate. Such devices are unlikely to be suitable for use on doors protecting single stairways or other critical means of escape.

In all cases where a door hold open device is used it should be possible to close the door manually.

A site-specific risk assessment should be undertaken before any type of automatic door hold open/release device is installed. If you are unsure about the suitability of such devices in your premises, you should seek the advice of a competent person.

Further guidance about automatic door hold open/release devices is given in BS EN 1155 or BS 5839-3.

**Door co-ordinators**

Where pairs of doors with rebated meeting stiles are installed it is critical that the correct closing order is maintained. Door coordinators to BS EN 1158 should be fitted and fully operational in all cases where the doors are self-closing.

**Installation and workmanship**

The reliability and performance of correctly specified fire-resisting doors can be undermined by inadequate installation. It is important that installers with the necessary level of skill and knowledge are used. Accreditation schemes for installers of fire-resisting doors are available.

Fire-resisting doors and shutters will require routine maintenance, particularly to power operation and release and closing mechanisms.

Further information is available on fire-resisting doors in BS 8214. If you are unsure about the quality, the effectiveness or the fitting of your fire-resisting doors consult a fire safety expert.

For further guidance on the selection and maintenance of door furniture suitable for use on timber fire resisting and escape doors refer to the Building Hardware Industry Federation (BHIF) Code of Practice – Hardware for Timber Fire and Escape Doors.
B3 Door-fastening devices

The relationship between the securing of doors against unwanted entry and the ability to escape through them easily in an emergency has often proved problematical. Careful planning and the use of quality materials remain the most effective means of satisfying both of these objectives.

Any device that impedes people making good their escape, either by being unnecessarily complicated to manipulate or not being readily openable, will not be acceptable.

Guidance on fire exits starts from the position that doors on escape routes should not be fitted with any locking devices (electrically operated or otherwise). However, it is accepted that in many cases the need for security will require some form of device that prevents unlimited access but still enables the occupants of a building or area to open the door easily if there is a fire. These devices can take many forms but, in the majority of cases, premises where there are members of the public present or others who are not familiar with the building should use panic exit bar devices (i.e. push bars or touch bars). See BS EN 112542 for further information.

Premises that have limited numbers of staff or others who are familiar with the building and where panic is not likely may use devices (i.e. push pads or lever handles). See BS EN 17943 for further information.

In some larger premises, when only certain staff are on the premises and there is a security issue, it may be acceptable to restrict the number of emergency exits immediately available, e.g. when only security staff are
present at night, or prior to opening the premises in the morning. Staff should be made fully aware of any restrictions and the number of exits not immediately available should be limited.

**Electrical locking devices**

Electrically operated entry control devices have been developed for use as locking devices on fire exits. They fall into two main categories, electromechanical and electromagnetic.

- **Electromechanical devices**
  
  Electromechanical devices comprise electromechanical lock keeps and draw bolts, which can be controlled by people inside the premises by entering a code or by using ‘smart cards’, which have been adapted to control the exit from certain areas. These devices have been fitted in many premises and may be linked to the fire-detection and/or warning system. Experience has shown that these devices can fail to open in a number of ways. They are dependent on a spring mechanism to return the lock keep or draw bolt(s) and are liable to jam when pressure is applied to the door. It is also relatively easy to fit them incorrectly. Electromechanical locking devices are normally unacceptable on escape doors, unless they are fitted with a manual means of overriding the locking mechanism such as a push bar, push pad or lever handle or that they do not rely on a spring mechanism, fail-safe open and are not affected by pressure, in which case the criteria for electromagnetic devices should be applied.

- **Electromagnetic devices**
  
  These devices comprise of a magnet and a simple fixed retaining plate with no moving parts and are therefore generally considered to be more reliable due to their inherent ‘fail-safe unlocked’ operation. Electromagnetic locking devices go some way to addressing the particular concerns surrounding electromechanical locking systems. The release of this type of device is controlled by the interruption of electrical current to an electromagnet either manually via a switch or other means, break-glass point (typically coloured green), or by linking to the fire-warning and/or detection system of the premises.

**Time-delay devices on escape routes**

A further development is the fitting of a time-delay system to the electronic door-locking device. This delays the actual opening of an exit door for a variable period following operation of the panic bar or other exit device. Periods of between five and 60 seconds can be pre-set at the manufacturing stage or can be adjusted when fitted. These are not usually acceptable for use by members of the public, pupils or students. However, they may be acceptable in non-student areas for use by staff who are familiar with their operation and are suitably trained in their use.

**Management of electronic door-control devices including time delays**

The use of such devices may be accepted by enforcing authorities if the responsible person can demonstrate, through a suitable risk assessment for each individual door, both the need and the adequate management controls to ensure that people can escape safely from the premises. In particular:

- **Access control should not be confused with exit control.** Many devices are available which control the access to the premises but retain the immediate escape facility from the premises.
- **In public areas, when push bars are operated on escape doors, they should release the electromagnetic locks immediately and allow the exit doors to open.**
- **The requirement for exit control should be carefully assessed and should not be seen as a substitute for good management of the employees and occupants.**
- **All other alternatives should have been explored/evaluated prior to using these devices to ensure they do not affect the safety of occupants.**
- **The device should be connected to the fire warning and/or detection system.**
- **The device should incorporate a bypass circuit for immediate release on activation of the fire warning and/or detection system.**
- **Each door should be fitted with a single securing device.**
- **The emergency exit doors should be clearly labelled about how to operate them.**
- **Adequate control measures should be put in place to ensure the safety of the occupants.**

The use of electronic door-locking devices should be considered with particular care in premises with a number of different occupancies. The management of a complicated system of evacuation for many different groups is unlikely to be practicable.
The technical standards in respect of sourcing, maintaining and testing must be extremely high.

When part of the management control system involves trained personnel helping others at these doors, it is vital to ensure these people are available.

The use of exit control devices should not be considered where the number of trained personnel is low or students/pupils would be expected to operate the devices without help. Their use in educational premises should generally be restricted to staff only areas of the premises.

In premises where there may be large numbers of people, the devices should only be considered when linked to a comprehensive automatic fire-detection and warning system in accordance with BS 5839-1. There should be an additional means of manually overriding the locking device at each such exit (typically a green break-glass point).

The use of time-delay systems that prevent the opening of emergency exits for a pre-set time are primarily used to improve security. These add a further layer of complexity to the fire strategy and should not be considered in areas used by students/pupils. They should only be used in staff areas when all other options such as exterior boundary management have been addressed.

British Standard 8220 gives further advice on security in buildings and while this standard does refer to electronic locking devices, it also acknowledges that the balance must remain on the side of emergency escape rather than security.
Appendix C
Historic buildings

General considerations
This appendix offers additional information about listed and historical buildings.

Fire risk assessments conducted for an educational premises which is within a listed or historic building will need to ensure that a balance is struck between ensuring sufficient fire safety measures are in place for the safety of people, yet avoid extensive alterations and helping to maintain the character of the building.

As well as the fire risk assessment it is recommended that a general fire policy statement and manual is compiled. A person must be nominated to take responsibility for all aspects of fire safety. Usually the person charged with the management and control of the premises will be the ‘responsible person’ under the Order.1

The advice and/or consent of a building control body or any other relevant bodies (e.g. English Heritage)should form part of any fire risk assessment that impacts on the character of the building (e.g. replacement of doors, fittings, wooden panelling and décor) or material changes to existing escape routes. An ideal solution is one that is reversible, enabling the historic elements to be reinstated.

A fire safety advisor will be able to suggest alternatives to conventional fire precautions, such as:

- a fire engineering solution;
- upgrading existing doors and partitions in a sympathetic manner to improve their fire resistance; and
- considering the installation of specialist fire-detection or suppression systems.

Should the design and nature of the historic building preclude the introduction of conventional fire safety features, it will be necessary to manage the building in such a way that:

- limits the number of occupants, either staff or members of the public, inside the building;
- limits activities in the building; and
- provides adequate supervision within the building.

Historic buildings that open to the public may wish to designate parts as ‘off limits’ to the general public. The locking of internal doors or the use of fixed or movable barriers should not restrict alternative escape routes being made available.

Liaison with the fire and rescue service
The responsible person will need to ensure effective liaison with the fire and rescue service to enable them to carry out firefighting operations. These may include information on:

- the provision of water supplies, seasonal ponds, lakes and underground tanks, and any associated pumps;
- difficult access for fire engines;
- particular hazards in the construction features of the building (including asbestos);
- the use of combustible under floor insulation;
- underground vaults ducts and voids where fire may spread unchecked;
- worn stone slabs in stairway construction; and
- the presence of cast iron columns and wrought iron beams.
**Emergency planning**

An important consideration for the owners and trustees is the protection of valuable artefacts and paintings from the effects of fire. However, the efficient evacuation of all occupants must take precedence over procedures for limiting damage to property and contents. Salvage work should be limited to those parts of the building not directly affected by the fire.

Fire wardens and others tasked with carrying out salvage work should have received formal training, adequate protection and be fully briefed about the health and safety risk assessment carried out to identify the dangers associated with this activity. Further detailed advice on fire safety in historic buildings can found in the following publications:

- BS 7913: Guide to the principles of the conservation of historic buildings, British Standards Institution.
- Summary and conclusions of the report into fire protection measures for the Royal Palaces by Sir Alan Bailey following the Windsor Castle fire, 1992.
- The fire at Upton Park, The National Trust.
- Timber panelled doors and fire, English Heritage
- Fire safety in historic town centres, English Heritage and Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service.
Appendix D
Glossary

These definitions are provided to assist the responsible person in understanding some of the technical terms used in this guide. They are not exhaustive and more precise definitions may be available in other guidance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access room</td>
<td>A room through which the only escape route from an inner room passes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation stairway</td>
<td>A stairway, additional to that required for means of escape purposes, provided for the convenience of occupants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alterations notice</td>
<td>If your premises are considered by the enforcing authority to be high risk, they may issue an alterations notice that requires you to inform them before making any material alterations to your premises.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative escape route</td>
<td>Escape routes sufficiently separated by either direction and space, or by fire-resisting construction to ensure that one is still available irrespective of the location of a fire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approved Document B (ADB)^2</td>
<td>Guidance issued by Government in support of the fire safety aspects of the building regulations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As low as reasonably practicable</td>
<td>Is a concept where risks should continue to be reduced until you reach a point where the cost and effort to reduce the risk further would be grossly disproportionate to the benefit achieved.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automatic fire-detection system</td>
<td>A means of automatically detecting the products of a fire and sending a signal to a fire warning system. The design and installation should conform to BS 5839-1. See ‘Fire warning’.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basement</td>
<td>A storey with a floor which at some point is more than 1,200mm below the highest level of ground adjacent to the outside walls, unless, and for escape purposes only, such area has adequate, independent and separate means of escape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child</td>
<td>Anyone who is not over compulsory school age, i.e. before or just after their 16th birthday.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class 0, 1 or 3 surface spread of flame</td>
<td>Classes of surface spread of flame for materials needed to line the walls and ceilings of escape routes. See Appendix B for further information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combustible material</td>
<td>A substance that can be burned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compartment wall and/or floor</td>
<td>A fire-resisting wall or floor that separates one fire compartment from another.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competent person</td>
<td>A person with enough training and experience or knowledge and other qualities to enable them properly to assist in undertaking the preventive and protective measures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dangerous substance</td>
<td>1. A substance which because of its physico-chemical or chemical properties and the way it is used or is present at the workplace creates a risk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dead end</td>
<td>Area from which escape is possible in one direction only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct distance</td>
<td>The shortest distance from any point within the floor area to the nearest storey exit, or fire-resisting route, ignoring walls, partitions and fixings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic premises</td>
<td>Premises occupied as a private dwelling, excluding those areas used in common by the occupants of more than one such dwelling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency escape lighting</td>
<td>Lighting provided to illuminate escape routes that will function if the normal lighting fails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enforcing authority</td>
<td>The fire and rescue authority or any other authority specified in Article 25 of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escape route</td>
<td>Route forming that part of the means of escape from any point in the premises to a final exit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evacuation lift</td>
<td>A lift that may be used for the evacuation of people with disabilities, or others, in a fire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External escape stair</td>
<td>Stair providing an escape route, external to the building.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail-safe</td>
<td>Locking an output device with the application of power and having the device unlock when the power is removed. Also known as fail unlock, reverse action or power locked.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>False alarm</td>
<td>A fire signal, usually from a fire warning system, resulting from a cause other than fire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exit</td>
<td>An exit from a building where people can continue to disperse in safety and where they are no longer at danger from fire and/or smoke.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire compartment</td>
<td>A building, or part of a building, constructed to prevent the spread of fire to or from another part of the same building or an adjoining building.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire door</td>
<td>A door or shutter, together with its frame and furniture, provided for the passage of people, air or goods which, when closed, is intended to restrict the passage of fire and/or smoke to a predictable level of performance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firefighting lift</td>
<td>A lift, designed to have additional protection, with controls that enable it to be used under the direct control of the fire and rescue service when fighting a fire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firefighting shaft</td>
<td>A fire-resisting enclosure containing a firefighting stair, fire mains, firefighting lobbies and, if provided, a firefighting lift.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firefighting stairway</td>
<td>See firefighting shaft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire-resistance</td>
<td>The ability of a component or construction of a building to satisfy, for a stated period of time, some or all of the appropriate criteria of relevant standards. (Generally described as 30 minutes fire-resisting or 60 minutes fire-resisting.) See BS EN 1363-1, BS 476-7 and associated standards for further information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire safety manager</td>
<td>A nominated person with responsibility for carrying out day-to-day management of fire safety. (This may or may not be the same as the ‘responsible person’.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire safety strategy</td>
<td>A number of planned and co-ordinated arrangements designed to reduce the risk of fire and to ensure the safety of people if there is a fire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire stopping</td>
<td>A seal provided to close an imperfection of fit or design tolerance between elements or components, to restrict the passage of fire and smoke.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire-warning system</td>
<td>A means of alerting people to the existence of a fire. (See automatic fire detection system.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flammable material</td>
<td>Easily ignited and capable of burning rapidly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highly flammable</td>
<td>Generally liquids with a flashpoint of below 21°C. (The Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) Regulations 2002 (CHIP) give more detailed guidance.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Hazardous substance         | 1. See Dangerous substance.  
2. A substance subject to the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH).                                                                                                |
<p>| Inner room                  | A room from which escape is possible only by passing through another room (the access room).                                                                                                               |
| Licensed premises           | Any premises that require a licence under any statute to undertake trade or conduct business activities.                                                                                                |
| Material change             | An alteration to the premises, process or service which significantly affects the level of risk to people from fire in those premises.                                                                    |
| Means of escape             | Route(s) provided to ensure safe egress from premises or other locations to a place of total safety.                                                                                                      |
| Place of reasonable safety  | A place within a building or structure where, for a limited period of time, people will have some protection from the effects of fire and smoke. This place, usually a corridor or stairway, will normally have a minimum of 30 minutes fire resistance and allow people to continue their escape to a place of total safety. |
| Place of total safety       | A place, away from the premises, in which people are at no immediate danger from the effects of a fire.                                                                                                   |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Premises</td>
<td>Any place, such as a building and the immediate land bounded by any enclosure of it, any tent, moveable or temporary structure or any installation or workplace.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protected lobby</td>
<td>A fire-resisting enclosure providing access to an escape stairway via two sets of fire doors and into which no room opens other than toilets and lifts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protected stairway</td>
<td>A stairway which is adequately protected from the rest of the building by fire-resisting construction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protected route</td>
<td>An escape route which is adequately protected from the rest of the building by fire-resisting construction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refuge</td>
<td>A place of reasonable safety in which a disabled person and others who may need assistance may rest or wait for assistance before reaching a place of total safety. It should lead directly to a fire-resisting escape route.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsible person</td>
<td>The person ultimately responsible for fire safety as defined in the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relevant persons</td>
<td>Any person lawfully on your premises and any person in the immediate vicinity, but does not include firefighters carrying out firefighting duties.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-closing device</td>
<td>A device that is capable of closing the door from any angle and against any latch fitted to the door.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significant finding</td>
<td>A feature of the premises, from which the fire hazards and persons at risk are identified. The actions you have taken or will take to remove or reduce the chance of a fire occurring or the spread of fire and smoke. The actions people need to take in case of fire. The necessary information, instruction and training needed and how it will be given.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoke alarm</td>
<td>Device containing within one housing all the components, except possibly the energy source, for detecting smoke and giving an audible alarm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staged fire alarm</td>
<td>A fire warning which can be given in two or more stages for different purposes within a given area (i.e. notifying staff, stand by to evacuate, full evacuation).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storey exit</td>
<td>A final exit or a doorway giving direct access into a protected stairway, firefighting lobby, or external escape route</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel distance</td>
<td>The actual distance to be travelled by a person from any point within the floor area to the nearest storey exit or final exit, having regard to the layout of walls, partitions and fixings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vision panel</td>
<td>A transparent panel in a wall or door of an inner room enabling the occupant to become aware of a fire in the access area during the early stages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Way guidance</td>
<td>Low mounted luminous tracks positioned on escape routes in combination with exit indicators, exit marking and intermediate direction indicators along the route, provided for use when the supply to the normal lighting fails, which do not rely on an electrical supply for their luminous output</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where necessary</td>
<td>The Order requires that fire precautions (such as firefighting equipment, fire detection and warning, and emergency routes and exits) should be provided (and maintained) ‘where necessary’.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>What this means is that the fire precautions you must provide (and maintain) are those which are needed to reasonably protect relevant persons from risks to them in case of fire. This will be determined by the findings of your risk assessment, including the preventative measures you have or will have taken. In practice, it is very unlikely that a properly conducted fire risk assessment, which takes into account all the matters relevant for the safety of persons in case of fire, will conclude that no fire precautions (including maintenance) are necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young person</td>
<td>(a) A person aged 16 years, from the date on which he attains that age until and including the 31st August which next follows that date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) A person aged 16 years and over who is undertaking a course of full-time education at a school or college which is not advanced education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(c) A person aged 16 years and over who is undertaking approved training that is not provided through a contract of employment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For the purposes of paragraphs (b) and (c) the person:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(a) shall have commenced the course of full-time education or approved training before attaining the age of 19 years; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) shall not have attained the age of 20 years.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
References

The following documents are referenced in this guide. Where dated, only this version applies. Where updated, the latest version of the document applies.

15. ODPM/CACFOA/BFPSA guidance on reducing false alarms.
29 BS 5499-5: Graphical symbols and signs. Safety signs, including fire safety signs. Signs with specific safety meanings. British Standards Institution.
32 BS 476-7: Fire tests on building materials and structures. Method of test to determine the classification of the surface spread of flame of products. British Standards Institution.
33 BS EN 13501-1: Fire classification of construction products and building elements. Classification using test data from reaction to fire tests. British Standards Institution.
48 The Electricity at Work Regulations 1989, SI 1989/635.
51 Construction Information Sheet No. 51: Construction fire safety. Health and Safety Executive.
54 BS 7157: Method of test for ignitability of fabrics used in the construction of large tented structures. British Standards Institution.
55 BS 6661: Guide for the design, construction and maintenance of single-skin air supported structures. British Standards Institution.
56 Design, construction, specification and fire management of insulated envelopes for temperature controlled environments. International Association for Cold Storage Construction.
69 Increasing the fire resistance of existing timber doors, Information Paper 8/82. BRE.
71 BS 4787-1: Internal and external wood doorsets, door leaves and frames. Specification for dimensional requirements. British Standards Institution.
80 BS 5287: Specification for assessment and labelling of textile floor covering tested to BS 4790. British Standards Institution.
83 BS 5852: Methods of test for the assessment of the ignitability of upholstered seating by smoldering and flame ignition. British Standards Institution.
87 BS 5306-1: Fire extinguishing installations and equipment on premises. Hydrant systems, hose reels and foam inlets. British Standards Institution.
Further reading

The latest versions of all documents listed in this section should be used, including any amendments.

Any views expressed in these documents are not necessarily those of the DCLG.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BS EN 81-70</td>
<td>Safety rules for the construction and installation of lifts. Particular applications for passenger and goods passenger lifts. Accessibility to lifts for persons including persons with disability. British Standards Institution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS 7944</td>
<td>Type 1 heavy duty fire blankets and type 2 heavy duty heat protective blankets. British Standards Institution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS EN 1869</td>
<td>Fire blankets. British Standards Institution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS ISO 14520-1</td>
<td>Gaseous fire-extinguishing systems. Physical properties and system design. General requirements. British Standards Institution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS EN 60598-1</td>
<td>Luminaires. General requirements and tests. British Standards Institution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS 5499-1</td>
<td>Graphical symbols and signs. Safety signs, including fire safety signs. Specification for geometric shapes, colours and layout. British Standards Institution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS EN 1634-3</td>
<td>Fire resistance tests for door and shutter assemblies. Smoke control doors and shutters. British Standards Institution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft BS EN 14637</td>
<td>Building hardware. Electrically controlled hold-open systems for fire/smoke door assemblies. Requirements, test methods, application and maintenance. (Consultation document.) British Standards Institution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS EN 45020</td>
<td>Standardisation and related activities. General vocabulary. British Standards Institution.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Managing school facilities guide 6: Fire Safety. DfES.


Index

Page numbers in italics refer to information in Figures or Tables.

A
access for firefighters 23, 24, 60, 61, 116, 117, 127
alarms see fire detection and warning systems
alterations 8, 26, 39, 48–9, 50, 61, 66, 131
alterations notices 33, 35, 40, 49, 129
arson 12, 15, 18, 19, 42–3, 44, 45, 55, 60
assembly points 25, 38, 110, 111, 113
automatic fire detection systems 20, 21, 43, 48,
54, 55, 75, 76, 79, 88, 91–2, 98, 100, 129

B
basements 77, 78, 94, 96, 129
building work 8, 48–9

C
cavity barriers 26, 52, 65, 120, 121
ceilings
fire-resisting 26, 65, 78
lining materials 13, 18, 26, 119, 121
children 6, 35, 98, 109, 129, 133
escalating 24, 25, 38, 53, 87, 108, 110, 111, 113
see also crèches; students/pupils
CLASP (Consortium of Local Authority Special
Programme) construction method 26, 52, 65, 120–1
classrooms 49
escape routes 26, 27, 70, 92, 107
fire risk assessment 10, 39, 92
close down procedures 43, 46, 110
co-operation and co-ordination 5, 6, 34,
36–7, 110–11
competent persons 6, 10, 129
conduction, fire spreading by 16
construction, fire-resisting 25–6, 47, 50–1, 52,
65, 75, 76, 82, 108, 119–21, 131
contingency plans 108, 109
contractors
certifying 31, 114, 123
fire safety training 6, 37, 109, 110, 111
managing 48–9
permit to work 18, 48
risk to 14, 66, 108
source of ignition 12, 18, 48
convection, fire spreading by 16
cooking 12, 18, 43, 49, 51, 52, 59, 111
crèches 4, 15, 28, 87, 108

D
dangerous substances 7, 13, 14, 37, 109–10, 130
storage 18, 45–6, 110
dead ends
escape routes 65, 70, 74–5, 76–7, 130
fire alarms 55
disability see people with special needs
display materials 18, 39, 42, 52, 70
doors
door-fastenings 87, 106, 124, 124–6
doors 122–3, 124
final exit 26, 28, 31, 87, 110, 113
fire-resisting 52, 61, 65, 77, 94, 108, 111,
121–6, 130
glazing 122, 124
maintenance 7, 17, 30, 115, 116, 117, 123, 126
notices 103, 104
revolving 86
roller shutter doors 63, 86, 116
self-closing 63, 78, 94, 104, 108, 117, 122
sliding 86
vision panels 65, 124, 133
wicket 86

electrical safety 12–13, 15, 18, 44, 46, 47, 48
electricity stored 12-13, 18
emergency escape lighting 28–9, 85, 101–2, 108, 130
tests, checks and maintenance 30, 31, 32,
102, 106, 115, 116, 117
torches 28, 31, 101
equipment and machinery 12, 15, 18, 38, 39,
43, 46–7, 108, 112
emergency plans 27, 33, 34–5, 37, 41, 60, 64,
106, 108–9, 111–12, 128

escape routes
age and construction of the premises 24,
25–6, 28, 49, 66
alternative exits 25, 73, 77, 81, 88, 90, 92,
112, 129
basements 77, 78, 94, 96, 129
coordinations 27, 65, 66, 77, 78, 79, 80, 94,
96–8, 99
dead ends 55, 70, 74–5, 76–7, 130
equipment and machinery 12, 15, 18, 38, 39,
43, 46–7, 108, 112
inner rooms 72, 75, 131, 133
layouts 87–100
levels of risk 64, 66
lifts 27, 38, 66, 85, 108, 116, 130
lobbies 61, 65, 66, 77, 80, 89, 94, 96–8, 99, 132
maintenance 7, 27, 28, 84, 85
managing 27, 66, 125–6
number required 26, 28, 66, 88
obstructions 27, 28, 42, 48, 49, 65, 88, 115
people with special needs 24, 27, 28, 53
reception areas 83
roof exits 85, 86
seating and gangways 69, 71
signs and notices 29–30, 36, 86, 103–5, 108
suitability 65
tests and checks 30–2, 102, 109–10
training 38, 111
travel distance 20, 25, 27, 55, 64, 68, 70–1, 74–5, 88, 93, 94, 96–7, 132
widths and capacity of 49, 60, 66, 68–9
see also doors; stairways
extinguishers 22–3, 24, 30, 31, 57–9, 106
false alarms 21, 55, 56, 106, 130
fire
classes of 57–9
spread of 16–17, 38, 42, 49, 50–2, 85
fire blankets 59, 106
fire certificates 5, 52
fire dampers 51, 65
fire detection and warning systems 20–2
automatic fire detection systems 20, 21, 43, 48, 54, 55, 75, 76, 79, 88, 91–2, 98, 100, 129
auxiliary power supply 22, 56
false alarms 21, 55, 56, 106, 130
manual call points 21, 54–5, 56, 108, 113
monitoring 21, 39, 54, 55, 56, 113
phased evacuation 25, 55, 60, 80, 109
quality assurance 114
record-keeping 56, 106
smoke detectors 72, 77, 123, 132
sound levels 54
staged alarms 21, 25, 55–6, 60
tests and checks 7, 30, 31, 32, 56, 106, 112, 113
voice alarms 21, 53, 54, 116
fire drills 37, 38, 106, 112–13
fire marshals 22, 38, 111, 112, 113, 128
fire-resisting separation 50, 52, 65, 119–21
fire risk assessment
aims 9
co-operation and co-ordination 5, 6, 34, 36–7, 110–11
emergency plans 27, 33, 34–5, 37, 41, 60, 64, 106, 108–9, 111–12, 128
evaluating risk 11, 15–17, 32, 111
Fire Safety Order and 5–8
flexibility 20, 41
historic buildings 65, 127–8
identifying fire hazards 11, 12–14, 33, 107, 118
identifying people at risk 11, 14–15, 33, 107, 111, 118
information and instruction 7, 35–6, 109–10
method 10–11
plan of action 41
record-keeping 9, 11, 33–4, 39, 106, 107, 108, 118
removing or reducing fire hazards 17–19, 33, 41, 42, 118
removing or reducing risk to people 4–5, 11, 19–32, 33, 41, 42, 107, 118
reviewing 11, 39–40, 118
sources of fuel 12, 13, 18–19, 42, 43–6, 64
sources of ignition 12–13, 15, 17–18, 44, 45, 46–8, 50
sources of oxygen 12, 13–14, 19
fire safety audit 106, 108
fire safety management 4–5, 41, 48–9, 60
Fire Safety Order 5–8, 10
fire stopping 65, 121, 131
firefighters’ switches 30, 60, 63, 107, 117
firefighting equipment and facilities 22–4
access for firefighters 23, 24, 60, 61, 116, 117, 127
extinguishers 22–3, 24, 30, 31, 57–9, 106
firefighters’ switches 30, 60, 63, 108, 117
firefighting lifts and shafts 24, 27, 60, 61, 66, 85, 95, 110, 116, 130
foam inlets 23, 62
hose reels 23, 31, 59, 106
maintenance 7, 23, 24, 30, 31, 32, 59, 60, 61, 62, 106, 115, 116, 117
quality assurance 114
record-keeping 56, 106
smoke detectors 72, 77, 123, 132
sound levels 54
tests and checks 30, 31, 32, 59, 115, 116, 117
training 22, 36, 38, 57, 111
flame-retardant materials 18, 19, 44, 51, 121
flammable liquids 13, 18, 19, 42, 44, 45–6, 57, 58, 131
floors
covering materials 13, 51
fire-resisting 26, 65, 119, 120
foam, fire risk of 13, 19, 44, 51
foam inlets 23, 62
foyers 51, 52
fuel, sources of 12, 13, 18–19, 42, 43–6, 64
furniture and furnishings 13, 18, 39, 44, 49, 51, 70
G

gas cylinders 14, 19, 46, 49

see also LPG

glass, fire-resisting 120, 122

H

hazard

definition 9

identifying fire hazards 11, 12–14, 33, 107, 118

removing or reducing 17–19, 33, 41, 42, 118

hazardous materials 17, 38, 39, 109, 110, 131

heating 12, 17, 46–7, 49, 50

historic buildings 65, 127–8

hose reels 23, 31, 59, 106

housekeeping 38, 43

I

ignition, sources of 12–13, 15, 17–18, 44, 45, 46–8, 50

information and instruction 7, 35–6, 46, 47, 103–5, 109–10

insulated core panels 42, 50

L

laboratories 12, 54, 59

fire risk assessment 10, 43

lecture theatres 69, 70

fire risk assessment 7, 10

liflts

escape routes 27, 38, 66, 85, 108, 116, 130

firefighting 24, 27, 60, 61, 66, 85, 95, 110, 116, 130

LPG 13, 46, 47, 49

luminaires 101–2, 115, 116, 117

M

maintenance

checklist 115–17

emergency escape lighting 30, 31, 32, 102, 106, 115, 116, 117

equipment and machinery 18, 46–7

escape routes 7, 27, 28, 84, 85

fire detection and warning systems 7, 30, 31, 32, 56, 106, 115, 116

fire doors 7, 17, 30, 115, 116, 117, 123, 126

firefighting equipment and facilities 7, 23, 24, 30, 31, 32, 59, 60, 61, 62, 106, 115, 116, 117

marquees 49

escape routes 27, 70, 87

mezzanine floors 88, 91

multi-occupied buildings 4, 5, 61

emergency plans 35, 36, 106

escape routes 65, 85, 98

fire detection and warning systems 21

fire risk assessment 7, 15, 98

information and instruction 36, 104

N

naked flame 12, 17

nurseries 24, 53, 87

O

oxygen, sources of 12, 13–14, 19

P

partitions, fire-resisting 26, 119, 120, 121

see also walls

people at risk

evaluating 16–17

identifying 11, 14–15, 33, 107, 111, 118

removing or reducing risk 4–5, 19–32, 33, 41, 42, 107, 118

restricting the spread of fire and smoke 49, 50–2

type and number using premises 39, 66, 89

people with special needs

evacuating 24, 27, 28, 38, 53, 66–7, 108, 110, 111, 112, 113

fire risk assessment 15, 39

fire warning systems 54, 56

information and instruction 35, 103

risk to 14–15

personal emergency evacuation plans (PEEPs) 25, 53

piping 46, 49

plans and specifications 33, 34, 108

portable appliance testing (PAT) 47

pupils see students/pupils

R

radiation, fire spreading by 16

reception areas 83

record-keeping

emergency escape lighting 102, 106

fire detection and warning systems 56, 106

fire risk assessment 9, 11, 33–4, 39, 106, 107, 108, 118

fire safety training 38, 111

refectories 10, 12, 52, 59

refuge areas 27, 66, 67, 108, 132

rising mains 23, 60, 62, 117

risk

definition 9

evaluating 11, 15–17, 32, 64, 111

people at risk 11, 14–15, 16–17, 111

reducing 4–5, 11, 19–32, 33, 41, 42

roll calls 110, 113

roller shutter doors 63, 86, 116

roofs

fire risk assessment 50–1, 52

roof exits 85, 86
sand buckets 59
scenery 13, 18, 45, 51
schools 4, 15
    escape routes 53, 66, 68
    fire safety strategy 8, 111
SCOLA (Second Consortium of Local Authorities) construction method 26, 52, 65, 120–1
seating 44, 69, 71
security 87, 110
shafts, firefighting see lifts
short-term hiring or leasing 7, 31, 41, 69, 108, 109
signs and notices 23, 29–30, 63, 86, 103–5, 108
    information and instruction 36, 46, 47
smoke
    control of 30, 50, 52, 60, 61–2, 78, 85, 106, 108, 117
    dangers of 17
    spread of 16–17, 28, 38, 42, 50, 85
Smoke and Heat Exhaust Ventilation Systems (SHEVS) 50–1, 52, 61–2, 106, 117
smoke detectors 72, 77, 123, 132
smoking 12, 15, 18, 48, 111
staff
    fire drills 37, 38, 106, 112–13
    fire safety training 7, 20, 22, 27, 33, 35–6, 37–8, 57, 60, 109, 111–13
    information and instruction 7, 35–6, 104–5, 109–10
    see also contractors
stages 18, 45, 51
    see also scenery
stairways
    accommodation stairways 79, 83, 129
    basements 77, 78, 94, 96
    bypass routes 82, 83
    external 84, 86, 130
    hazards in 10, 42, 49
    protected 24, 61, 66, 70, 79–82, 84, 88, 93, 94, 96, 132
    spiral and helical 85
    width and capacity of 60, 69
storage 18, 39, 42, 43–6, 50, 71, 110
students/pupils
    evacuating 28, 38, 53, 66, 67, 109, 110
    fire safety training 6, 28, 37, 108, 109, 110, 111
    risk to 14, 111, 126
    source of ignition 18

telephones 29, 30, 60, 110
temporary structures 49
    escape routes 27, 87
tents 49
    escape routes 27, 87
torches 28, 31, 101
training
    fire safety 6, 7, 20, 27, 28, 33, 35–6, 37–8, 60, 109, 110, 111–13
    firefighting equipment 22, 36, 38, 57, 111
    record-keeping 38, 111
universities 4, 55, 66, 103
vandalism 12, 19, 22, 59
ventilation systems 13, 19, 39, 50–1, 52, 117
vision panels 65, 72, 124, 133
voids 26, 45, 49, 64, 65, 120, 121, 127
walls
    fire-resisting 26, 52, 61, 65, 76, 119
    insulated core panels 42, 50
    lining materials 13, 26, 119, 121
    see also partitions
waste and packaging, combustible 13, 15, 19, 42, 43, 110
way guidance systems 29, 102, 133
windows, fire-resisting 84, 85, 120
    vision panels 65, 72, 124, 133
This guide is for employers, managers, occupiers and owners of educational premises. It tells you what you have to do to comply with fire safety law, helps you to carry out a fire risk assessment and identify the general fire precautions you need to have in place.

Other guides in the series:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guide</th>
<th>Main use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Offices and shops</td>
<td>Offices and retail premises (including individual units within larger premises, e.g. shopping centres)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factories and warehouses</td>
<td>Factories and warehouse storage premises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sleeping accommodation</td>
<td>All premises where the main use is to provide sleeping accommodation, e.g. hotels, guest houses, flats, boats, roadside motoring centres, holiday accommodation and the common areas of flats, maisonettes, HMOs and sheltered housing units, other than providing food - (food-selling can be provided), but not including hostels, residential care premises, places of assembly and single private dwellings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential care premises</td>
<td>Residential care and nursing homes, common areas of residential housing (where care is provided) and similar premises, which are permanently staffed and where the primary use is the provision of care rather than healthcare (see Healthcare premises)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational premises</td>
<td>Teaching establishments ranging from pre-school through to universities, except the residential parts (see Sleeping accommodation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small and medium places of assembly</td>
<td>Smaller public houses, clubs, restaurants and cafes, dance halls, community centres, libraries, mosques, churches and other places of assembly or similar premises accommodating up to 200 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large places of assembly</td>
<td>Larger premises accommodating more than 500 people, e.g. shopping centres, big theme parks, public halls, theatres, cinemas, concert halls and similar premises, sports and leisure facilities, tennis or squash clubs, halls, churches, cathedrals and other places of assembly or similar premises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theatres, cinemas and similar premises</td>
<td>Theatres, cinemas, concert halls and similar premises used primarily for this purpose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open air events and venues</td>
<td>Open air events, e.g. music festivals, concerts, sporting events (but not stadia – see Large places of assembly), fairs and county fairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare premises</td>
<td>Premises where the primary use is the provision of healthcare (including private), e.g. hospitals, doctors’ surgeries, dentists and other similar healthcare premises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport premises and facilities</td>
<td>Transport premises and facilities, e.g. airports, railway stations (including sub-surface), transport tunnels, ports, bus and coach stations and similar premises, but excluding the means of transport (e.g. trains, buses, planes and ships)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stables and agricultural premises</td>
<td>Agricultural premises, stables, dairy units and similar premises, but excluding the means of transport (e.g. trains, buses, planes and ships)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Means of Escape for Disabled People</td>
<td>This guide is a supplement to be read alongside other guides in this series. It provides additional information on accessibility and means of escape</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ISBN: 978 1 85112 819 8
Price: £12