



Polska Szkoła Sobotnia w Tamworth

RISK ASSESMENT POLICY

Introduction

It is extremely important that our School have a clear and well understood policy for assessing risks and review risk assessment frequently. Our risk assessment should identify aspects of the environment that need to be checked on regular basis, when and by whom, and how the risk will be minimised. We determine how to inform staff practice and how you explain risk assessment to parents and inspectors.

What is a risk assessment?

A risk assessment is process of identifying hazards and then assessing their potential to cause harm or loss. It also includes an evaluation of the consequences of the risk if it materialises and suggests what needs to be done to avoid or minimise the risk.

What is the difference between hazard and risk?

“A hazard is an article, substance, piece of equipment or an installation with potential to cause harm or loss or both. A risk is a measure of the probability that hazards (potential for harm or loss) will materialise. For example, a trailing wire, spillage, loose carpet tile and so on”.

Croner's A-Z Guide to Education Management.

“The law does not expect you to eliminate all risks, but you are required to protect people (both children and staff) as far as reasonably practicable, You are legally required to assess the risks in your workplace so that you put in place plan to control risks” Five Steps to Risk Assessment, HSE Publications.

All staff will take ultimate responsibility for Health and Safety and ensure that risk assessments are carried out, up to date and relevant. With appropriate training provided to staff members as and when required.

Our school have detailed risk assessment which is carried out annually.

We also produce specific ones as and when required. All reasonable steps must be taken to make sure hazards to children, both indoors and outdoors, are kept to minimum.

Points to consider. There are five steps to risk assessment.

1. Identify the hazard.
2. Decide who might be harmed and how.
3. Evaluate the risks and decide on precautions.
4. Record your findings and implement them.
5. Review your assessment and update if necessary.

Below is a list of areas we have looked at (this list is not exhaustive)

- electrical appliances and wall sockets
- toilets facilities
- security
- supervision of children
- outside areas
- storage
- flooring
- hazardous plants
- ventilation and heating
- windows and doors
- animal handling
- hot drinks
- allergies
- First aid
- natural play
- equipment/furniture
- car park
- safe risk play (tools)
- manual handling and lifting

All staff understand that they need to be continually aware of risk and hazards. They are responsible for ensuring that everyone is vigilant at all times.

Risk-benefit analysis is the comparison of the risk of situation to its related benefits. If situation involves more than minimal risk of harm to children we must be sure that the amount of benefit clearly outweighs the amount of risk.

The factors to determine whether or not the level of risk is acceptable are:

- likelihood of coming to harm
- severity of harm
- benefits, rewards or outcomes of the activity.

Please also refer to our Health and Safety Policy.

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