

Broadbent Fold Primary and Nursery School



Health & Safety Policy for Primary Science

January 2022

This policy outlines the guiding principles by which this school will implement safe practices in the teaching and learning of Science.

Responsibility

The employer (Tameside Local Authority) has ultimate responsibility to ensure the health and safety of its employees and others using this organisation. This school will consider and act upon any guidance provided by the employer or CLEAPSS.

The task of overseeing health and safety for Science has been delegated to the Subject Leader. It is the responsibility of all staff and other adults to:

- Take reasonable care for their own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by their acts or omissions
- Remain familiar with this policy
- Implement the provisions of this policy
- Cooperate with the employer and other colleagues in promoting health and safety

Advice

We subscribe to CLEAPSS (www.cleapss.org.uk) who provide advice on health and safety for science including model risk assessments, information sheets, a helpline service and advice in the event of an emergency.

Risk Assessment

We have adopted 'model' or 'general' risk assessments published by CLEAPSS which each member of staff adapts to:

- local circumstances
- the activity
- resources
- needs of individual pupils

When writing schemes of learning or lesson plans, staff will note down any relevant and important health & safety information and, if necessary, reference relevant CLEAPSS guidance.

If the proposed activities or equipment are not covered by a model risk assessment in relevant CLEAPSS guides, a Special Risk Assessment must be obtained by contacting CLEAPSS.

Supervision

This school's interpretation of group sizes and supervision for science activities are based on CLEAPSS advice as follows:

Very close supervision <i>Needed when there are significant risks of accident and injury</i>	Two or three pupils to one adult
Close supervision <i>Needed when there are risks of accident and injury, but these are predictable and considered unlikely.</i>	Small group (up to 6) pupils to one adult

Moderate supervision <i>Needed when risks of accident and injury are well controlled and unlikely.</i>	10-15 pupils to one adult
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Resources

The task of ensuring purchased and donated equipment and materials are fit for purpose, safe to use, safely stored and appropriate for children to use lies with the Subject leader for Science. However, all staff must be aware of their individual responsibility to ensure that this is the case every time a Science activity is carried out.

Where required, equipment checks and testing, e.g. PAT testing, will be carried out in accordance with the employer's policy and manufacturer recommendations. Disposal of resources and equipment will be carried out in accordance with the employer's policy and manufacturer recommendations. For advice on safe use, storage and disposal of equipment and resources refer to CLEAPSS resources on the website www.cleapss.org.uk

Procedures

All staff are responsible for ensuring that the necessary procedures to safely carry out science activities are implemented, including:

- Hygiene procedures such children not putting anything in or near their mouth during science
- Personal protection such as tying hair back, tucking in loose clothing and removing jewellery
- Reducing workplace hazards such as having a clear work space for science activities

For further advice refer to CLEAPSS resources at www.cleapss.org.uk

Training

It is the responsibility of the Headteacher to ensure essential training on health and safety in Science is accessed and disseminated to school staff. Adults other than teachers supporting or leading Science activities should be briefed by a teacher prior to carrying out any activity.

It is the duty of the Headteacher to inform staff of this policy (teachers and non-teachers) who are new to supporting science at school.

Monitoring

This policy is reviewed by the Science Subject leader who will inform staff of any changes to the policy.

The member of staff with overall responsibility for Science will ensure this policy is implemented throughout school.

Minutes of staff meetings will be retained where health & safety matters are discussed.

This policy will be reviewed by the Science leader and the Senior Leadership Team.

Date for next review of this document January 2023.