

Risk Assessment: DT Tools and Resources

Risk Assessment dated 1/9/16 Written by S Parkes

Position: DT Coordinator

Task, activity or environment being assessed	What are the hazards are present or may be generated?	Existing controls to either eliminate or reduce the risk of an accident happening.	What is the probability of an accident happening?	What is the risk rating?
Painting	Contact with eyes and skin. Spillage's causing a slip hazard.	•Pupils are supervised during each activity, staffing ratios according to children's ages and ability. •Pupils thoroughly wash their hands & faces etc after each activity •Any spillage is cleaned up immediately and the floor is in a dry, safe condition •Staff watches children for any allergic reaction to materials used.	Possible	Low Risk
Using Clay	Contact with skin and eyes.	•Staff & helpers watch for any adverse reaction when pupils are using the clay •Pupils thoroughly wash their hands after using the clay •Pupils are given instructions before the activity •Any spillage's of clay and/or water are mopped up immediately to avoid a trip/slip hazard •Suitable aprons are supplied to avoid getting clothing soiled. •Any tools used to work the clay must be appropriate for the age group and with no sharp edges.	Possible Low Risk	

Task, activity or environment being assessed	What are the hazards are present or may be generated?	Existing controls to either eliminate or reduce the risk of an accident happening.	What is the probability of an accident happening?	What is the risk rating?
Sewing	Needle Injury Cotton Cuts	• Pupils are supervised during the activity and appropriate behaviour when using needle and pins explained. • Cotton strands etc are cut using only scissors • Only materials, which can be easily sewn and/or stitched, are to be used to avoid excess pressure being used to sew materials together. • Finger bobbins are supplied to help pupils sew materials which are denser to work & sew.	Possible	Low Risk
Using glue	Contact with skin, hair eyes etc	• Pupils are instructed not to use excessive amounts and to avoid spillage's at all times • Only approved products are to be used • Adhesives to be water based rather than solvent based and be non toxic • "Super –glues" and wallpaper paste containing fungicides should not be used. • Children should not use spray adhesives. They may be highly flammable and/or toxic. Caution should be advised when and where they are used, the area must be well ventilated. • Any glue which gives off heavy vapours should not be used unless the area is very well ventilated. • Manufacturer's instruction should be read and followed by staff to become aware of the possibility of solvent abuse and children becoming sensitised to solvents and glues etc.	Possible	Low Risk
Using scissors	Cuts and "nip" injuries	• Only round-headed scissors are used • Pupils are supervised during the activity and given instruction in the safe use of any equipment used • Scissors must be counted out and in and be properly	Possible	Low Risk

		stored Any faulty or damaged scissors are disposed of.		
Using a glue gun	Burns, due to hot components and glue	- Low-melt glue guns are considered safer than Hot-melt glue guns and should be use if possible. - If hot-melt glue guns are to be used, these should only be used by older children and under strict supervision.	Possible	Medium Risk
Using balloons	Hygiene & Asthmatic problems	- When using balloons, staff should ensure hygienic procedures are followed. - Do not not share mouthpieces etc. - A balloon pump should be used if available for inflating balloons.	Remote	Low Risk
Making holes in paper, card & plastic	Stabbing injuries, cuts & abrasions	- When making holes in materials, a pointed pencil can be used if underside of material is supported by “Blue Tack” or similar. - Screwdrivers and/or bradawls are not recommended to punch holes in materials. A hole punch or paper drill is suitable. - If tools are used, a cutting board or mat should be used. - If hand drills are to be used, they should be used on a drill stand to ensure accurate and safe work.	Possible	Low Risk
Using tools	Cuts, lacerations, impact injury and abrasions	- All children are shown how to use tools and implements correctly and safely. - Tools etc should not be left out. After each session they should be returned to the toolbox or cupboard and counted. - The storage facility or cupboard must not be above the reach of the children where they may have to stretch.	Possible	Medium Risk
Using hand saws to cut wood	Incorrect or careless use can cause cuts. Poor work holding can cause saws to slip and cause cuts. Eye injury Dust may enter the eyes if	- Saws should be used under strict supervision and adequate space provided. - Right-handed children cutting lengths of dowel or thin wood need space to the left side of the vice or bench hook; this space will be on the opposite side for left-handed children.	Possible	Medium Risk

	blown away from the saw cut.	• A corner bench hook prevents sideways movements. • Fix materials firmly before cutting or drilling, using a vice, a bench hook or a G-clamp. (see accompanying image)  • Use sharp tools to prevent excess pressure being used when sawing. • Saw in a ventilated area to reduce sawdust, if possible use goggles to prevent sawdust from entering children's eyes. • Behaviour expectations are firmly explained to all children before starting the activity.		
Cleaning up	Dust and sharp objects	• Staff should be aware of dust. Dusts from wood and plastic are hazardous; however, small amounts of sanding by children for short periods are unlikely to produce dangerous levels if ventilation is provided. • A dustpan and brush is used to pick-up sharp objects and rubbish. • All rubbish etc is collected in an appropriate container or bag and disposed of in a safe way.	Remote	Low Risk