

Duddon Saint Peter's School



PE Safety

HAZARDS

The main hazards associated with P.E. work are; persons falling from a height, slips, trips and falls, equipment collapsing, insufficient space, hard surfaces, manual handling of equipment. Further hazards such as drowning and infection are apparent in swimming pools. Outdoor work also presents hazards from the elements.

BALL GAMES

- The appropriate ball must be used for each activity.
- The correct rules for the game must be observed. However, to play some games safely indoors or in small areas the numbers of players will need to be reduced and extra-modified versions/rules need to be applied, in order to maintain the safety of the activity. The teacher must assess the activity and take account of these factors.
- If necessary, restrictions should be introduced to prevent damage to lights, doors and windows, etc.

CHANGING FACILITIES

- In KS2 the school has adopted a separation by room strategy, and care is taken to supervise the two areas. A clear code of behaviour is established. In KS1 the children are supervised and supported when getting changed. Two members of staff should be present for safeguarding reasons.

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

- This must be appropriate to the activity. It is not acceptable to work in stocking feet because they do not grip the floor, bare foot work is acceptable when floor conditions are suitable i.e. smooth, clean and without splinters.
- Wherever possible clothing allowing freedom of movement should be worn, appropriate to the activity.

EARRINGS AND OTHER JEWELLERY

- Jewellery, i.e. watches, rings, earrings, bracelets, necklaces et. Parents and children are advised that jewellery should not be worn whilst participating in physical education lessons. In addition, long hair should be secured as appropriate to the activity. Pupils should be consistently reminded of these requirements and a check carried out to ensure compliance before the activity begins. Children may take out earrings and store them safely, and replace them after PE if necessary. If children are unable to do this, they should not wear them on the day they

participate in PE.

- It is important that parents are made aware of the policy of the school on the wearing of jewellery by pupils. Information should be given to parents via the school prospectus or handbook outlining the school policy on this issue and on the requirements for physical education.
- Staff should not remove, replace or cover jewellery.

EQUIPMENT AND PE AREAS

- Trampolines and trampettes should not be used in Cheshire Primary Schools without the written consent of the Senior Adviser for Physical Education.
- Before use all apparatus should be checked by the teacher to ensure it is securely fixed and stable. In addition, PE equipment should undergo a full specialist inspection annually.
- Apparatus should be placed with due regard to all the activities in the room and dangerous obstacles for example, pianos, doors and radiators.
- Broken and dangerous items must be removed from use, marked as defective and reported immediately.
- Basic rules on the use of apparatus should be established for example, the numbers who may use it at any time, height and weight restrictions etc. These should be included in the PE Schemes of Work.
- Care should be taken to ensure items are stored in such a way as to minimise risk of injury to those using the storeroom or area.
- All indoor physical education facilities (halls etc.) and outdoor play areas are inspected on a regular basis.

GOAL POSTS

- Goal posts must be properly secured in position to prevent them from tipping forward.
- Freestanding goal posts should be anchored and obtained from a recognised sports supplier.
- Further information on goal posts can be found in the LEA Playground Safety Guidance Note.

MATS

- Mats with cellular (polyurethane) foam give off toxic fumes in a fire. PE mats should be stored away from possible sources of flame
- Where there are suitable storage areas, mats should be stored in them and where the stores have doors these should be kept closed
- Where the covering of mats is torn the mats are replaced.

OUTSIDE CLIMBING EQUIPMENT

- Specific requirements relate to these items, in respect to the maximum heights and minimum impact materials to be used. For full guidance on this information please refer to the Playground Safety Guidance Note within the Departmental Health and Safety Manual.

PROTECTIVE WEAR

- Where specialist protective wear is required, e.g. cricket helmets when using a hard ball, schools should ensure that pupils are appropriately protected.

SUPERVISION AND COMPETENCE

- All pupils engaged in physical education activities must be adequately supervised at all times.
- Activities which are potential more hazardous, e.g. swimming, contact sports, etc, must be supervised by an individual with the appropriate qualification in that sport. Specific guidance can be found in the LEA's Guidance for Outdoor Education document.

SWIMMING

The department has produced a detailed guidance to swimming lessons and managing school own swimming pools, called "Safety in Swimming" contained within the Departmental Health and Safety Manual. Primary schools should familiarise themselves with the document and its requirements. Swimming safety documents and risk assessments are available via Evolve. Risk assessments should be completed prior to attending sessions.

Date: *October 2017*

Date *Autumn 2018*

