

Duddon Saint Peter's CE School



Design & Technology Safety

HAZARDS The main hazards associated with technology are the use of tools which can lead to cuts, bruises, dusts, fumes and electrocution

GENERAL

- Tools used by pupils need to be specifically designed for their appropriate key stage group.
- All equipment, especially hammers and saws should be periodically checked.
- Pupils should not use powerful, electric hand tools.
- Pupils must be taught how to use any tools safely, to keep their work area tidy and to return tools to their storage point.
- Tools should be stored in a safe manner.
- When sawing, the material being cut should be firmly attached to the bench using a vice, G-cramp or bench blocks.
- Craft knives should be used only by adults. A metal safety rule should be used as a guide. Keep hands behind the cutting edge. Use retractable blades if possible.
- Although dust can be dangerous, manual sanding of softwood or Balsa by pupils is unlikely to produce a serious problem. Dust should be removed with a damp cloth or vacuum cleaner.
- Sharp pointed scissors are not for use in nursery and reception classes. Teach pupils of the risks from sharp pointed objects e.g. pencils, compass points, paint brushes, etc.

SOLVENT BASED GLUES

- These glues can be both toxic and flammable. Most are hazardous substances and therefore must comply with COSHH Regulations
- Understand the hazard warning symbols on containers and follow the instructions.
- They should be used only where there is not a safer alternative.
- If used they must be well ventilated and quantities should be kept to a minimum.

SUPER GLUES / GLUE GUNS:

Super glues are not considered suitable for use in primary school.

- Glue guns should be of the low temperature type and only used under

supervision.

- Glue guns should be used over a piece of hardboard or other similar place mat. Stands are available to support them.
- Burns from hot glue can be more serious because the glue remains in contact with the skin and pupils could make matters worse by trying to remove it and burning their hands. In the event of a burn immerse the area in cold water for several minutes. It is easy to underestimate the time which glue can retain heat, it is important to prolong the treatment with water.

Date: *October 2023*

Date of review *Autumn 2026*