

Information Sheet

Information Topic	Risk Assessments
Source of Information	Department for Children Schools and Families www.teachernet.gov.uk
Details of Topic	<p>Health and safety responsibilities in schools derive from the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and associated regulations. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) enforces health and safety law relating to the activities of LEAs and schools.</p> <p>The health and safety of staff, pupils and visitors whilst on the school premises, or involved in school-organised activities (e.g. educational visits), must be protected so far as is reasonably practicable. Risk assessments should be undertaken of all activities where there are reasonable, foreseeable, significant risks, and measures put in place to minimise or control risks.</p> <p>Head teachers, heads of department, staff, governors and LEAs all have roles to play.</p> <p>Risk-assessment: specific legal requirements and statutory guidance</p> <p>Specific legal requirements</p> <p>The provider must conduct a risk assessment and review it regularly – at least once a year, or more frequently where the need arises.</p> <p>The risk assessment must identify aspects of the environment that need to be checked on a regular basis. Providers must maintain a record of these particular aspects, and when and by whom they have been checked. Providers must determine the regularity of these checks according to their assessment of the significance of individual risks.</p> <p>The provider must take all reasonable steps to ensure that hazards to children, both indoors and outdoors, are kept to a minimum.</p> <p>Statutory guidance to which providers should have regard</p> <p>The risk assessment should cover anything with which a child may come into contact.</p>

Information Sheet

	<p>The premises and equipment should be clean, and providers should be aware of the requirements of health and safety legislation (including hygiene requirements). This should include informing and keeping staff up to date.</p> <p>A health and safety policy should be in place which includes procedures for identifying, reporting and dealing with accidents, hazards and faulty equipment.</p> <p>Schools in Rotherham have access to a School Model Risk Assessment File and Educational Visits Risk Assessments which are linked to the Local Authority Circular 146 and the Evolve System.</p>
Support and information within Rotherham	<p>Contact: School SENCO / Head Teacher School May also consult with the Risk Management Officer (see Information Sheet)</p>
Date compiled	June 2009