



St Ann's School : Risk Assessment Policy April 2018

St Ann's School is proud to be a Unicef Rights Respecting School (Level 2). The school ethos and our daily practice actively promotes the implementation of all Articles within the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Article 3 (best interests of the child), Article 6 (survival and development) and Article 24 (health and health services) are particularly pertinent to St Ann's Risk Assessment Policy.

Risk assessments are routinely carried out as a part of St Ann's safeguarding arrangements and to discharge our statutory health and safety responsibilities.

The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 require employers to assess the risks of activities, introduce measures to control those risks and inform their employees of these measures. Employers must ensure that those carrying out risk assessments are competent to do so. The five steps to risk assessment involve the following :

- identifying the hazards
- decide who might be harmed and how
- consider what safety measures need to be implemented to reduce the risks to an acceptable level
- record the findings
- review the assessment at intervals

St Ann's is a special secondary school for 90 young people aged 11 to 19 years with Severe Learning Difficulties, Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties and Autistic Spectrum Disorder. In addition many students have complex communication, behavioural, medical, postural management, sensory integration and mental health needs. St Ann's large multi-disciplinary team is constantly reviewing the changing needs of individual students and cohorts of students, so that the school's highly specialist provision can meet the identified needs. The ongoing use and updating of risk assessments is an integral part of this process to ensure that the safety and well being of students and staff remains paramount at all times.

New risk assessments are created as required and existing risk assessments are generally reviewed on an annual basis or more frequently as appropriate.

Risk assessments may be generic eg visit/site/activity specific risk assessments, procedural eg fire procedures risk assessments and infection control risk assessments, or ongoing/dynamic risk assessments, reflecting changing needs eg medical emergencies and behavioural issues.

Please refer to St Ann's Risk Assessment folder for examples of current risk assessments

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Date of last review : April 2018
Date of next review : April 2020