



Shiplake C.E. Primary School
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'Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in abundance of counsellors there is safety'
Proverbs 11.14

Shiplake Primary School

Safety in Physical Education Policy

Introduction

Safety is obviously of paramount concern in all physical activities. All such activities organised by the School will require adequate supervision by teachers and other adults and will include teaching to promote a positive attitude by the pupils to safety factors.

In most PE activities pupils should be able to select the level of difficulty of a task appropriate to personal skill in a variety of contexts. They need to be taught and understand the value of preparing the body for exercise and recovering afterwards, and be able to follow simple safety instructions. It is important that they know how to lift, carry and use equipment safely and how to identify potential dangers. All pupils should be encouraged to co-operate with others in a safe way.

All children undertaking school organised physical education or games must be supervised by a qualified teacher/coach. It is helpful to have additional adults in support.

Swimming

A qualified life saver and additional observers must be present at the pool side during swimming lessons (refer to the OCC policy for minimum life-saving qualifications required). The controller of the swimming activities must be qualified in accordance with LEA guidance. No person will enter the pool enclosure or the water without the permission of the controller. The minimum ratio for the teaching of swimming is one instructor or lifeguard to twenty pupils. No teaching must take place if this ratio is exceeded. Pool rules, emergency procedures and effective discipline must be observed at all times. Teachers who accompany pupils to the swimming pool must ensure the observance of the "Oxfordshire County Council policy and practice for swimming pool activities" and should familiarise themselves with the risk assessment held in the school office.

Apparatus work

No pupil should use PE apparatus unless under the direct supervision of a teacher. They are taught from Reception to recognise and be aware of hazards and follow safe practices. Formal gymnastics requires instruction and supervision by a qualified instructor and therefore



should not be included in the school curriculum. Forward rolls should not be taught by staff other than the Specialist PE Teacher who has received the appropriate training to do so, and is only done so from year 3 with the permission of parents. Teachers must ensure that apparatus has been safely erected and located together with safety matting before apparatus work begins. They should check the suitability of the apparatus to be used. All equipment and apparatus should be stored safely and any apparatus which is unsafe must be removed immediately from use and the Headteacher informed.

Activities off the school site

Safety of pupils during physical education or games activities off the school site, including travel supervision, is the responsibility of the teacher in charge. Pupils are not allowed to walk to or from the Memorial Field without the close supervision of a teacher, staff member or PE instructor and preferably the presence of an additional adult. A risk assessment for activities on the Memorial Field is held in the school office

General guidance

As a school, we ensure the safety of all pupils and staff through the following codes of practice:

- Safe storage of all equipment – all equipment to be stored safely and tidily in its appropriate place after use, so easy access and availability are ready for the next group.
- Annual safety equipment check of large apparatus by a recognised maintenance contractor.
- Equipment to be checked at the beginning and end of use. All unsafe, damaged or lost equipment to be reported to the PE Subject Leader.
- All staff are first aid trained.
- A knowledge of the environment in which learning is taking place - check areas for hazards before any activity takes place.

All pupils and staff should wear appropriate clothing and footwear during PE/Games activities and should remove all jewellery including earrings. If earrings are not able to be removed they should be taped prior to any PE activity. There is further guidance on appropriate clothing for pupils in the school prospectus.

Teachers should work within school policy and follow recognised safe working practices. All teaching staff should understand and adhere to both the OCC health and safety policies and the School health and safety guide and follow both County and National recommendations for physical education. They should investigate accidents and dangerous occurrences as well as near misses to help prevent reoccurrences. In the event of an accident or emergency, the teacher in charge should follow the plan of action recorded in



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the school's health and safety procedures. The Headteacher should always be informed and the details recorded on the appropriate accident forms.

Any queries regarding safety in PE/Games can be referred to the PE co-ordinator or the Health and Safety co-ordinator for clarification.

Further information

The following texts are recommended as providing useful guidance on good health and safety practice.

B.A.A.L.P.E Safe Practice in Physical Education

D.F.E.S Safety in Outdoor Education

O.C.C. Out and About in Oxfordshire

HSC/Sports Council Safety in Swimming Pools

O.C.C. Policy and Practice for Swimming Pool Activities

S.O.D.C (Gillotts Pool) Own safety procedures

MOVING MATTERS Teaching, Planning and Assessing High Quality Gymnastics in the Primary Phase

This policy was revised in January 2020 by the Specialist PE Teacher (Sonia Smith) and will be reviewed by the staff every 3 years.