

Ewanrigg Junior School COSHH Procedures

COSHH applies to all substances that are capable of causing adverse health effects i.e. are harmful to health e.g. toxic, flammable, corrosive, oxidising etc... In relation to schools, COSHH may apply to substances used or produced in:

- Dusts created in certain practical classes, i.e. sawdust in woodworking lessons, clay dust in art lessons
- Cleaning agents used by cleaners and caterers, etc.
- Some office supplies

Wherever possible, hazardous substances in school should be substituted for substances that are non or less hazardous.

Where not possible the Head teacher will ensure that any substance/process which is hazardous to health has been adequately risk assessed before the substance is purchased or the process allowed to start.

The COSHH assessment should identify what precautions need to be undertaken when using the substance and will include details such as safe exposure times and limits and whether any personal protective equipment needs to be worn whilst using the product.

The COSHH assessments must be made available to all staff using the products to ensure that the controls recommended are adhered to when the product is being used/stored.

Manufacturer's Material Safety Data Sheets should be held for all hazardous substances used and stored in school (these are available from our suppliers or can often be downloaded from the internet).

Cleaning and Site Management products are securely stored in a locked cupboard when not in use.

See also procedures for Managing Asbestos, Radon and Water

C Dawson