

General Risk Assessment



Implementing a supervised tooth brushing programme in a childcare setting can be hazardous if not correctly managed. By completing a risk assessment, it will help you identify and manage the risks, which will keep children and staff safe and reassure parents too. When completing the risk assessment follow the guidelines in the [HEYA Supervised Toothbrushing Handbook](#) and the [Covid-19 guidance for supervised toothbrushing programmes in early years and school settings](#). The following risk assessment sample has a few examples to help you get started and there will be support and training provided when undertaking the Southampton Healthy Mouth Award.

Description of Job/Task being assessed:	Supervised Toothbrushing						
Risk Assessor(s)		Location/Site		In consultation with		Date	

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	What further action is necessary?	Action by who?	Action by when?	Done	Residual Risk	RAG
<p>What are the hazards to consider before brushing?</p> <p>Not washing down the table and surrounding area where toothbrushing is to take place.</p>	Child and staff	Use water and detergent to wash table and sink and surrounding area to prevent cross contamination.	Ensure that the sink area is kept clear to make cleaning easier					
<p>What are the hazards to consider during toothbrushing?</p> <p>Toothbrushes</p>	Child	Each toothbrush is individually	Check regularly that the names on the brushes are easily readable.					

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	What further action is necessary?	Action by who?	Action by when?	Done	Residual Risk	RAG
<p>getting mixed up.</p> <p>Children may touch each other's toothbrush which would cross contaminate.</p> <p>Children may swallow too much toothpaste</p> <p>What are the hazards to consider after toothbrushing?</p> <p>Toothbrush may come into contact with the tap during washing causing the toothbrush to become cross contaminated.</p>	<p>Child</p> <p>Child</p> <p>Child</p>	<p>identifiable for each child</p> <p>Children are supervised during toothbrushing and are sufficiently spaced out around the table so that they can't touch each other.</p> <p>Ensure that the correct amount of toothpaste is dispensed onto a paper towel and encourage the children to spit out the toothpaste into a tissue.</p> <p>Carefully rinse the toothbrush under cold running water taking care to avoid contact with the tap.</p>	<p>Children are discouraged from swallowing toothpaste</p>					
Line manager (print/sign):			Date			Next Review Date		

Date Reviewed Signed