


## RISK ASSESSMENT

Risk Assessment for:	PLINTH USE	Prepared by:	H&S Co-ordinator – S.L & V.D
		Assessed by SLT:	
Location:	ROSEWOOD FREE SCHOOL, SO16 5NA	Date of Assessment	May 2026
		Review Date:	May 2028

Hazard	Who might be harmed?	Hazards Identified which may cause harm – consequence	Existing Level of Risk	Control Measure and Precautions Taken	Additional Control Measures or Further Action Required	Remaining level of Risk
Pre use	Employees, Learners, third parties	Malfunction of plinth causing musculoskeletal or varying injuries.	Med - 15	Service annually. All staff to visually inspect before use. Brakes on when not in use and during if in static position. Ensure mobile learners are not able to interfere with mechanics, emergency stop battery etc & play with the plinth. Do not use if signs of damage.	Inform maintenance or M&H team if signs of damage.	Low - 5
Emergency	Employees, Learners, third parties	Out of control movement or malfunction of plinth causing a fall or near miss, musculoskeletal or varying injuries.	Med - 15	Emergency stop button is to be used if you need to halt the plinth. The button is situated on the battery attachment area. Staff ratio suitable for use. Brakes on during static position. Learners not to use plinth control.		Low - 5
Hoisting or sitting on	Employees, Learners, third parties	Movement of plinth, poor working height & varying working load causing musculoskeletal or varying injuries.	Med - 15	All staff ensure safe posture throughout. Brakes on during static position. Appropriate safe height for use. Safety sides up depending on the individual learner, refer to their risk assessment. Maximum working load is 227kg	Staff trained in M&H and use of plinth	Low - 5

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Climbing on	Employees, Learners, third parties	Movement of plinth, poor working height & varying working load causing musculoskeletal or varying injuries.	Med - 15	Posture care. Brakes on during static position. Appropriate safe height for use. Safety sides up depending on the individual learner, refer to their risk assessment. Maximum working load is 227kg Ensure learners are not able to interfere with mechanics. Refer to individual learners risk assessment for safe mount & dismount.		Low - 5
Controlling up & down	Employees, Learners, third parties	Falls from height, positioning and not being in control of the situation causing musculoskeletal or varying injuries.	High - 24	Safe position of the learner that is on the plinth when plinth is active. Ensure all other learners are clear of plinth when it is active. Plinth sides up with plinth is in motion. Staff to be in control of situation when the control handset is in use. Learners not to use plinth control. Learners to be supervised with minimum 1-1 when in use.		Med - 8
Working height	Employees	Poor working height causing musculoskeletal injury.	Med - 15	Bring plinth to waist height or happy medium if working with varying height. If necessary to work at lowered plinth, then kneepads or kneeling mat should be used.		Low - 5
During use	Learners	Unattended use or low staff ratios causing a fall from height.	High - 24	Never leave a learner unattended on the plinth. Minimum of 2 adults when travelling with the plinth. Always travel with the safety sides up. Position the plinths in a safe manner for each individual learner – make use of walls.		Med - 8

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During use	Employees, third parties	Traveling with the plinth causing trips & falls musculoskeletal or varying injuries.	Med - 15	Minimal transporting the plinth. Always travel with the safety sides up. Travel at a slow and steady pace. Be mindful that is harder to push on carpet area. No plinths to be used outside. Ensure cable of handset is stowed safety.	Some learners do not travel on the plinth refer to their risk assessment. Good housekeeping.	Low - 5
Safety rails/sides	As above	Safety rail /sides falling off causing musculoskeletal, varying injuries & injuries from impact.	Med - 15	Staff training how to safely use the side of the plinth. Staff to use the side correctly, safely and as explained during training. Staff being aware of mobile learners in the class.	Report if side falls off to M&H or IT Manager.	Low - 5
After use	As above	Cross infection causing illness and or sickness.	High - 20	Plinths sanitised after every use with 'One Spray' provided and soap and water to both clean and sanitise. Refer to product for application. Rips and tears in plinth upholstery to be reported to M&H team. Serviced yearly and replacement of upholstery if deemed necessary.		Low - 5
After use	As above	No charge of plinth battery causing misuse or no use of plinth.	Low - 3	Spare battery charged & ready to use. Preferably charging day to be Wednesdays. Each class has a battery charger, battery and spare battery.	Report any concerns with batteries M&H or IT Manager.	Low - 1

**High** likelihood of risk – Likely to occur immediately or in the near future  
**Medium** likelihood of risk – will occur in time if no preventative action is taken  
**Low** likelihood of risk – Remote or unlikely to occur

## RISK ASSESSMENT

Date Reviewed	Comments
May 2020	Initial assessment
May 2022	Annual update
May 2024	General update
May 2026	General update