RISK ASSESMENT

Risk Assessment for:	Oxygen Cylinders in School	Prepared by:	H&S Co-ordinators– S.L & V.D
		Assessed by SLT:	
Location:	ROSEWOOD FREE SCHOOL	Date of Assessment	March 2026
		Review Date:	March 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
Storage of oxygen cylinders by school nurses in family room cupboard	Employees, Learners, third parties	Oxygen cylinders not being secured or stored safely or leaking equipment causing impact injury, oxygen enriched room or combustion.	High - 24	The oxygen cylinders are stored between -20°C and +65°C. The gas cylinders are stored vertically, or horizontally The oxygen cylinders are protected from falling over or from mechanical shocks – this is achieved by the small surface area of cupboard The oxygen cylinders are stored in a well-ventilated area away from any sources of ignition. Full and empty oxygen cylinders will be stored separately. The oxygen cylinders are **not** to be stored near sources of heat. Cylinders are not stored or used near naked flames or other heat sources. Oxygen cylinders are stored covered and protected against the effects of the weather. Valves of the cylinders are closed after use. Fire and Rescue services are advised of school containing oxygen equipment.	Annual service/ Additional checks organised through NHS by school nurses with the oxygen supplier Stocks checked and maintained by school nurses School nurses ensure compliance with laws/ Recommendations that apply	Low - 8

				In Rosewood School oxygen cylinders are stored in the family room cupboard. The cupboard is locked when unattended. The nursing team monitor and take the lead of use, storage and care of the oxygen cylinders. A yellow warning hazard sign is on the door. This cupboard door entrance is to be kept clear of obstacles and a sign on the door to reflect this.		
Storage of learner's individual oxygen cylinders- in class	Employees, Learners, third parties	Oxygen cylinders not being secured or stored safely or leaking equipment causing impact injury, oxygen enriched room or combustion.	High - 24	The oxygen cylinders are stored between -20°C and +65°C. The gas cylinders are stored vertically, or horizontally. The oxygen cylinders will be protected from falling over or from mechanical shocks by – oxygen cylinder to be securely strapped and fastened to learner's buggy/home chair. An alternative to home chair storage is in a yellow 'Oxygen Storage' labelled class cupboard, placed and stored in a safe manor The oxygen cylinders are stored in a well-ventilated room away from any flammable materials. The oxygen cylinders are **not** to be stored near sources of heat. Cylinders are not stored or used near naked flames or other heat sources. Oxygen cylinders are stored covered and protected against the effects of the weather. Valves of the cylinders are closed after use. Fire and Rescue services will need to be advised of properties containing oxygen	Staff trained in use and storage of oxygen cylinders	Low - 8

				equipment.		
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
Oxygen cylinders on minibus	Employees, Learners, third parties	Oxygen cylinders not being secured or stored safely or leaking equipment for the duration of minibus use causing impact injury, oxygen enriched room or combustion.	High - 24	As above control measures plus: If oxygen is being transported a visible green 'compressed gas' sticker needs to be present on the bus exterior. Oxygen needs to be either strapped securely on the learner's chair, stored securely in the overhead store or strapped securely behind the front passages seat.	Check every time.	Low - 8
Mixture of oxygen use and source of ignition	Employees, Learners, third parties	Use of oxygen, source of ignition and use of flammable liquids causing fire risk in addition flammable source becoming an explosive in a fire.	High - 24	**No source of ignition in school:** No naked flame – candles, gas or liquid-fuelled open-flame equipment. Smokers' materials - cigarettes, matches and lighters, vape/e-cigarettes. Faulty or misused electrical equipment – staff to unplug used electrical goods and dispose of damaged electrical goods including extension leads. Electrical heaters to only be used in an emergency of poor heating. Class cooking – no gas implements, be extra cautious around ovens/hob tops. No explosives - party poppers, party crackers, sparklers, indoor/outdoor fireworks. Lighting – no halogen lamps. No obstruction of equipment ventilation. Any school maintenance involving ignition or heat to be completed out of school hours. School electrical system fitted with RCD - Residual Current Device.	Any staff who smoke to ensure they store their smoking materials in a locker. No source of ignition exception will be the school kitchen – no access to learners. PAT testing in place. All staff health and safety trained.	Med - 8

Rosewood Free School
Where individuality leads learning

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Flammable source	Employees, Learners, third parties	Flammable source becoming an explosive in a fire. Many aerosols contain highly toxic chemicals which are hazardous to health.	High - 32	No aerosol deodorant or body spray, seek an alternative deodorant if needed. No aerosol air freshener or furniture freshener/cleaners. No aerosol hairspray. Foam aerosol can be used for educational/therapy use but preferably an alternative found.		Med - 16
Flammable source	Employees, Learners, third parties	Paraffin/petroleum/oil-based emollients & lip balms becoming hazardous in when in contact source of ignition or an emergency situation.	High - 32	Oxygen users not to use paraffin/petroleum-based lip balms – NHS guidelines. For oxygen users paraffin/petroleum/oil-based emollients can be used for educational/therapy use but removed with soap and warmed water after use. Foam aerosol can be used for educational/therapy use but removed with soap and warmed water after use. Nail varnish and acetone free nail varnish remover pads/wipes can be used for educational/therapy but not for oxygen users. Aromatherapy oils used for educational/therapy use to be stored in a locked cupboard in a tin. Playdoh can be used for educational/therapy use but removed and remnants removed with soap and warmed water after use.		Med - 16
Use of Automated External Defibrillator &	Employees, Learners, third parties	Use of oxygen and use of defibrillator source of ignition causing fire and burns.	High - 24	When both are in use the Automated External Defibrillator should be at least 1 meter away from Oxygen source. Best practice would be that the O2 should be turned off during the		Med - 8

oxygen.				defibrillator shock and the O2 back on when or if the casualty is breathing.		

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

Date Reviewed	Comments
March 2021	Initial assessment
March 2022	Annual update
Feb 2024	Amended
05.02.2025	Added use of Automated External Defibrillator.
10/03/26	2 yearly update