School Inspection Handbook



Courtesy of The St. James-Assiniboia School Division Developed by Paul Deacon

When performing a school inspection be sure to use the corresponding checklists to create a report.

CHECKLISTS

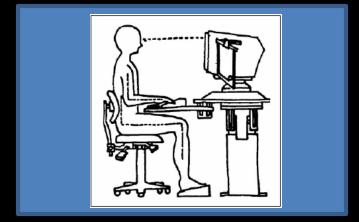
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School:	-		
Date:			
Inspector:		NOTES	
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Lighting			
Falling hazards (loose light covers etc)			
Electrical outlets			
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OFFICES, CLASSROOMS, HALLWAYS

Offices, Classrooms, Hallways

Offices, Classrooms, Hallways	
School:	
Date:	
Inspector:	NOTES
Computer workstation ergonomics	
Lighting	
Falling hazards (loose light covers etc)	
Electrical outlets	
Extension cord usage	
Slip/fall hazards	
Vending machines	
Storage shelves	
Fire plan located in highly visible location in the office.	
Fire evacuation plans posted in all classrooms	
Paper on classroom walls does not exceed 20%	
Paper on hallway walls does not exceed 5%	
No paper on classroom doors	
Exits are not blocked	
No exposed wiring.	
Washrooms are cleaned regularly. No slip hazards	
Storage rooms equipped with smoke/heat detectors	
Access to boiler/fan rooms is restricted	
Boiler/fan rooms are locked	
Emergency exits are not held open by wedges	
Food is stored in sealed containers All locations.	
Paper cutters are not accessible to children.	
Missing/stained ceiling tiles must be replaced.	
Other	Summary
	1

Computer workstations should be designed using ergonomic principals.



OFFICES, CLASSROOMS, HALLWAYS Devices such as this multi-tap adapter must not be used. A power bar is an acceptable replacement. Note: Power bars may not be used for high amperage equipment such as refrigerators

Extension cords must not be used as permanent wiring. They are for short-term use of equipment. They must be unplugged after use.





Precautions are taken to reduce slip/fall hazards. Snow is cleared from steps and wheelchair ramps. Wet floor signs are used as needed.



OFFICES, CLASSROOMS, HALLWAYS Vending machines must be fastened to the wall. They must be placarded with a tipping hazard warning label.

Storage shelves must be stable. Shelves exceeding a 3:1 ratio (height/depth) must be fastened to the wall to prevent tipping.





The fire safety plan must be located in the office in a highly visible location for fire dept access. Evacuation plans must be posted in each classroom.



OFFICES, CLASSROOMS, HALLWAYS Paper on classroom walls must not exceed 20% of the total wall surface. Paper on hallway walls must not exceed 5% of the total wall surface.

Paper must not be posted on classroom doors. In cases where a classroom has 2 doors paper may be posted on the classroom side of one door. The total paper in the classroom must not exceed 20% interior wall surface.





Exits must never be blocked.



OFFICES, CLASSROOMS, HALLWAYS Exposed wiring is not permitted in any location.



Washrooms must be cleaned regularly. Ensure soap dispensers do not leak resulting in a slipping hazard



Storage rooms (for books, paper, supplies etc.) and service rooms (fan rooms etc) must be equipped with heat or smoke detectors



OFFICES, CLASSROOMS, HALLWAYS Access to boiler controls must be restricted to authorized personnel. Boiler rooms must have self-locking, self-closing doors.



Self-closing fire/smoke doors must never be compromised by using wedges etc to keep them open. Hold-open devices must be interlocked with the fire alarm system so the doors will close when the alarm sounds.



Food must always be stored in tightly sealed containers. This is essential to keeping mice and insects out of the building. Check classrooms, teacher prep rooms and daycares to ensure compliance.



OFFICES, CLASSROOMS, HALLWAYS Paper cutters (in workrooms) should not be accessible to children



Missing ceiling tiles must be replaced to maintain fire separation. Stained ceiling tiles may indicate the presence of mould. The caretaker should take appropriate action.



THEATRES

Theatres

Theatre Inspection	
School:	
Date:	
Inspector:	NOTES
A "Theatre Safety Guideline" is in place.	
Emergency announcements are made prior to	
performances	
No additional seating is used	
A seating plan has been developed for non-fixed seating	
Exits are never blocked	
Curtains are flame resistant	
Emergency lights are operational	
Exits (exit lights work, exits are not blocked)	
Other	Summary

All activities taking place in theatres shall be governed by a "Theatre Safety Guideline". Staff or outside groups wishing to use the theatre must abide by the guideline.

Theatre
Safety
Guideline

THEATRES

An emergency procedures announcement must be made prior to each performance. If the alarm sounds the teacher in charge must alert patrons from the stage of the need to evacuate.

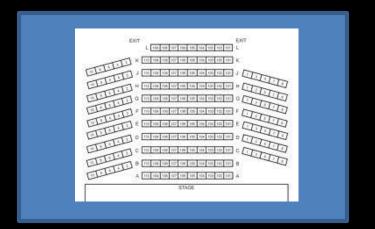
Ladies and Gentlemen

Welcome. In the event of a fire alarm or other building emergency requiring evacuation, please exit through the closed door marked with a red or green illuminated exit sign. Please take a moment to determine the closest route.

No additional seating may be introduced in a theatre with fixed seating. Exits must never be blocked.



In schools where concerts/ productions take place in a gym a seating plan should be developed. The plan must be in compliance with the National Fire Code.



THEATRES

Theatre curtains must be flame resistant. Ensure the curtains are labeled as such or produce a "Certificate of Flame Resistance" from the manufacturer.



Ensure emergency lights and exits signs are operational



SCIENCE LABS

Science Labs

Science Labs	
School:	
Date:	
Inspector:	NOTES
Flammable storage cabinets	
Acid/corrosive storage cabinets	
Secondary spill containment trays are used	
Fume hoods are certified for use.	
Chemicals are not stored in fume hoods	
Condition of shelving	
Chemicals are labeled according to WHMIS protocols	
First aid kit contents	
PPE is available and is used.	
An accurate chemical inventory exists.	
MSDS are available for all chemicals	
Safety carriers are used for concentrated acids	
A chemical spill kit and spill clean-up procedures exist	
Eyewash station inspection tag is current.	
Other	Summary

Flammables must be stored in a self-closing flammable storage cabinet. The cabinet does NOT need to be vented. Vent openings should be sealed. Do NOT store acids in metal flammable storage cabinets as they will cause the cabinet to rust.

SCIENCE LABS

Acids should be stored in an acid storage cabinet. They are typically made of wood.

Liquids should be stored on trays to provide secondary spill containment







Chemical fume hoods must be rated for flammables. They must have a dedicated exhaust. The sash must operate properly and airflow must meet the AIHA standard (80-120 f/s).



SCIENCE LABS

Chemicals should never be stored in fume hoods



Shelving must be in good condition.

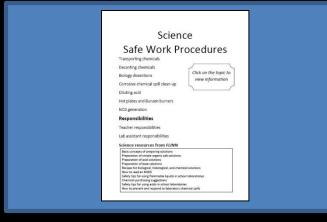


All chemicals must be labeled as per WHMIS 2015 protocols. This includes stock solutions that will not be used up immediately. Stock solutions must indicate chemical name and concentration (in moles).



SCIENCE LABS

Written safe work procedures must be developed. A copy must be available for the inspection team to view.



The lab must have a fully stocked first aid kit.

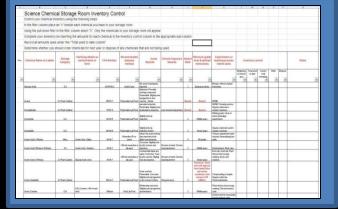


Appropriate PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) must be available and must be used.



SCIENCE LABS

An accurate chemical inventory must be maintained at all times.



MSDS (Material safety Data Sheets) must be available for all chemicals. If an electronic database is used staff must be able to demonstrate their ability to use system.



If the lab uses large bottles of concentrated chemicals they must be transported using safety carriers.



Hydrochloric acid (12.1 M) Sulfuric acid (18.0M) Glacial acetic acid (17.4M) Nitric acid (15.8M) Phosphoric acid (14.8M)

SCIENCE LABS

All chemical storage rooms must have a spill kit and written chemical spill response procedures



Chemical storage rooms must have an emergency eyewash station. It must be tested by the teacher or lab assistant every week. An inspection tag must be initialed





INDUSTRIAL ARTS & VOCATIONAL ARTS

Industrial Arts Vocational Arts

T	
Industrial Vocational Arts	
School:	
Date:	
Inspector:	NOTES
Safe work zones	
Hazard ID (yellow or red paint or signs to Identify cutting,	
crushing, abrasive, or pinch hazards.	
Eyewash station inspection tag is current.	
First aid kit content	
Fire extinguishers have been inspected	
Emergency shut-offs are accessibl	
Guards are always used on all machinesno exceptions	
Large kitchen knives are stored properly	
Kitchen fire suppression systems have been inspected	
Paint booth fire suppression systems have been	
inspected	
Vehicle hoist inspections are current. Check label and	
log books	
Carbon Monoxide detectors have been inspected	
Shops working on vehicles must have a fuel transfer unit	
Eyewash station inspection tag is current	
Compressed gas cylinders are secured from falling	
Fume extractors, dust collectors are working properly	
All dust-producing machinery is connected to a dust	
collector in the wood shop	
Safe work procedures are available for all machines	
Training records are kept for all machines.	
Safety signs are used to reind students of shop rules	
PPE is available and is used	
PPE is located in a highly visible location	
Eye Protection MUST be worn when ever machines are	
used.	
Electrical panels must be locked at al times	
Air hoses are stored properly	
Lumber and other supplies are stored on heavy-duty	
racks	
The shop is clean and tidy	

INDUSTRIAL
ARTS
&
VOCATIONAL
ARTS

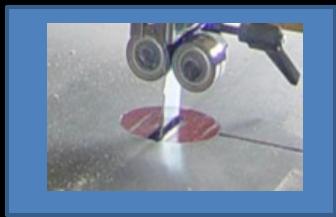
Safe work zones around machinery should be indicated with yellow paint. Pinch points on machines should be clearly identified with yellow paint or labels

Yellow paint should be used to identify the moving belt and disk on sanders.

Yellow or red paint helps the eye to differentiate between the steel table-top and the moving blade on this band saw.







Shops must be equipped with eyewash stations. They must be tested weekly and an inspection tag must be initialed.



INDUSTRIAL
ARTS
&
VOCATIONAL
ARTS

Open the first aid kit to check for contents including a first aid manual, disposable gloves, band-aids, bandages, waterless hand cleaner, and a resuscitation mask with a oneway valve.

Shops must have fire extinguishers. They must be inspected monthly.
Emergency shut-offs must work and must be accessible.
Emergency exits must clear.





Guards are required for almost all shop equipment.... including lathes....



INDUSTRIAL
ARTS
&
VOCATIONAL
ARTS

....scroll saws and drill presses.....



...grinders and table saws...



... band saws....



INDUSTRIAL
ARTS
&
VOCATIONAL
ARTS

....metal lathes.....



...milling machines...



... printing presses....



INDUSTRIAL
ARTS
&
VOCATIONAL
ARTS

....portable power tools.....



... and kitchen equipment such as slicers and dough mixers.



Large kitchen knives must be stored in blocks or with magnetic holders



INDUSTRIAL
ARTS
&
VOCATIONAL
ARTS

Fire suppression systems found in kitchens must be inspected annually by certified inspectors. Check to ensure the inspection label is up-to-date.



Paint booths (autobody shops) have fire suppression systems. They must be inspected by certified inspectors. Check to ensure the inspection label is up-to-date.



Automobile hoists must be inspected annually by a certified inspector. Check inspection label. Shop teachers must inspect hoists daily. Log books must be kept. Check log book



INDUSTRIAL
ARTS
&
VOCATIONAL
ARTS

Automobile shops must have a carbon monoxide detector. It must be inspected annually by a certified inspector. Check the inspection label.



Power mechanics shops and autobody shops must have a fuel transfer unit. They must also have a safe work procedure to operate the unit.



INDUSTRIAL
ARTS
&
VOCATIONAL
ARTS

Compressed gas cylinders must be secured so they cannot fall. This requirement includes CO2 cylinders used in soft drink soda fountains. Propane tanks (barbeque tanks) must NOT be stored inside

Welding operations require a variety of fume extraction systems. Systems should be checked annually by qualified inspectors to ensure adequate airflow. Check inspection log book.

All dust-producing machinery in wood shops must be serviced by a dust collector.







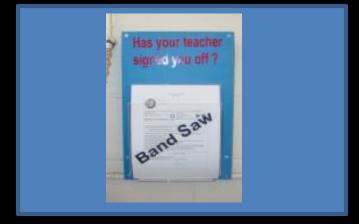


Safe work procedures must be available for all machinery used in the various shops.



INDUSTRIAL
ARTS
&
VOCATIONAL
ARTS

It is important to keep a record of training for all students for every machine they have been trained to use.



Signs should be used to remind students of the rules applying to machines and other equipment.



INDUSTRIAL
ARTS
&
VOCATIONAL

ARTS

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be used according to the shops specific requirements. Signs help to remind students of the requirement.

Shops must provide PPE. It should be located in a highly visible location such as this display.

Eye protection is extremely important. The consequences of non-compliance may last a life-time.

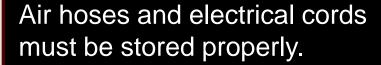






INDUSTRIAL
ARTS
&
VOCATIONAL
ARTS

All electrical panels must be equipped with a lock to prevent unauthorized access. Any Machines (including portable power tools) with frayed or bare wires must be taken out of service.



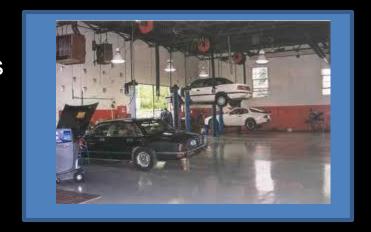
Lumber and other supplies must be stored on heavy duty storage racks.







Good housekeeping is essential to safety in all shops

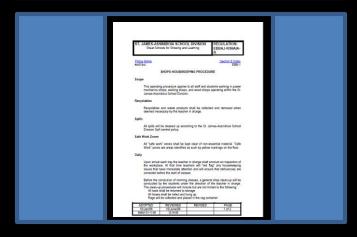


INDUSTRIAL
ARTS
&
VOCATIONAL
ARTS

Tools, lumber, electrical cords, and hoses must be stored properly. Floors must be kept clean. Oily rags must be kept in a self-closing metal can



All shops should have a shop-specific housekeeping policy.



GYMNASIUMS

Gymnasiums

Gym Inspection	
School:	
Date:	
Inspector:	
General	NOTES
Lighting	
Falling hazards (loose light covers etc)	
Tripping hazards (protruding floor sockets etc)	
Electrical panel	
Guards on clocks etc	
Padding on corners and volleyball posts.	
Exits (exit lights work, exits are not blocked)	
Emergency equipment (extinguishers, first aid kits	
"In Case of Fire" sign is posted.	
Gym occupancy load sign is posted.	
Gymnasium dividers/curtains	
Walk-draw gym divider	
Roll-up gym divider	
Fold-up Gym divider	
Bleacher/seating	
Equipped with pull-out handles	
Condition of seats	
Operation of rollers, drive chains and hinges.	
Fill all gear boxes with 80-90 weight gear oil	
Hardware (nuts, bolts etc)	
Stage	
Condition of theatre curtains	
Basketball	
Hoop attachment	
Backboard condition (cracks, splits etc)	
Frame apparatus (securely attached to wall)	
Winch block	
Pulley system operataion	
Check for frayed wires.	
Wall padding behind basketball net	
Five year check performed (note date)	

Look up! Ensure there is sufficient lighting.



GYMNASIUMS

Check for potential falling hazards. The cover on this light may fall and cause a serious injury.



Look down! Check the floor sockets to ensure they are flush with the floor surface. Check for holes or tears in the floor.



All electrical panels must be equipped with a lock to prevent unauthorized access. Also, any holes (used to house breakers) must be plugged to prevent electrical shocks.



GYMNASIUMS

Prevent damage to equipment by ensuring guards are in place.



Volleyball and badminton posts must be padded. The padding should be in good condition.



Walk-draw gym dividers typically consist of a curtain that rolls along a 3" aluminum channel on nylon wheels spaced every 12". Drop chains are used for proper height adjustment.



GYMNASIUMS

Pull the curtain open to check for tears in the material.
Check to ensure all chains are attached



Re-attach any chains that have come loose to ensure the weight of the curtain is evenly distributed. This will ensure ease of operation and help prevent damage to the curtain.



GYMNASIUMS

Roll up gym dividers hang from overhead supporting steel structures. They are motorized. A key is used to raise and lower the curtain

Lower the curtain. Visually inspect the bottom batten for any bends or separation of the splices. Check for any tears in the curtain. If tears are present, patch immediately to prevent further damage

Check the operation of the limit switch. Check every wheel and pulley for smooth operation. Clean curtain with mild detergent and water.







GYMNASIUMS

Fold up gym dividers hang from overhead supporting steel structures. They operate by using lift cables passing through grommets as the bottom tube is raised. It folds and unfolds like an accordion

Lower the curtain. Visually inspect the bottom batten for any bends or separation of the splices. Check for any tears in the curtain. Ensure the bottom pipe is secure.

Check the operation of the limit switch. Check every wheel and pulley for smooth operation.







Bleachers should be equipped with handles to pull them open. Serious hand (pinch) injuries can occur if bleachers are opened incorrectly.



GYMNASIUMS

Check rollers for ease of operation. The bleachers should be securely attached to the wall. Check for splinters.



Curtains should operate smoothly. Curtains are required to be treated with flame retardant to ensure they pass the NFPA match flame test.



Ensure the entire basketball apparatus is firmly attached to the wall.



GYMNASIUMS

Check the backboard for splits and cracks



Make sure the basketball hoop is firmly attached.



Check the condition of the hoop. Staff are using masking tape to hang nets on the damaged hoop. There are sharp edges where the hangers have broken off.

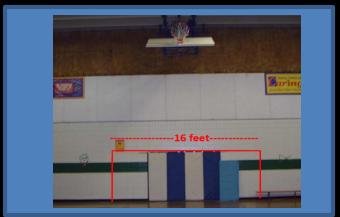


GYMNASIUMS

Check nuts, bolts and welds. The weld on this basketball backboard support has failed. The backboard could fall if a player hangs on to the hoop.



The wall padding should be 8' in both directions from the centre of the apparatus.



Check the winch block for cracks and ensure it is fastened securely to the wall.



GYMNASIUMS

Check the operation of the pulley system by raising and lowering the apparatus. The movement should be smooth and continuous. Check for frayed wire.

Once every five years use a man-lift to inspect all upper cables, connections, pulleys, and moving joints. Grease if necessary





Climbing frames must be set up to inspect them properly. Start by raising the structure using the spring-loaded clamps so the wheels can roll freely.



GYMNASIUMS

Pull the sections of the frame into position ensuring components line up and attach securely.



Pins should line up with floor sockets. Drop the frame into place using the spring-loaded clamp. Finally, tighten up the entire unit by setting the cable clamp on the wall hook.



Climb the frame to check for loose, bent, or broken components and to ensure the entire apparatus is stable.

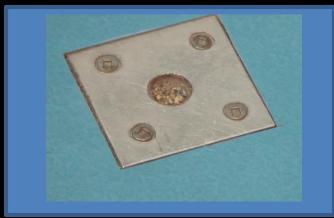


GYMNASIUMS

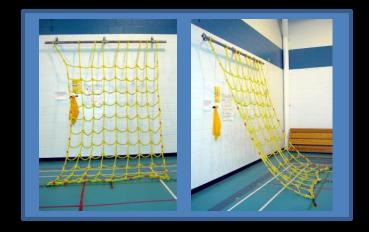
Check for protruding nails or screws. The wood slat covers holes where the rungs are attached to the frame. If the holes are not covered they pose a finger entrapment hazard.

Check to ensure floor sockets are not clogged with dirt or wax.





Cargo nets must be supplied with an anchoring system so they can be attached to both the wall and the floor.



GYMNASIUMS

Check to ensure the anchoring system works.



Check for frayed rope and loose tape. Ensure nothing (skipping ropes, clothing etc) has been added to the net.



Check ropes on all equipment for fraying and ensure they are firmly attached. Black, green, or red tape is frequently used to indicate the height students are permitted to climb.



GYMNASIUMS

Ensure cables are not compromised. They should not have kinks or drag along other equipment or structures.





Weight Rooms

WEIGHT ROOMS

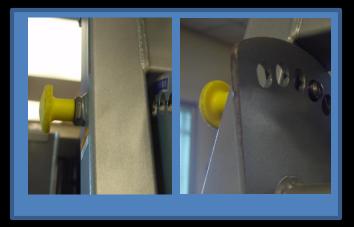
Weight rooms	
School:	
Date:	
Inspector:	
Multi-gyms	NOTES
Condition of frame, welds, weight plates	
Condition of guide rods, pulleys, cables, belts,bolts.	
Condition of shock absorbers (if present)	
Incline/decline/military etc benches	
Condition of moving parts	
Stability	
Integrity of all padding	
Stationary racks	
Check for broken welds, worn parts, missing or loose	
hardware	
Condition of weight rooms mirrors	
Electrical wiring on treadmills etc	
Emergency stop devices are used	
Tripping hazards	
Adequate rooms between equipment	
Activities are monitored	
Rules are posted	
Other	Summary

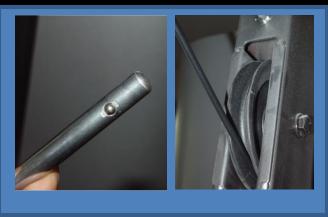
The frame, welds, and weight plates on multi-gyms should be inspected every 5 years.



WEIGHT ROOMS

Guide rods, pivot bearings, pulleys, pull pin components, cables, belts, bolts, etc should be inspected annually for obvious wear and to ensure smooth operation. If the apparatus includes shock absorbers they should be checked for leakage.





The broken pulley in this example may cause the cable to get caught resulting in jerky movement while the user is lifting a heavy weight.



WEIGHT ROOMS

Check all moving parts on incline/decline benches, military benches, glut-ham benches, etc. Also, check for stability.



Check the integrity of all padded equipment. This workbench has been compromised. Do not repair with tape...replace the padding.



The smith press, stationary racks, multi racks, etc. should be checked once a year. Check for broken welds, worn parts, and missing or loose nuts and bolts. Check for stability



WEIGHT ROOMS

Bolts tend to loosen and fall off if they are not inspected and tightened on a regular basis.



Ensure weight room mirrors do not have any cracked or broken glass



Check the wiring on motorized equipment such as treadmills.



WEIGHT ROOMS

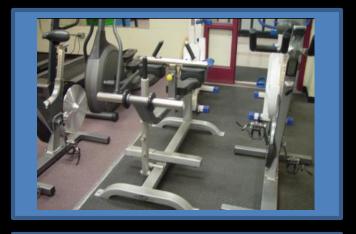
Ensure any emergency stop devices are operational and are used.



Check the condition of the floor to ensure no trip hazards are present.



Ensure there is adequate room between equipment.



WEIGHT ROOMS

Activities in weight rooms should be monitored at all times. Emergency procedures should be developed and all weight room users must know what to do in an emergency.

Weight room rules should be posted

"On-site" supervision or

"In the Area" supervision as

required by

Safety Guidelines for

Physical Activity in Manitoba

Schools

WEIGHT ROOM RULES

- 1. DO NOT USE EQUIPMENT WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION.
- NO FOOD/DRINK PERMITTED IN THIS AREA.
- COLLARS MUST BE USED WITH ALL FREE WEIGHTS.
- 4. ALL WEIGHTS SHOULD BE NEATLY STACKED AFTER USE.

SERVICE ROOMS

Service Rooms

(Boiler, fan electrical, custodial)

Service rooms	
School:	
Date:	
Inspector:	NOTES
Electrical panels have 39" clearance zone	
Eyewash station inspection tag is current	
Timers have guards	
Fans and pulleys are fitted with guards	
Crawlspace entry hatch precautions are posted	
Crawlspace entry hatchlogs are current	
Fire protection systems have been inspected.	
Deficiences in fire inspection report have been	
corrected.	
Cleaning chemicals are labeled as per WHMIS	
protocols.	
MSDS are available	
Asbestos survey is up-to-date. All ACM's are listed in	
GOOD condition.	
Other	Summary

A 39" clearance zone must be maintained around all electrical equipment



SERVICE ROOMS

The SDS (formerly MSDS) for many boiler chemicals requires access to a plumbed-in eyewash station. An inspection tag is required to be signed weekly.

Timers must be guarded. All electrical hazards must be corrected immediately.





Pulleys and fan belts must be fitted with guards.



SERVICE ROOMS

Crawlspace hatches should be placarded with entry restrictions, procedures and log sheets. Only authorized persons may enter a crawlspace.

Fire protection and life safety systems must be inspected by certified inspectors annually. Any deficiencies must be corrected immediately. Check the date on the inspection label.





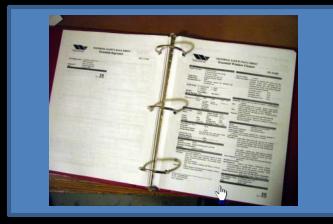
Cleaning chemicals must be labeled as per WHMIS (Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System) protocols.

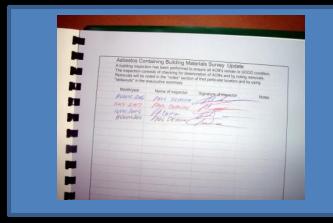


SERVICE ROOMS

SDS (WHMIS 2015 Safety Data Sheets) must be available for all chemicals. If an electronic database is used staff must be able to demonstrate their ability to use system.

The asbestos survey for the building must be updated once per year. Check the date of the last inspection.





Special Needs Equipment (Lifts, slings, change tables)

CHANGE
TABLES

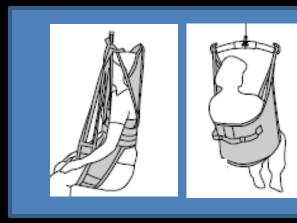
Lifts, slings, change tables	
School:	
Date:	
Inspector:	
Lifts	NOTES
Sling bar condition	
Safety latch condition	
Unit raises and lowers properly	
Base-width adjustment works properly	
Emergency lowering feature works properly	
Slings/Vests	
Condition of fabric, straps, seams, and loops.	
Safe work procedures have been developed.	
Users have received training	
Change tables	
Check the table for smooth operation	
Check pneumatic cylinders for leakage	
Check cleanliness	
A Safe lifting environment program is in place	
Other	Summary

Inspect mobile lifts for any signs of external damage. Check the condition of the sling bar. Check safety latch. Check raising, lowering and base-width adjustment. Check the emergency lowering function.



Mobile lifts

LIFTS, SLINGS, CHANGE TABLES Inspect teddy slings and hygiene vests. Check fabric, straps, seams and loops for wear and damage.



Specialized equipment requires training. A safe work procedure must be developed. Quick reference guides should be posted to remind staff of key points learned during training.





LIFTS, SLINGS, CHANGE TABLES

Check the change table folding operation and pneumatic cylinders (if the unit is equipped with them) for easy smooth quiet folding. Place a small amount of white lithium grease at all hinge points. Height adjustment should be smooth and quiet. Cleaning is recommended between each use. Most general purpose cleaners and disinfectants are compatible with change tables.





A safe lifting environment program should be established for staff who work with mobility impaired students. Contact your safety officer for details.

