



Title: **LATEX SAFE ENVIRONMENT**
Adopted: 12 June 2012
Revised: February 2017, November 2019

POLICY

It is the policy of the Bloorview School Authority that all possible precautions be taken to identify and minimize the risk of latex exposure to staff and clients diagnosed with latex allergy.

BACKGROUND

1. Natural rubber latex is a concentrated milky fluid collected from the rubber tree, and is used to make products such as gloves, balloons, catheters, erasers and rubber bands as well as many other products used in the health care industry and around homes. During the process of making latex products, chemicals such as ammonia and other preservatives, antioxidants and accelerators are added to give the rubber the required properties.

GUIDELINES

2. Staff and students are asked not to bring any items containing latex to school and before items are brought to school, staff and parents should ensure that they do not contain latex. Some items that can have latex in them may include balloons, rubber gloves, rubber bands, some fabric paints, swimming caps or goggles, a wide range of medical equipment or anything labelled as containing latex.
3. It is the responsibility of the Principal of the school to address any issues relevant to this policy.