



Title: **LATEX SAFE ENVIRONMENT**

Adopted: 12 June 2012

Revised: February 2017

POLICY

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

BACKGROUND

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

1. 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 include balloons, Koosh balls, rubber gloves, some fabric paints, swimming caps or goggles and a wide range of medical equipment.
2. It is the responsibility of the Principal of the school to address any issues relevant to this policy.