

“LIMITED – LATEX” ENVIRONMENT

Effective at Fisher Public School

NO LATEX BALLOONS - NO LATEX GLOVES

It is common knowledge that the environment, especially the air, can pose health risks to individuals on a daily basis. Some of these individuals have life-threatening asthma and/or allergies to substances present in the environment. Our awareness of these reactions to environmental substances makes us all responsible to keep these known controllable hazards out of our environment to the best of our abilities.

Latex (natural rubber latex) is one of these environmental health hazards that Fisher Public School will be working diligently to control. We have had several students and employees with this latex sensitivity/allergy over the past years. It is inevitable with the amount of latex used in our daily lives that anyone, including our students and staff, could suddenly present with a latex sensitivity or latex allergy.

Latex is invisible and odorless. Latex does not warn of its presence. Some specific items that are latex are identifiable, such as rubber balloons, rubber gloves, rubber balls and rubber bands. The latex particles can become airborne especially with balloons and gloves. If someone with a latex allergy inhales the air contaminated with the latex particles they can develop respiratory (breathing) distress. **This can occur without warning and could be fatal within minutes.**

It is the responsibility of each and every one of us to maintain the safety of the Fisher Public School building.

Latex items are not allowed in the school building or at Fisher Public School sponsored events. We will continue to monitor the building for potential hazards. These situations will continue to be addressed. Awareness of this latex allergy risk and compliance with this directive is not optional. It is imperative that we maintain a safe school environment for all.