

MAVISBANK SCHOOL

VISUAL AWARENESS POLICY

RATIONALE

The overwhelming majority of the pupils in Mavisbank have visual impairments of varying degrees of severity. Since the use of vision whenever possible is crucial in terms of learning and motivation to learn it is essential that the implications of visual impairment are taken into consideration throughout all areas of the curriculum.

VITAL- Visual Impairment Touches All Learning

AIMS

- ❖ To ensure that each child's VA needs are addressed in all Learning and Teaching situations
- ❖ To share information concerning each child's visual needs with all staff and therapists
- ❖ To ensure that each child has a VA profile readily accessible to all staff for reference
- ❖ To liaise with the Orthoptists' department at Monklands Hospital
- ❖ To liaise with and seek advice from the visiting VA specialist
- ❖ To ensure that all pupils have VA targets as part of their ASPs
- ❖ To ensure that VA needs are addressed in all lesson planning
- ❖ To ensure that apart from VA needs being addressed in class each child has sessions in the GP room allowing for greater visual stimulation.
- ❖ To ensure that each child's responses to visual stimulation are evaluated.

Safety Precautions In The Use Of UV-A Fluorescent Lamps

UV lamps producing UV-A light will also emit small amounts of UV-B light

UV radiation does not penetrate beyond the skin and no cases of skin cancer attributable to occupational exposure to artificial sources of UV light have been identified. However a link between skin cancer and exposure to solar radiation is now accepted

UV radiation may be substantially absorbed in the cornea and lens of the eye and may lead to damage of the eye

Personnel should not work at distances of less than 1 metre from a UV-A light tube

Personnel should not work in UV-A light for periods in excess of 15 minutes and this should be limited to 3 such periods per day

Only light tubes with a maximum spectral output at approx. 365 nanometres and negligible output below approx. 330 nm should be installed

Sheila Harkness

Reviewed : John Lochrie, Eileen McDonnell July 2015

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