

Sample Checklist to Identify and Minimize Risk for Activities not Included in OPASSE

When seeking permission for an activity/sport not included and not resembling an activity/sport in the Ontario Physical Activity Safety Standards in Education (OPASSE) this checklist can be used to help identify and minimize risk.

Please note:

- Permission must be obtained from the appropriate school board official (for example, Principal, Supervisory Officer) before participation.
 - This checklist is not exhaustive but has been designed to assist in identifying and minimizing risks. Other safety considerations may be required.
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- The educator/teacher is familiar with the activity and the teaching progression of skills and strategies.
 - The educator/teacher has identified the potential risks of the activity and the strategies to mitigate those risks prior to and during the activity/sport (for example, safety instructions and rules will be outlined and communicated to students).
 - The educator/teacher has access to all equipment needed to participate in the activity, including personal protective equipment.
 - The students are at an age/stage of development and ability to safely participate in the activity.
 - The students have access to appropriate clothing and footwear for the activity.
 - The facility provides adequate space and is free of hazards for students to participate safely.
 - The equipment available is the appropriate size and weight for the students.

- If equipment is brought from home, a safety inspection must be carried out at home to ensure it is in good working order and is suitable for personal use.
- The appropriate level of supervision (Constant visual, On-site, In-the-area) will be provided.
- When an outside activity provider is used, the provider will adhere to the school board/school protocols. Consult the Outside Activity Providers section with the Tools & Resources section.
- A first aid kit and an accessible communication device are readily available and an individual who takes responsibility for first aid is identified.
- Careful consideration has been given to strategies and safe practices to maximize the opportunity for the inclusion of students with all abilities.