

Chainsaw use – grounds care

A serious injury occurred at a school through the use of a chainsaw during grounds maintenance activities.

The incident occurred due to a lack of a safe system of work being implemented.

All schools should ensure that safe systems of work are in place particularly when high risk machinery (such as a chainsaw) is involved. Formal training in chainsaw use is highly recommended to verify competency.

Guidance can be obtained from the [Workplace Health and Safety Queensland – Managing risks of plant in the workplace Code of Practice](#).

The following sections are particularly relevant:

- Duties of persons conducting a business or undertaking
- Risk management
- Maintenance, servicing and cleaning
- Instructing, training and supervising workers
- Competency
- Records.

More information

- [Managing risks of plant in the workplace Code of Practice](#)
- [Safe operating procedure and equipment maintenance records](#)