

**BLOWER VACUUM – ELECTRIC**

DO NOT **use this machine unless a teacher has instructed**

**you in its safe use and operation and has given permission.**

    

### **PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS**

1. **Do not use an electric blower vacuum in wet conditions.**
2. **Do not wear jewellery or loose clothing that can be drawn into the air inlet.**
3. **Check machine for loose/missing nuts, bolts and screws. Tighten and/or replace as needed.**
4. **Inspect the parts of the mulching cutting head (where fitted). Replace cutting line if worn or damaged**
5. **Ensure the debris bag is in sound condition and is properly fitted with no gaps.**
6. **Ensure all guards are fitted, secure and functional.**
7. **Ensure the machine and extension cord are tagged and are current.**
8. **Ensure a tagged RCD is used when operating the machine.**
9. **Trip test RCD before operation.**
10. **Ensure the extension cord is in good condition.**
11. **The extension cord must be uncoiled as coiled cables can overheat.**
12. **Faulty equipment must not be used. Immediately report suspect machinery.**

#### OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

1. **Ensure no person or animal is endangered when operating equipment.**
2. **Adjust the shoulder harness as required to ensure it is in the most comfortable position.**
3. **Keep a firm grip. Hold handles with fingers together encircling handles.**
4. **Maintain a straight wrist position. Avoid using your wrist in a bent, extended or twisted position.**
5. **Maintain footing and balance at all times. Do not stand on slippery, uneven or unstable surfaces. Do not work in odd positions or on ladders.**
6. **Select the mode indicator to adjust the nozzle position for blow or vacuum.**
7. **Do not pull cable around sharp objects.**
8. **Do not direct the blower in the direction of other people.**
9. **Take wind conditions into account. Avoid open doors and windows.**
10. **Minimize dust by using blower at lower speeds.**
11. **If the blower vacuum starts to vibrate abnormally, switch off and check immediately.**
12. **Switch off and disconnect from the electricity supply before removing or replacing the debris bag.**
13. **Do not place hands in bag when emptying. Sharp debris can cause injury.**

#### HOUSEKEEPING

1. **Remove any foreign material from motor air inlet and nozzle**
2. **Keep the work area and implement shed in a clean and tidy condition.**

## POTENTIAL HAZARDS

**◼ Noise ◼ Electrical hazards ◼ Flying debris ◼ Dust**

**This SOP should be used in conjunction with Curriculum Activity Risk Management Modules**

***Acknowledgement****: Much of the information for this document has been sourced from content kindly provided by Department for Education SA website.*

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| **Date of last review** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |