

Risk Assessment & Method Statement

Decorator / Painter RAMS – Low-VOC interior redecoration package

Version: 1

PUBLISHED

Trade: Decorator / Painter

Review Date: 19/11/2026

Basic Information

Organization: Spectrum Decorating Services Ltd

Client: Northgate Education Trust

Site: Northgate Academy Internal Renewal - York YO1 7HH

Scope of Work

This RAMS covers Low-VOC interior redecoration package at Northgate Academy Internal Renewal. It sets out the planned sequence of work, foreseeable hazards, control measures, permits, PPE, COSHH arrangements, emergency actions, and supervision requirements. The supervisor must review this document with the site-specific induction, construction phase plan, drawings, permits, and changing conditions before work starts.

Persons at Risk

Operatives, supervisors, visitors, neighbouring trades, and members of the public near the work area.

Hazards & Risk Assessment

5 hazards identified

VOCs / COSHH (solvents, paints)

VOCs / COSHH (solvents, paints) can affect operatives and adjacent trades during Low-VOC interior redecoration package. Controls are to be verified at the point of work by the supervisor.

Pre-Control: 14 (Medium Risk)

Post-Control: 5 (Low Risk)

Control Measures:

- COSHH assessment completed
- Adequate ventilation
- Solvent-resistant gloves
- Brief operatives at the daily start-of-shift coordination meeting and stop work if conditions change.

Sanding dust inhalation

Sanding dust inhalation can affect operatives and adjacent trades during Low-VOC interior redecoration package. Controls are to be verified at the point of work by the supervisor.

Pre-Control: 13 (Medium Risk)

Post-Control: 4 (Low Risk)

Control Measures:

- Dust extraction
- RPE (FFP2 mask)
- Wet sanding where possible
- Brief operatives at the daily start-of-shift coordination meeting and stop work if conditions change.

Ladder and step work

Ladder and step work can affect operatives and adjacent trades during Low-VOC interior redecoration package. Controls are to be verified at the point of work by the supervisor.

Pre-Control: 12 (Medium Risk)

Post-Control: 3 (Low Risk)

Control Measures:

- Correct ladder for job
- 3-point contact
- Podium steps preferred
- Brief operatives at the daily start-of-shift coordination meeting and stop work if conditions change.

Fire risk (solvents and rags)

Fire risk (solvents and rags) can affect operatives and adjacent trades during Low-VOC interior redecoration package. Controls are to be verified at the point of work by the supervisor.

Pre-Control: 11 (Medium Risk)

Post-Control: 3 (Low Risk)

Control Measures:

- No ignition sources
- Rags in metal bin with lid
- Extinguisher available
- Brief operatives at the daily start-of-shift coordination meeting and stop work if conditions change.

Skin / eye contact (chemicals)

Skin / eye contact (chemicals) can affect operatives and adjacent trades during Low-VOC interior redecoration package. Controls are to be verified at the point of work by the supervisor.

Pre-Control: 10 (Medium Risk)

Post-Control: 3 (Low Risk)

Control Measures:

- Barrier cream
- Safety goggles
- Wash facilities on site
- Brief operatives at the daily start-of-shift coordination meeting and stop work if conditions change.

Method of Work

6 steps outlined

1

Prepare surfaces (fill, sand, clean)

Related hazards: VOCs / COSHH (solvents, paints)

2

Isolate area and ensure ventilation

Related hazards: Sanding dust inhalation

3

Apply primer / undercoat

Related hazards: Ladder and step work

4

Apply finish coats (brush / roller / spray)

Related hazards: Fire risk (solvents and rags)

5

Allow dry time between coats

Related hazards: Skin / eye contact (chemicals)

6

Clean up and remove protection

Related hazards: Skin / eye contact (chemicals)

Personal Protective Equipment & Permits

PPE Required

Hard hat

Safety glasses/goggles

Solvent-resistant gloves

RPE with correct filter

Permits Required

COSHH review complete

Hot works permit if burn-off or heat gun work is required

COSHH Assessments

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health

Low-VOC satin paint

Use: Final decorative coat in occupied areas.

Exposure: Skin contact, vapour inhalation

Controls:

- Provide ventilation
- Wear gloves
- Seal containers after decanting

SDS: <https://rams-builder.app/sds/examples/decorator-satin-paint.pdf>

Emergency Procedures

First Aid

Stop work, make the area safe, and contact the appointed first aider via the site emergency number confirmed at induction. The supervisor must report serious incidents to Spectrum Decorating Services Ltd management and prevent work restarting until the area is safe.

Fire Emergency

Raise the site alarm, stop the task, isolate energy sources only where safe, and proceed by the signed escape route to the designated assembly point. Do not attempt firefighting unless trained and it is safe to do so.

Spill Response

Stop the source if safe, cordon the area, and use the site spill kit or absorbent materials specified by the relevant SDS. Prevent entry to drainage, segregate contaminated waste, and report the event to the supervisor.

Nearest Accident & Emergency

Nearest A&E and the agreed emergency vehicle access point must be confirmed during the Northgate Academy Internal Renewal induction, recorded in the daily briefing, and communicated to all operatives.

Signatures & Approvals

This document has been reviewed and approved by:

Kieran Walsh

Decorator / Painter Supervisor

03/08/2026, 10:30:00

Demonstration document using fictional project information. It must be reviewed, adapted, and approved for the actual site before work commences.

All operatives must be briefed on the hazards and control measures that apply to the live task.