

7.3 Microwave Policy

Purpose:

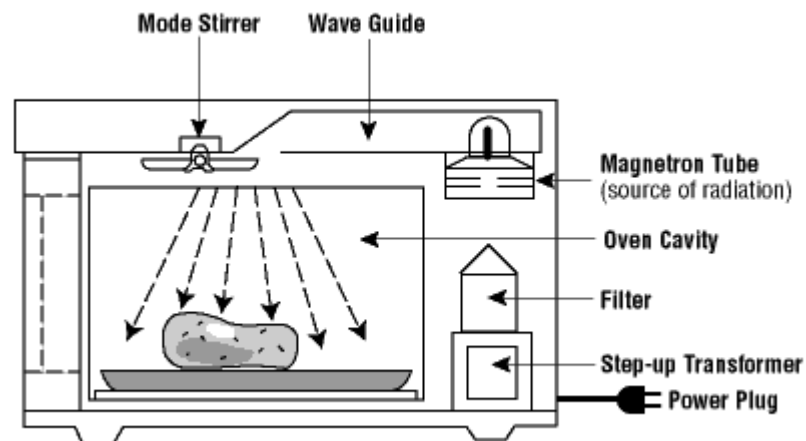
Microwave ovens are used daily in many of our schools. To help ensure safe microwave usage, the following guidelines must be followed.

Safety Precautions

Some general safety precautions for microwave oven usage:

1. Do not operate oven when empty.
2. Exercise extreme caution when working the microwave around people with pacemakers. Microwave radiation may cause pacemaker interference. Persons with pacemaker implants should not be near a microwave oven unless they are sure it is in good operating condition and there is no leak of microwave radiation.
3. Check to see that door seal and inside surfaces the microwave and oven cavity are clean after each use
4. Keep out of reach of children. Elementary school students are not permitted to use the microwave unless supervised by an adult.
5. Do not put face close to door window when oven is operating.
6. When heating water or other liquids, run the microwave for a short time for several cycles to reach the desired temperature. Several short periods are preferable to long periods.
7. Food continues to cook after the microwave is turned off, whether it is still in the oven or someplace else. Allow food to stand for at least one minute after cooking, or as the recipe directs.

8. Microwaves may heat food differently than conventional ovens, but there is nothing different about the scald burns they cause. Microwave-induced burns should be treated as any other type of burn.
9. Refer to the manufacturer's instructions for recommended operating procedures and safety precautions. No microwave shall be in use without the manufacturer's instructions on hand.
10. Use only those containers and products that have been approved for microwave use. These items are designed to withstand the high temperatures possible when cooking foods that have a high fat or sugar content.
11. Where a microwave is in use a sign shall be posted stating "MICROWAVE IN USE".
12. All microwaves in use must be CSA approved.



Safety Tips for Installation and Maintenance

1. Take special care to ensure that no damage occurs to the part of the oven making contact with the door seals.
2. A competent person will conduct all maintenance.
3. General cleaning of microwave shall be with mild soap and baking soda.