

The KAHSC 'Making Sense of Safeguarding' Conference is back ... have you booked your place yet?

Our hugely successful 'Making Sense of Safeguarding' Conference is back for another year and taking place on Thursday, 23 April 2015 at the North Lakes Hotel, Penrith.

The day will open with a keynote speech from Mike Blakey, Specialist Children's Services Improvement Adviser and Director of Indigo Children's Services, a company which specialises in support for children's centres, schools and children's services enabling them to provide outstanding services for children and families

The 4 workshops, repeated throughout the day, offer our renowned variety of Safeguarding, Health and Safety information and guidance.

This year we examine:

- **Holding, handling and restraint: your roles and responsibilities explained** with Doug Melia, an expert witness on the use of force with children and young people;
- **Handling complaints and difficult parents** with David Wilson, Education law trainer and part-time Judge;
- **Managing Asbestos in your School: what you need to know** with Martin Stear, Chartered Occupational Hygienist for Workplace Environment Solutions Ltd and
- **The Evolution of Risk Assessment** with Professor David Ball, Professor of Risk Management (Middlesex University) and his son, Kieran Ball who is a Risk Analyst for Risk Assessment and Management Associates.

The day will close with a session from Kym Allan who will provide an essential update on current safeguarding issues.

Book before 1 March 2015 to get an 'Early Bird' discount of £15.00 per delegate. Places strictly limited. Book now to avoid disappointment. Complete the booking form on the KAHSC website and email to: Julie.smithson@kymallanhsc.co.uk or fax: 01228 210153. Alternatively call us on 01228 210152.

Online training records module now live!

The long awaited Training Records Module exclusive to member's only, where subscribing organisations can keep online records of all staff and volunteer qualifications and get expiry reminders in good time, is now up and running! Users will be able to enter brief data about the qualification and upload certificates, log books etc. KAHSC website will, where applicable, generate automatic email renewal reminders to the identified training administrators 3 months before qualifications expire. Subscribers have recently had an email from us with their current user list asking who you would like to nominate and you can nominate as many users as you wish. To try it for size go to www.kymallanhsc.co.uk, 'My Account', 'Manage Staff' and 'edit' to get started.

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Educational Visits - Summer Term 2015 Reminder

KAHSC would like to remind schools and EVC's in particular of the need to submit visits for approval advice at least 4 weeks before departure. Miss the deadline during the busy summer term and we cannot guarantee to review them in time. The only essential information we need to provide H&S advice is the basic visit details, an itinerary, the letter to parents that best describes the trip and, most importantly, your own risk assessments. Everything else can be added later by Visit Administrators or EVCs. Having trouble meeting the deadline? Please talk to us in advance so we can help.

Scarlet Fever what you should do...

Public Health England have advised that there are a higher than normal level of local cases of Scarlet Fever being notified.

Scarlet Fever is a common childhood infection which begins with a sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours a red rash will appear on the skin starting in the chest area and spreading across the body.



image courtesy www.babobadp.co.uk

If you have an outbreak (2 or more cases) in your school you should:

- Stop wet play until the outbreak is over e.g. water, play dough (discard if used) and sand.
- Clean toys as much as possible.
- Ensure good hand washing – with an ample supply of liquid soap and disposable paper towels available.
- Ensure that drinking fountains are properly cleaned and sanitised at the end of each day.
- Ensure that all cuts and scrapes are cleaned and covered properly. Broken skin provides a portal for the infection to enter the body.
- Encourage children and staff who have the symptoms of Scarlet Fever to seek advice from their GP.
- Those diagnosed with Scarlet Fever should not return to school until they have completed 24 hours of an antibiotics course.

A Factsheet on this and other common infections can be found on the KAHSC website.

All change in CDM from April 2015

As part of the UK Government's drive to cut bureaucracy, some major changes are on the way in relation to the management of health and safety within the construction industry

It is recognised that that the majority of fatalities within the construction sector occur in smaller constructions sites. It is with this in mind that the HSE is focusing on the simplification of the current Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007, so they are easier to understand by those in control of small and medium projects.

Some of these changes include the following:

- It will be a duty of the client to inform the HSE for a construction project which lasts 30 days with more than 20 workers occupying the site simultaneously or the project exceeds 500 person days. This may mean the notifiable projects are reduced by approximately 50%, allowing the HSE to focus on larger projects.
- Replacement of the CDM Coordinator (CDMC) role, with that of a Principal Designer who is appointed by the client. The need to appoint a Principal Designer will be where a project involves more than one contractor on site. Domestic clients will also have duties for domestic projects, which can be transferred to the Principal Designer and/or Principal Contractor.
- Client: The new Regulations recognise the influence and importance of the client as the head of the supply chain and as the party best placed to set standards throughout a project.
- Competence: By splitting 'competence' into its component parts of skills, knowledge, training and experience, and - if they are an organisation - organisational capability, provides clarity for the industry to assess and demonstrate that construction project teams have the right attributes to deliver a healthy and safe project.
- Removal of the Approved Code of Practice (ACoP) associated with the current Construction Design and Management which is to be replaced with industry specific guidance. However, the HSE has since changed tack following a review of the responses to the consultation document and a slimmed down version of the Approved Code of Practice will be retained, but industry specific guidance will also be issued. This guidance is currently available to download from the KAHSC website.

Single Central Record & Childcare (Disqualification) Regulations 2009

KAHSC have updated the Single Central Record (now Version 8) to take into account the introduction of the Childcare (Disqualification) Regulations which now apply to schools. You can update V7 of the SCR by simply adding the new columns. Although there is no legal requirement to record the information on the SCR, because the Declaration forms part of the pre-employment checks, it was felt prudent to record all the information in one place. The Childcare (Disqualification) Regulations 2009 prohibit any 'relevant' school staff who are disqualified themselves, or who live in the same household as a disqualified person, from working with 'relevant' groups of pupils. Guidance on meeting this recent DfE requirement has been issued by KAHSC (Version 3 was e-mailed 2 February 2015) to all subscribing schools in order to assist managers in meeting the requirements of this new legislation, along with a model staff suitability declaration form and guidance on the relevant convictions.

Star Performers

Once again we are impressed by the high scores being achieved in County Council Health & Safety Audits, many of whom had a KAHSC pre-county audit done in preparation.

Our Star Performers this issue who have all achieved over 95% are:

- **Hindpool Nursery School**, Barrow in Furness
- **Thursby Primary School**, Thursby
- **Holm Cultram Abbey CE School**, Abbeytown
- **Broughton Moor Primary School**, Broughton Moor, Maryport
- **Maryport Infant School**, Maryport



Massive congratulations to you all - it is so encouraging to see everyone working hard to achieve such a high standard of safeguarding, health, safety and welfare in schools.



Minibus Driver Assessments

Until Autumn 2014 the County Council provided minibus driver assessments to schools, unfortunately this provision has been withdrawn due to lack of capacity.

There are plans to re-establish this training later in 2015 however in the meantime this means that schools will have to source this training themselves. There is no statutory requirement to have minibus driver assessments but it is considered good practice to do so, particularly in the case of drivers who only drive a minibus on an occasional basis.

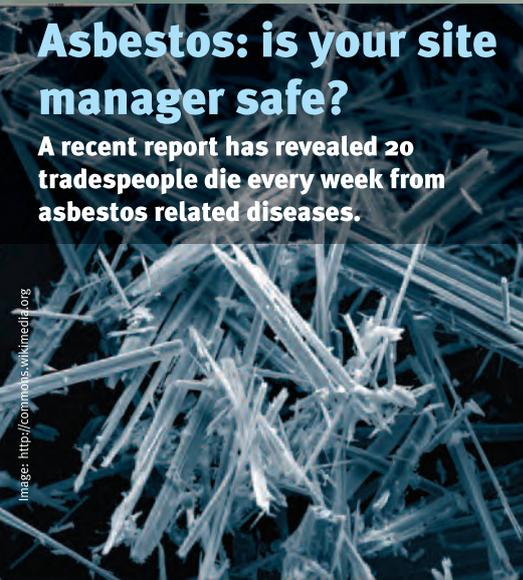
KAHSC Associate, Mike Thompson has almost 20 years' experience in the field of School Minibus Assessments and training countywide.

For more information please contact Mike on 07876 136131 or by e mail to mgtthedale@aol.com.

Asbestos: is your site manager safe?

A recent report has revealed 20 tradespeople die every week from asbestos related diseases.

image: <http://commons.wikimedia.org>



Tradespeople, including builders, joiners and painters and decorators could come into contact with asbestos on average more than 100 times a year according to a survey by the Health and Safety Executive. School site managers and caretakers are at particular risk due to the nature of their work.

Asbestos fibres can be disturbed by basic maintenance work like drilling holes and sanding, once disturbed the microscopic fibre can be breathed in potentially causing lung disease and cancer.

Anyone carrying out such work must know that the building contains or may contain asbestos, where it is located and its condition.

Schools must ensure that they have up to date records of asbestos on their site. Many have had Asbestos Re-inspection surveys carried out by Eton Environmental Services. These surveys must in the first instance be checked for any areas which have not been investigated and ensure that such areas are re-visited to complete the survey. Once the survey is complete, KAHSC subscribers can send this along with your current CAD plans to Helen Blamire at helen.blamire@kymallanhsc.co.uk

who will analyse and update the school's asbestos documentation.

Legal cases

A football club pleads guilty following the death of a 12 year old after being hit by a falling goalpost.

This case followed the death of the boy who was playing football at a recreation ground in July 2011 when he was struck by a falling goalpost after catching his foot in the net. Caersws FC pleaded guilty at Mold Crown Court to health and safety breaches and received a 12 month conditional discharge with no fine.

Earlier, an inquest jury heard the goalpost should have had pegs to secure it to the ground and increase stability, but these had been removed at the end of the football season by the club, apparently to prevent damage to lawnmowers. The pegs were locked away in a shed and tests showed the posts were liable to topple over even if someone bumped into them or leaned on them.

In the light of the case, you should check your goals meet the Football Association's seven point safety guide:

1. Goalposts of any size (including those which are portable and not installed permanently at a pitch or practice field) must always be anchored securely to the ground.
2. To minimise the risk of overturning, assemble and secure portable goalposts according to the manufacturer's instructions.
3. After use, don't leave portable goalposts in place. Instead, dismantle them and take them away to secure storage.
4. Never allow anyone to swing or play on goalposts.
5. Check goalposts regularly to ensure that they are properly maintained and in good condition.
6. The use of metal cup hooks on goals has been banned since the 2007/08 season. Nets should only be secured by plastic hooks, net grips or tape. Check that any metal cup hooks have been removed and replace. Don't buy new goalposts with metal hooks.
7. Don't use goalposts that are 'home made' or have been altered from their original size or construction.

SEND Code of Practice revised

The SEND Code of Practice which was first introduced to schools in September 2014 has been revised. The revisions will come into force in the form of a new Code of Practice from 1 April 2015. As well as a small addition on page 16, the main changes to the Code are around children and young people with SEND who are in Youth Custody and as such the changes have little relevance to schools. A copy of the revised Code is available to download from <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25> or the KAHSC website. The earlier version remains in force until 31 march 2015. KAHSC are able to conduct Access Audits and provide support when writing local offers, please contact Barbara Ross for further details on Barbara.ross@kymallanhsc.co.uk

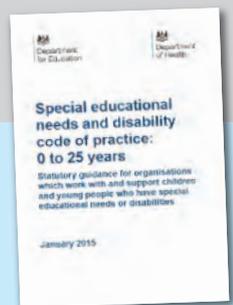


image for illustrative purposes only



MYTH BUSTERS

Myth: Staff at a primary school have been asked not to take drinks including cold ones out onto the playground during breaks to safeguard children.



Busted: This myth not only relates to hot drinks but to cold also, on a number of grounds including the possibility of a child suffering an allergic reaction. Health and Safety law does not ban teachers from having a cuppa or a refreshing cold drink whilst on playground duty. If the Head teacher of this school wants to impose such rules on their staff, they need to find a more valid reason than the ever convenient health and safety.

Myth: Educational Visits risk assessments to be re-done every year.

Busted: A recent HSE myth told of an Educational Visits Coordinator who was instructed to re-do risk assessments for all school activities every year, as it is a health and safety requirement. Risk assessments should only be reviewed where there have been significant changes made to the activity being carried out or the people carrying out the activity to assess whether the control measures put in place are still suitable and sufficient. Education undergoes a significant change at least annually with every new intake.

School exclusion revised guidance withdrawn

Statutory guidance issued by the DfE in December 2014 and which came into force on 1 January 2015 has been withdrawn in order that changes can be made to the process. Schools reform minister, Nick Gibb, was forced to withdraw the revised guidance only a month after it came into force following numerous complaints. The Department for Education (DfE) said updated guidance would be issued in due course. Schools are advised not to follow the recent statutory guidance and to revert to the September 2012 version of the guidance: Exclusion from maintained schools, Academies and pupil referral units in England. The 2012 version is available to download from www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-exclusion or from the KAHSC website. Once the revised 2105 version of the statutory guidance is made available it will be alerted to schools in the usual weekly 'Document Alerts'

ins@fe online resource

This international eSafety organisation is an excellent online resource for many internet safety issues and has useful information for children, parents/carers and educators.

They have 'good practice guides' and activity packs which make visit their website:
www.saferinternet.org/online-issues



NSPCC Share Aware



You may have seen recent adverts on the television about the new NSPCC campaign 'Share Aware' - this campaign aims to help parents of children aged 8-12 understand their child's use of the internet and in particular social networks. In the UK 1 in 5 children aged 8 – 11 who go on line have a social network profile, increasing to 7 in 10 when they reach Secondary school. Even children as young as 5 – 7 may have one. The 'Share Aware' guide provides straightforward advice on how parents can keep their child safe on websites such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, as well as online games and apps. Parents of children who use such sites need to be aware of what their children (and others) are 'sharing' on social networks and are encouraged to talk to them about staying safe online and what they should/shouldn't be sharing on a public forum. This guidance, whilst aimed at parents can be equally useful when teaching pupils about e-safety with useful tips about how to make children aware of the dangers associated with social networks. As part of the campaign an introductory online course is available for those who work with children.

The course is £20.00 per person and covers the topics such as:

- How children use the internet and technology
- The risks faced from other people – both other children and adults
- The type of behaviour that exposes children to greater risks
- What to do if children experience issues such as cyber bullying and grooming

The course and the 'Share Aware' guide are both available to access from www.nspcc.org.uk.

Help back to work

A new government funded scheme has been launched in a bid to reduce sickness absence. The Fit to Work advice line went live in December and is designed to support people in work with health conditions and help with sickness absence. The scheme has been introduced after research suggested that for an individual to be out of work for long periods was damaging to their social and financial wellbeing, as well as having an effect on their health.



There are two elements to the scheme, the first of which is free, allowing impartial advice either by e mail or telephone. The second part involves the employee being referred for an assessment with an occupational health professional once they have reached four weeks of sickness absence, identifying obstacles which are preventing them from returning to work. The Fit for Work scheme intends to complement existing occupational health provision rather than replace it.

The Department for Work and Pensions have produced guidance for both employers and employees which is available at www.gov.uk/government/collections/fit-for-work-guidance



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