

## Welcome to our Summer 2016 newsletter...

Here at KAHSC, we actively promote and endorse a sensible and proportionate approach to health and safety in schools, striking the right balance, so that the real risks are managed and learning opportunities are experienced to the full.

The outgoing Head of the Health and Safety Executive recently said “we should stop wrapping our children in cotton wool” and visited a school that allows pupils to make fire, fashion weapons and develop survival skills.



*“We should stop wrapping our children in cotton wool”*  
outgoing Head of the Health and Safety Executive

This is the latest contribution to the debate about how health and safety “rules” are applied to school children. Whilst most people will agree with the need to allow children to develop risk management skills as part of their education, and be exposed to risk, it places school leaders in the difficult position of dealing with accusations of failing in their duty of care if a pupil gets injured, and very often personal injury insurance claims. This, together with the move towards academies and away from local authority control makes it more important than ever that schools ensure they have policies and procedures in place which accurately reflect the actual practices in the school. Risk assessments should be reviewed on a regular basis, not necessarily changed or altered, but reviewed nevertheless in order to ensure that the control measures identified are appropriate for the task or activity in hand and fit for purpose

Safeguarding overall is an area which is changing and moving at a rapid pace and no doubt will continue to do so with all impending political upheaval to come.

**We hope you can take the time to relax and recharge your batteries over the summer. Enjoy the break, you certainly all deserve it.**

## This Issue

**Plastic Socket Covers**

**Responding to Sexting Incidents**

**Safer Recruitment Updates**

**Flu Vaccine Guidance**

**Educate against Hate Resources**

**Training Courses Autumn 2016**

**And much more...**

# Thank You!

**A huge thanks to all those visit leaders and EVCs out there who have worked really hard this year to give us the 4 weeks' notice of Category 2 visits that we ask for.**

Making that extra effort when you are already going that extra mile for your children, is much appreciated and in turn you help us maintain our high quality service for everyone.



## To cover or not to cover?

**At the beginning of July 2016, the NHS banned the use of 13A plastic socket covers in all hospitals and other facilities managed by the NHS across the UK with a request that the facilities 'Alert' be cascaded down to all GP and dentist surgeries.**

The following was announced: *"This Alert is issued to highlight how, in certain circumstances, the use of plastic 13A (13 amp) electrical socket inserts (sold as safety accessories) can overcome the safety features designed into socket outlets. 13A electrical socket inserts should not be used in health or social care premises, nor supplied for use in a home or residence. Any socket inserts currently in use should be withdrawn from use and responsibly disposed of"*.

A number of enquiries have been received from schools about the protection of children from the risks of electricity and whether or not plug socket covers should be used. Advice from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) states that there is very little risk to children from uncovered sockets. Modern 13 amp sockets made to BS 1363 standard are designed with an internal shutter mechanism which prevents little fingers accessing the live connectors. Inserting a socket cover defeats this safety feature. It is much better to teach children not to 'play' with electrical sockets and in later years appropriate use of them than to cover them altogether.

When inspecting, Ofsted neither recommends nor prohibits the use of socket covers, they will "look at how providers ensure their premises are as safe as possible for children". They will expect to see a risk assessment showing how the setting made the decision whether to use them or not.

The Child Accident Prevention Trust provides useful guidance on keeping children safe from electric shocks at [www.capt.org.uk](http://www.capt.org.uk) and alongside advice from [www.rospace.com](http://www.rospace.com) can be used to support your decision.



## Term time absence cases thrown out by court

**A magistrate has thrown out two cases brought against parents in Swindon for taking their children out of school during term-time.**

Swindon Borough Council welfare officers accused the parents of failing to secure regular attendance of their children. A further case on the Isle of Wight saw a father winning his court battle after refusing to pay the £120 fine for taking his daughter to Disney World, Florida during term time. In these particular cases, the court ruled that as there is no legal benchmark for what constitutes as 'persistent' absence the cases were to be dismissed.

Changes to legislation in September 2013 meaning that parents are not permitted to take their children out of school in term time has caused a 70% increase in fines given out to parents for children's poor attendance. The majority of which are paid. Unfortunately with holiday prices rising considerably during school holidays, many families seem to be opting to be fined for their child's absence as this is cheaper than taking them on holiday at peak times.

Roy Perry, chairman of the Local Government Association Children and Young People Board, said "It is clear that the current system does not always favour families... It is time for this situation to be reassessed to ensure that we are not wasting time and money by enforcing what is considered by many to be a punitive and unfair system".

In response the DfE argue that holidays during term time do not class as "exceptional circumstances" and that even just one week per year can have a significant effect on a child's achievements later in school life.

The Isle of Wight Council have recently been given leave to appeal against the outcome of their case.

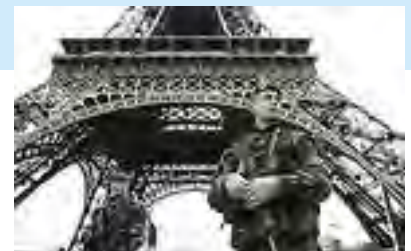


## Terrorism considerations for educational visits

**The threat of terrorism and violence has been a fairly consistent feature in British life for many years, but the kind of terrible acts committed in recent times, carefully calculated to cause the worst collateral damage possible, seem more frightening.**

Various headlines and the public response has made for interesting reading lately as schools have come under fire from all sides as they try to respond appropriately to global events. The Surrey Advertiser, based in the heart of the London commuter belt, did an in-depth local feature after some parents slammed their child's school for cancelling a planned trip to the capital city in the wake of the Paris attacks. Journalists seemed to find that parental opinion in the County was thoroughly divided on the issue. It will always be difficult to strike the right balance between living our lives to the full and making careful preparations and taking sensible precautions in the face of the current Severe Threat Level in the UK and worldwide.

It would be a shame if the threat of international terrorism prevented children and young people from enriching their education or even globe-trotting for the fun of it so a sensible, calculated and balanced decision needs to be made: Our new downloadable guidance is simply food for thought as plans are formulated.



## Is your Denatured Alcohol licensed?

Long-standing taxation laws in the UK mean that Industrial Denatured Alcohol (IDA), most commonly Ethanol used in school science, is subject to the Denatured Alcohol Regulations 2005 under which purchase must be authorised by the government.

Registration to purchase IDA using a 'Notice 473' should be requested from HM Revenue & Customs on a formal school or college letterhead.

Once registered, you will not need to repeat the procedure annually, however you will need to register again if your school changes its name, address or logo and/or if you wish to increase the volume of alcohol purchased. There is no requirement to log the use of ethanol for experimental purposes but it must be securely stored and quantities audited in an annual stock check.



## Responding to and Managing Sexting incidents in schools

The South West Grid for Learning and the UK Safer Internet Centre have updated their advice for schools.

Their new poster aims to help identify sexting incidents, manage them and escalate appropriately and can be downloaded from

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/news/responding-to-and-managing-sexting-incidents-updated-advice-for-schools>

and the KAHSC website.



CLEAPSS

## New/Revised Design & Technology Model Risk Assessments

Over the past few months CLEAPSS have undertaken a major review of the Model Risk Assessments (MRATs) for Design and Technology, and updated them where necessary. We have also produced two new MRATs on:

- 1.088 Additive Manufacturing, 3D Printing,
- 1.089 Plastics Dip Coating.

No significant changes were needed, as much of the guidance from HSE and others has not changed, but there are some subtle differences. For example, the latest guidance on allergens in food has been included on relevant MRATs. As departments review H&S materials over the coming months it is recommended that the latest versions of the MRATs on the CLEAPSS website are checked – look for 2016 in the footer. CLEAPSS continuously check and review their materials so it is important that those with responsibility for H&S make a point of checking that they have the latest guidance.



# Safer Recruitment Update

## Keeping Children Safe in Education - September 2016

As you may have seen in our alert of 9 June 2016, statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' has been updated and new requirements come into effect from 5 September 2016. Many amendments provide improved clarification of or a greater emphasis on some of the requirements of previous versions. Download this new guidance from the KAHSC website or direct from gov.uk. Cut right to the heart of the changes as usual with the KAHSC version which literally highlights them all for you - please note, there may be a further draft issued before September (DfE statement June 2016).

All of our model policies and procedures will be updated over the summer holidays in line with the revised requirements and will be 'alerted' to KAHSC subscribers in September.

We are also running some half-day update training sessions on 26 & 27 September 2016 which will explore the changes and their impact on the leadership and management of safeguarding in your setting. Turn to the back page for more details or download the flyer from the KAHSC website. Don't forget! This training will satisfy the statutory requirement that Designated Safeguarding Leads (and their deputies) undergo updated child protection training every two years.

## Governor DBS Checks

As outlined in our last issue (Spring 2016) and document 'alert' of 4 March 2016, the Government has amended the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012 which now require all Governors of maintained schools to have an Enhanced DBS check as a minimum. This brings them in line with requirements already in place for trustees in academies and free schools.

### So what does this mean for you?

**New Governors** – any new Governor (appointed on or after 1 April 2016) who does not hold an Enhanced Disclosure must apply for one **within 21 days** of their appointment/election.

**Existing Governors** – all existing Governors (appointed before 1 April 2016) who do not currently hold an Enhanced Disclosure must apply for one by **1 September 2016**. Failure to apply for a DBS check by the appointed time will result in automatic disqualification from holding the position of school Governor.

Those Governors (new and existing) who are to have unsupervised access to children on a regular basis should apply for an Enhanced Disclosure for Regulated Activity (with a Children's Barred List check). Details of those working in a volunteer capacity should be recorded on the 'Volunteer' sheet of the Single Central Record. For those Governors who are also employees of the school, you should simply record their dual role on the 'Employees' sheet.

**New!** for 2016/17

### Model Safer Recruitment, Selection & Pre-Employment Vetting Policy and procedures

Designed to meet the requirements of KCSiE for schools or colleges to have written recruitment and selection policies and procedures in place.

### Model Volunteer Risk Assessment

To be used when determining the type of 'pre-appointment' checks/supervision required for individual volunteers in your school.

### Model Code of Conduct for Staff and Other Adults

Designed to be used to give clear guidance on the standards of behaviour all employees and other adults working with children in school are expected to observe.



## Single Central Record Changes (SCR V9)

Changes brought about by the proposed September 2016 version of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' will necessitate revisions to the Single Central Record and we are busy updating our template and checklists. Look out for the updated Single Central Record Template and corresponding checklists to ensure your recruitment and vetting records are compliant. *Some of the changes only affect Academy, Independent and Free Schools.* To keep this simple for everyone, we have produced two individual templates - one for Maintained Schools and a different one for Academy, Independent & Free Schools. Both templates will be available from July 2016. Take special care that you are downloading the one relevant to the status of your educational setting.

As part of our Service Level Agreement with our subscribers, KAHSC can transfer existing SCR data to the new Version 9. If you wish to take advantage of this service please e mail your password protected SCR to [kym@kymallanhsc.co.uk](mailto:kym@kymallanhsc.co.uk) and either call or send your password separately.

## Further checks for teachers who have lived or worked outside the UK apply to all schools

In addition to the other pre appointment checks carried out for teachers, those who have lived or worked outside of the UK for 3 months or more in the last 5 years must also be checked for any sanctions or restrictions that a European Economic Area (EEA) regulatory authority has imposed. This information can be accessed using the Teacher Services System formerly Secure/Employer Access online (via [sa.education.gov.uk](http://sa.education.gov.uk)) in the same way as the UK Prohibition Checks which should be undertaken for all teachers appointed after 2 September 2013. The system will display restrictions made after 18 January 2016. Although restrictions imposed by another EEA authority do not prevent an individual from taking up teaching positions in England, schools or colleges should consider any sanctions/restrictions imposed when considering a candidate's suitability for employment.

If applicable, the date that these checks were made should be recorded in the new column of the Single Central Record.

## 'Section 128 direction' restrictions – Academy, Independent & Free Schools only

A 'Section 128 direction' under the Independent Educational Provision in England (Prohibition on Participation in Management) Regulations 2014 prohibits or restricts a person from participating in any management of an independent school including Academies and Free Schools.

### This includes:

- A management position as an employee
- A trustee of an academy or free school trust
- A governor or member of a proprietor body for an independent school
- A governor on any governing body that retains or has been delegated any management responsibilities.

For all these individuals, a check for a 'Section 128 direction' must be carried out using the Teacher Services System (via [sa.education.gov.uk](http://sa.education.gov.uk)) in the same way as Prohibition Checks. Where the person will be engaging in regulated activity a DBS Barred list check will also identify these restrictions.

## Coming Soon... SCR Roadshows

During the Autumn Term Kym Allan will be running a number of roadshow style briefing events across the County to help clarify exactly what you should be recording on your Single Central Record and how you need to maintain it going forward.  
**Look out for details.**



**Don't Panic!**  
We're here to help with the confusion!

# College fined after tree felling injury

A college in Surrey has been fined after a student was struck on the leg by a tree that was being felled. The student who was, at the time, on work experience was observing the operation being carried out by a member of the Estates team. The falling tree hit him on the leg causing a number of fractures.

When investigated the HSE found that there had been insufficient training given to fell the tree competently. There was also inadequate supervision and risk assessments were neither sufficient nor being followed.

The College was found guilty of breaching sections 2 and 3 of the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 and were ordered to pay fines of **£70,000** and costs of **£3,461**.



## Company fined for asbestos safety failings

A company in Oxford was found guilty of breaching Regulation 13 of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (CDM) 2007 after disturbing asbestos insulation board (AIB) whilst carrying out a roof refurbishment in a school.

An investigation by the HSE found failings in the company's project management arrangements. They had failed to monitor and identify asbestos materials and ensure that key personnel had undergone suitable asbestos training.

They were fined **£20,000** and ordered to pay costs of **£1,737**.

Time and time again this issue arises. It highlights the fact that whenever any work is being undertaken which impacts on the fabric of the building a 'refurbishment and demolition' (R&D) survey must be carried out unless it is categorically known that asbestos is not present in the areas to be refurbished.



## Free alcohol awareness resources

A new website 'Talk about Alcohol' has been designed to help raise alcohol awareness in schools and delay the age that teenagers begin drinking. Although primarily aimed at Year 9 pupils, the activities on the website range in levels and are suitable from Years 7 to 10.

The Learning Zone allows pupils to extend their knowledge through games and quizzes and complements lessons and activities which can be found on other websites such as the Alcohol Education Trust ([www.alcoholeducationtrust.org](http://www.alcoholeducationtrust.org)), who also have a range of activities for children with special educational needs.

**Visit [www.talkaboutalcohol.com](http://www.talkaboutalcohol.com) to view the full range of resources.**

## Flu vaccine guidance

A new Public Health England guide for Head Teachers has been published providing details of the nasal flu vaccine being offered to children in Autumn 2016. All children in Years 1 and 2 will continue to receive the vaccination and this has now been extended to Year 3 children.

**The guidance leaflet 'Immunising primary school children against flu' is available to download from the KAHSC website.**



# Product Recall

Where we become aware that a manufacturer has recalled a piece of equipment which may have been purchased by subscribing schools and other settings we will make you aware of the issues. Full details of the issue below can be found on the KAHSC website.

## Zenipower mercury-free hearing aid batteries

**Issue:** Risk of batteries exploding during use or if depleted

**Models affected:** Batteries with a best before date of 08-2018 and 09-2018

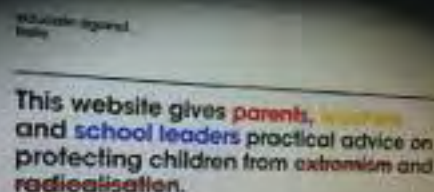
**What to do:** If an affected battery is identified, stop use immediately and contact the supplier for replacements.

## Government website helps families and professionals Educate Against Hate

**educateagainsthate.com** is a government funded website which aims to provide practical advice on protecting children from extremism and radicalisation based around some real life stories.

The site is split into 3 'hubs' and has useful links for teachers and schools leaders and is also a valuable resource for parents who want to understand what it's all about and find out more about staying safe online.

The latest resource to be added to the site is a free 'Prevent' e-learning course which provides an introduction to the 'Prevent Duty' and how it aims to safeguard vulnerable people from being radicalised. When beginning the course you are asked to complete some questions about yourself such the region you are in and the mood you are in when starting the course – this allows the course to be tailored exactly to your needs.



This website gives parents, teachers and school leaders practical advice on protecting children from extremism and radicalisation.

## Safe Practice in Physical Education, Sport and Physical Activity

**New! Safe Practice in Physical Education, Sport and Physical Activity book available direct from the Association for Physical Education (AfPE) from September 2016.**

The book has been updated to reflect recent developments in legal practice, national guidance, statute law and case law and each copy sold comes with 6 months' FREE access to the web reference tool. Included in this web service are useful templates and links, plus important email notifications keeping you fully up-to-date and an e-learning course designed to help build your confidence and practice in applying the Principles of Safe Practice into real life scenarios. Order your copy at [www.afpe.org.uk](http://www.afpe.org.uk)



### Star Performers

**Well done to everyone who, over the last year, has worked so hard to ensure the safety of both pupils and staff alike – you all thoroughly deserve a massive pat on the back!!**

A special well done goes to South Walney Junior School and Newton Primary School who followed their KAHSC pre-county audits with a flurry of hard work to achieve scores of in the high 90s in their recent County Health & Safety Audit, and Ewanrigg Junior School who also recently scored in the high 90s.

And... huge congratulations to Kells Infant School who scored an amazing 100% in their County Health & Safety Audit. Cath, Heidi and the dedicated staff have spent time getting school's systems right, engaging with the children and working tirelessly to keep it all ticking over alongside curricular objectives to achieve such a consistently high standard.

# Safeguarding, Health & Safety Training Courses Autumn 2016

If you wish to book a place/places on any of the courses advertised here or require further information please email [julie.smithson@kymallanhsc.co.uk](mailto:julie.smithson@kymallanhsc.co.uk) or alternatively contact us on 01228 210152.

| Course Information  | Date  | Venue                              | Course Fees  |               |  |
|---|---|------------------------------------|--|---------------|--|
| <b>Highfield Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering</b><br>9.00am – 4.30pm  | 2 September 2016  | Crosby-on-Eden School, Carlisle    | £75.00 + VAT per person  |               |  |
| <b>Single Central Record Information Road Shows</b><br>4.30pm – 6.00pm  | 27 September 2016   | Carlisle Area                      | £45.00 + VAT per person<br><i>KAHSC subscribers</i><br>£30.00 + VAT per person   |               |  |
|   | 29 September 2016   | Kendal Area                        |  |               |  |
|   | 4 October 2016  | West Cumbria                       |  |               |  |
|   | 6 October 2016  | Barrow Area                        |  |               |  |
| <b>Keeping Children Safe in Education: Leading &amp; Managing Safeguarding Refresher training for DSLs and deputies</b><br>Half Day   | 26 September 2016<br>1.00pm – 4.00pm                            | South Cumbria                      | £100.00 + VAT per person<br><i>KAHSC subscribers</i><br>£85.00 + VAT per person  |               |  |
|   | 27 September 2016<br>9.00am – 12.00pm                           | Carlisle Area                      |  |               |  |
|   | 27 September 2016<br>1.30pm – 4.30pm                            | St Michael's Church Workington     |  |               |  |
| <b>Safeguarding (Health &amp; Safety) for Head Teachers</b><br>9.30am – 4.30pm  | 6 October 2016  | Kendal Area                        | £180.00 + VAT per person<br><i>KAHSC subscribers</i><br>£150.00 + VAT per person |               |  |
|   | 11 October 2016   | St Michael's Church Workington     |  |               |  |
|   | 13 October 2016   | Carlisle Area                      |  |               |  |
|   | 18 October 2016   | Barrow Area                        |  |               |  |
| <b>Health &amp; Safety for Governors</b><br>7.00pm – 9.00pm   | 1 November 2016   | Kendal Area                        | £80.00 + VAT per person<br><i>KAHSC subscribers</i><br>£60.00 + VAT per person   |               |  |
|   | 3 November 2016   | West Cumbria                       |  |               |  |
|   | 8 November 2016   | Carlisle Area                      |  |               |  |
|   | 9 November 2016   | Dowdales School, Dalton in Furness |  |               |  |
| <b>Educational Visits Coordinator</b><br>(Full Day or Half Day Refresher)<br><br><b>Full Day Course</b><br>9.30am – 4.30pm<br><b>Half Day Refresher Course</b><br>1.00pm – 4.30pm | <b>Full Day Course</b>  |                                    | £180.00 + VAT per person<br><i>KAHSC subscribers</i><br>£150.00 + VAT per person |               |  |
|   | 8 November 2016   | Carlisle Area                      |  |               |  |
|   | 10 November 2016  | South Cumbria                      |  |               |  |
|   | 15 November 2016  | West Cumbria                       | £100.00 + VAT per person<br><i>KAHSC subscribers</i><br>£85.00 + VAT per person  |               |  |
|   | <b>Half Day Refresher Course</b>                                |                                    |  |               |  |
|   | 22 November 2016  | St Michael's Church Workington     |  |               |  |
|   | 24 November 2016  | South Cumbria                      |  |               |  |
|   | 29 November 2016  | Carlisle Area                      |  |               |  |
|   | <b>Positive Handling: Care &amp; Control</b><br>9.30am – 3.00pm | 3 November 2016                    |  | South Cumbria | £180.00 + VAT per person<br><i>KAHSC subscribers</i><br>£150.00 + VAT per person |
|   |   | 8 November 2016                    |  | West Cumbria  |  |
| 10 November 2016  |   | Carlisle Area                      |  |               |  |
| <b>Health &amp; Safety for Site Managers</b><br>9.00am – 4.30pm   | 7 November 2016   | South Cumbria                      | £180.00 + VAT per person<br><i>KAHSC subscribers</i><br>£150.00 + VAT per person |               |  |
|   | 16 November 2016  | West Cumbria                       |  |               |  |
|   | 25 November 2016  | Carlisle Area                      |  |               |  |

