



Safeguarding,
Health and Safety
Consultants

The Safety Scene

Making Sense of Safeguarding



THIS ISSUE:

IN COURT

ASBESTOS

WINTER TIPS

TWITCH & STREAMING

Welcome to the Safety Scene - Autumn 2023

from all of us at KAHSC have a

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I'm here to debunk
the public's
favourite elf and
safety myths!



FIND US

Facebook

Twitter

Enquiries

Star performers



Congratulations to **Crosby on Eden Primary School**, **Ellenborough Academy** and **St Pius X Catholic Primary School** who are this terms star performers! All achieved 'top of the class' H&S audit scores!



In Court and notable incidents

“Boarding school fined £50K after pupils over-exposed to radon radioactive gas”

The school exposed employees, pupils, and other children to high levels of radioactive radon gas.

Five pupils were exposed to radon gas levels almost 8 times the legal limit. Two non-pupil children were exposed to levels almost 14 times the limit, while two employees were exposed to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the legal limit. Radon exposure must be kept as low as reasonably practicable.

The school had known about the radon problem since 2007 but failed to monitor or implement control measures from 2010 to 2018. Only after HSE intervention in 2018 did the school take action to address the radon issue.

The school pleaded guilty to breaching Section 2(1) and 3(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974. They were fined £50,000 and ordered to pay £19,222 in costs at Taunton Magistrates' Court on July 19, 2023.



For more information click [this link](#).

As stated many times, you don't need to wear goggles to play conkers! This was a wind up that was taken literally.

“School fined £35,000 after child severely burned at carol concert”

On December 11, 2019, during a carol concert at a church, a seven-year-old boy caught fire. The boy, wearing a homemade sheep costume made of cotton wool balls, suffered 45% burns to his body from a lit taper candle he was holding in a narrow corridor with 60 other Year 3 children. The child's injuries were severe, and he will require extensive, ongoing surgeries throughout his youth and into adulthood. The incident had life-changing consequences for him and his family.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that the school had failed to assess the risks of giving lit candles to children wearing potentially flammable costumes. The school did not take appropriate measures to prevent such incidents.

The school was found guilty of breaching Section 3(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act after a trial at Southwark Crown Court on June 19, 2023. On June 30, the school was fined £35,000 and ordered to pay £25,970 in costs.

If you are planning on using open flames, we recommend you use our [‘Candle use’ risk assessment](#).

“School trust fined after children injured by classroom ceiling collapse”

On November 15, 2021, the ceiling of a classroom collapsed during a lesson, injuring 15 Year 3 pupils (aged 7-8) and their teacher. The collapse happened because desks and chairs were stored in an unsuitable attic area, which was not designed to bear weight. The overload on this area led to the classroom ceiling collapsing.

The HSE stated the school failed to assess the suitability of the storage area and neglected structural assessments. They did not consider whether the area was appropriate for storing items like desks and chairs. The Trust pleaded guilty to breaching Section 2(1) and Section 3(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974. The Trust was fined £80,000 and ordered to pay £7,116.31.

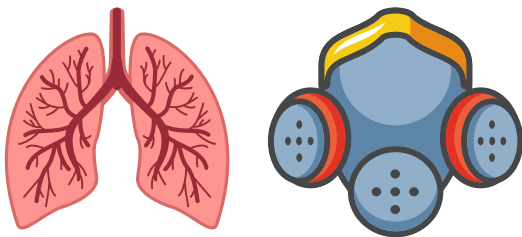
[For more information and image credit please visit HSE.](#)



Asbestos Surveys

When schools (or Architects on behalf of schools) are arranging for Asbestos Surveys such as Refurbishment/Demolition Surveys to be undertaken prior to building alterations, you **MUST** ensure the Asbestos Surveyor is provided with a copy of the school's CAD Plans e.g. the LA plans that include the universal room referencing system, i.e. AG006, BG018, DG104 etc.

Many surveys are being undertaken where Surveyors are not being provided with the CAD Plans and are making up their own room reference numbers which is not helpful. KAHSC will be unable to update school Asbestos Management Plans with surveys where CAD room references have not been used as we do not have the capacity to cross reference made up Survey reference numbers with those from the actual CAD Plans.



Our new hub

As many of you know, we have now transferred to our new KAHub, kymallanhub.co.uk, and almost everyone will no longer be able to access our old website.

Emails containing new logins and passwords have been sent to all users. If you haven't received one, please contact your senior leadership team or administrators, who can provide you with a login and password.

We have set up a shared drive, which includes a Frequently Asked Questions page, written manuals, and videos. We will continue to update this shared drive, so we recommend that you save it for future reference.

You can access the shared drive [here](#).

If you have any questions about the new Hub please e-mail courtney.allan@kymallanhsc.co.uk

HSE inspectors to assess the management of asbestos in schools

HSE will be conducting a program of inspections in primary and secondary schools across England, Scotland, and Wales from October 2023 onwards.

The inspections will assess how schools are managing the risks associated with asbestos within their premises and ensuring compliance with the 'duty to manage' (DTM) requirements under Regulation 4 of the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012 (CAR).

These regulations impose duties on those responsible for maintaining work premises, including schools, to effectively manage asbestos-related risks. In most cases, this responsibility lies with the employer.

HSE inspectors will conduct the visits and will contact the school beforehand to schedule a suitable date and time for the inspection. They will require a discussion with someone knowledgeable about how asbestos is managed in the school. Additionally, they may request specific documentation in advance of the visit, such as your asbestos register and management plan.

In response to these inspections, HSE has recently updated their '[Asbestos management – checklist for schools](#)', which provides a concise summary of the essential measures schools should implement to effectively manage asbestos risks.

If you have any asbestos queries please e-mail helen.blamire@kymallanhsc.co.uk.

The screenshot shows the KAHSC website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with items: Organisations, Visits, Incidents, Training, Maintenance, Documents, Repository, and Reports. Below the menu, the 'ORGANISATIONS' section is displayed for 'KAHSC TEST SCHOOL'. The page includes a table with the following details:

Name	KAHSC TEST SCHOOL
Type	Education
Address	3-4 Citadel Row Carlisle CA3 8SQ
Telephone	
Website	https://kymallanhsc.co.uk/
Out of hours emergency/key holder(s)	Jack Jones - 1111 Rolda Amundsen - 2222
Contract renewal date	31 December 2023
Status	Active
Map	

On the right side of the page, there is a sidebar with various statistics and icons:

- Visits: 15
- Incidents: 9
- Attendees / Pupils: 6
- Staff Members: 8
- Volunteers: 0
- Training: 3
- Maintenance: 5

You can still put coins in Christmas puddings, whoever says no due to health and safety concerns is probably just annoyed they didn't find the coin.



Product recalls

Unsafe bolts on BendPak XPR series two-post vehicle lift

BendPak XPR series two-post vehicle lifts have a half-moon-shaped arm restraint gear on each arm which is either welded or bolted. On some of the lifts with the arm restraint gear attached with bolts, the bolts do not meet the required strength standard increasing the risk of a major incident.

please follow this link for more information



A large list of VEVOR Tools and products have failed Hazard testing. Please see the following link for the full list

[VEVOR RECALLS](#)

Lesson plan

Worksheets

Guidance for teachers

Peer pressure - "Back me up"

Omegle closes down

"Operating Omegle is no longer sustainable, financially nor psychologically. Frankly, I don't want to have a heart attack in my 30s." - Founder of Omegle

If you used the internet as a teenager around 2009 onwards, the chances of having used Omegle are high, and you will likely understand what was happening on Omegle during that time. We discussed Omegle on page 5 of our [Summer 2021 newsletter](#), where you can find more information; however, it was recently announced by the founder of Omegle that he was shutting down the website for good.

The website now hosts a 'letter' of sorts to the users of Omegle, describing why the decision has been made and apologising.

We will be sure to keep an eye out for copycat websites aiming to take its place. Please note that 'Chatroulette,' which is the same type of website, is still operating.

Save the date



Random Acts of Kindness Day
17th February 2024

Safer Internet Day 2024 | Tuesday
6 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

saferinternetday.org.uk

Heads up (or down)! Children (and adults!) can and will throw snowballs!



 Childnet



In the know: TWITCH

'Twitch' is a live streaming service where people can broadcast themselves playing video games or engage in other creative activities in real-time. Launched in 2011, it has become one of the largest and most active live streaming platforms on the internet. Amazon acquired Twitch in 2014 for \$970 million.

On Twitch, users can find a wide variety of content, including video game streams, creative activities such as art, music, and crafting, social eating, and 'IRL' (In Real Life) streams where people share aspects of their daily lives. The average Twitch stream lasts around 6 hours, though some streams can continue for entire days or even multiple days.

For parents, it's important to utilize parental control settings to restrict specific types of content and ensure a safer viewing experience for their children. Additionally, engaging in open communication with your child about their activities on Twitch, understanding the content they are watching, and the streamers they follow is crucial. This communication can help address any concerns and establish trust. It's worth noting that Twitch hosts not only gaming content but also educational streams, with some channels providing valuable lessons on various topics.

THE MOST VIEWED TWITCH STREAM HAD OVER 3.4 MILLION USERS WATCHING BY SPANISH STREAMER 'ABA' AND HE IS ESTIMATED TO MAKE OVER \$250,000 A MONTH.

twitch

The Pros

Entertainment: Twitch offers a wide variety of content, including gaming, creative arts, music, and more, providing entertainment for viewers with diverse interests.

Discoverability: Viewers can discover new games, hobbies, and interests by exploring different Twitch channels, expanding their horizons and finding communities that align with their passions.

Interactivity: Viewers can interact with streamers and other viewers in real-time through chat, making the experience more engaging and interactive compared to traditional media consumption.

The Cons

Inappropriate Content: Just like any other online platform, Twitch is not immune to inappropriate or offensive content. Viewers may encounter streams with content they find objectionable or harmful.

Privacy Concerns: Viewers need to be cautious about the personal information they share in chat rooms. Twitch is a public platform, and users should be mindful of their privacy and online safety.

Digital Fatigue: Constant exposure to screens and digital content can lead to digital fatigue and negatively impact one's mental and physical well-being.

Santa doesn't need a seatbelt because he is magic and it would be unreasonable to buckle up between every stop.



To stream or not to stream?

Live streaming has become increasingly popular, with people using apps and sites like Instagram, TikTok, Twitch, and YouTube to broadcast. Young people often utilize these platforms to share live video footage with their friends, closed groups, or the general public.

The following link is a PDF lesson plan covering ['to stream or not to stream?'](#)

TWITCH



FACEBOOK



INSTAGRAM



TIKTOK



YOUTUBE



TRAINING

For more information on the courses we have available please visit buytickets.at/kahsc. We recommend you save this to your online bookmarks to keep track of our available open training sessions.

You can pay when you book or you can pay later, we just ask that, where possible, payments are made before the training takes place.

- ✓ Simple booking process
- ✓ Pay online, by BACS or cheque
- ✓ Quick links to our live webinars
- ✓ More accurate booking information
- ✓ See all our available courses at a glance
- ✓ Waiting list for fully booked courses



brook

MANAGING A DISCLOSURE OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT OR ASSAULT

Managing a disclosure of sexual harassment, assault or abuse may be the most challenging conversation you have as a teacher. Be prepared with this course.

The aim of this course is to equip school staff with the skills and knowledge needed to confidently manage a student's disclosure of sexual harassment or sexual assault or sexual abuse.

[Please click here to book your FREE place.](#)

2 DAY IOSH SAFETY AND HEALTH MANAGEMENT IN EDUCATION

2 Full days

Lane Farm, Crooklands, /Kendal
21st & 28th February 2024

The Greenhill Hotel, Wigton
1st & 8th February 2024

HEALTH AND SAFETY ESSENTIALS FOR SITE MANAGERS

Full day

Greenhill Hotel, Wigton
Tuesday 19th March 2024

Crookland/Kendal
Thursday 21st March 2024

SINGLE CENTRAL RECORD

2 hour via Zoom

Tuesday 12th March 2024 9:30am - 11:30am
Wednesday 13th March 2024 1:00pm - 3:00pm

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK](#)

To discuss any training needs or for more information on what training we can offer please e-mail courtney.allan@kymallanhsc.co.uk

SUPERVISION

The Rheged Centre, Penrith
Tuesday 9th January 9am - 12pm

The Melbreak Hotel, Workington
Tuesday 9th January 1pm - 4pm

SAFER RECRUITMENT

Full day

Carlisle
Tuesday 16th January 2024

Crooklands/Kendal
Tuesday 23rd January 2024

1 DAY IOSH MANAGING OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Full day

The Greenhill Hotel, Wigton
Thursday 7th March 2024

1 DAY IOSH SAFETY & HEALTH MANAGEMENT IN EDUCATION REFRESHER

Full day

Greenhill Hotel, Wigton
Thursday 6th June 2024

Crookland/Kendal
Tuesday 18th June 2024



ShoreSpace

This website is a safe space for children and young people to get confidential advice and support for any worries they might have about sexual behaviour online or offline.



The 'I need help now' page has a web chat function, an anonymous e-mail and helpful links for various different areas surrounding sexual behaviour.

Testing of LEV



Carol singers
are not a health
and safety risk,
Don't blame us
if they don't
sound good.

every mind
matters

The purpose of LEV testing is to demonstrate that the LEV remains efficient, in good working order, and in clean condition. Therefore, any significant failings should be reported. HSE routinely encounters instances where engineers have passed or deemed LEV systems as 'Satisfactory', despite the presence of significant failings or defects.

NHS Every Mind Matters has lots of support and self-help tips to improve your mental health, lift your mood or ease any anxieties. There are little things that you can do to make big changes, from simply taking a walk, prioritising sleep patterns or opening up to a friend. Please see link below for a range of tips from self-help CBT to a quick quiz to check on your current mental health.

The main areas covered are:

Significant failings may include:

- inadequate contaminant capture or containment;
- enclosing hood failing to contain the contaminant cloud;
- receiving hood failing to intercept or contain the contaminant cloud;
- capturing hood failing to capture the contaminant cloud, e.g. the capture zone does not encompass all of the working zone where the contaminant cloud is generated;
- inadequate air flows (i.e. reduced or no detectable airflow);
- badly damaged ducting and hoods;
- blocked ductwork;
- damaged or missing filters.

- Loneliness
- Maintaining healthy relationships
- Money worries
- Work-related stress
- Bereavement and traumatic events
- Life changes
- Smoking, drinking, drug use and gambling

www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters

Nitrous Oxide - No laughing matter



In our last newsletter on page 4, we discussed the popular use and dangers of Nitrous Oxide or 'Balloons'. As of November 8, 2023, N₂O has become a Class C substance, making it unlawful to possess without a legitimate purpose. While it can still be used in settings from dentistry to catering, individuals in possession will need to demonstrate how they meet an exception.



Image from talktofrank.com

Data Protection Training

We have been facing challenges in organising GDPR training sessions. As an interim solution, we recommend virtual training. If you are still interested in attending a live session, please reach out to us. We will add you to our waiting list and notify you when we have scheduled our next live training session. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

Please click here or the image below for the virtual college Data Protection training for just £25 per person.

The Essentials of Data Protection (GDPR)



Intermediate




CPD Certified



1-2 hours



Self Printed Certificate

 Virtual College
by Netex

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

CHILD PROTECTION

SCHOOL BEHAVIOUR

OVERARCHING SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STAFF & OTHERS

SAFE RECRUITMENT, SELECTION & VETTING

DATA PROTECTION

CHARGING & REMISSIONS

SUPPORTING PUPILS WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Take advantage of our support

Policies

We understand that you are all under a great deal of pressure, and it is difficult to keep up with changes to Policies and procedures. If you are unsure about the status of your Policies or procedures and are using our models, we can update or revise them as **part of your annual subscription**. Our main Policies can be found on the right (we do have others, so please enquire).

If you would like to make use of this service, please send your Policies/procedures to courtney.allan@kymallanhsc.co.uk.

Single Central Record

We can check and amend your SCR for a small fee of £55 + VAT to make sure you are compliant with the most up to date guidance.

Pre-Local Authority Audit Support

If you are a Community or Voluntary Controlled School, then we can offer you support to help you prepare for your Health and Safety Audit from the Local Authority. For more information please email laura.sim@kymallanhsc.co.uk.

Access Audits and Fire Risk Assessments

Our newest consultant Paul Wanless is now available to undertake Access Audits and Fire Risk Assessments for your school or business.

Access Audits and Fire Risk Assessments can be done from just £200 + VAT.

For more information please e-mail paul.wanless@kymallanhsc.co.uk.

Winter ready

Inspect Heating Systems: Regularly check and maintain heating systems for efficiency. Clean or replace filters as needed.

Outdoor Areas: Remove debris from gutters and downspouts to prevent ice dams. Trim tree branches that could potentially fall due to heavy snow or ice. Secure outdoor items, and use salt/sand for safety.

Snow and Ice Removal: Keep pathways and high traffic areas clear.

Inspect Roof and Gutters: Check for damage, clean gutters to prevent ice buildup.

Emergency Equipment Check: Test alarms, sprinklers, and emergency lighting.

Prevent Freezing Pipes: Insulate pipes and get to know shut-off valve locations. Consider letting faucets drip during extremely cold nights to prevent freezing.

Winter Cleaning: Clean floors regularly, use weather-resistant mats to capture excess dirt and water.

Pest Control: Seal cracks to prevent pest entry.

Communicate Safety Procedures: Educate staff on winter safety protocols and the need to report maintenance issues promptly.



48 HOUR DIARRHOEA AND VOMITING RULE

This rule is applicable to ALL individuals, regardless of age.

If someone has exhibited symptoms, they must stay home for 48 hours after the last occurrence /incident.

USE OF CANDLE RISK ASSESSMENT

Candle Use Generic Risk Assessment

You are not more likely to be sued if you clear snow outside your premises or home, this is an excuse used by those who don't want to clear the snow.



In and around school

Things to consider:



- Which entrances should take priority for clearing and have parents and others been informed of routes?
- Is it possible to close off those routes not considered a priority?
- Are suitable mats installed to keep internal floors dry?
- Is external lighting sufficient and properly maintained?
- Are all pipes properly lagged to prevent freezing and bursting?
- Are external objects such as bins secured to prevent them from becoming 'flying hazards'?
- Who is responsible for checking the premises during periods of closure?

KAHSC Safety Series G31 can help you get prepared for the oncoming winter weather. This is available to download from our website [here](#).

Deck the halls!

Embracing the Christmas spirit often involves festive decorating, but it's crucial to stay safe. To ensure your celebrations remain joyful, follow these tips:

- Keep poisonous plants like mistletoe and holly berries away from children.
- Use a labelled "fire-resistant" artificial tree or, if using a real tree, cut off about 2 inches of the trunk to expose fresh wood for better water absorption and water regularly.
- Position the tree away from heat sources and doorways.
- Avoid breakable ornaments or ones with small, easily detachable parts on lower branches where small children can reach them.
- Use indoor lights indoors and outdoor lights outdoors.
- Replace light sets that have broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections
- Follow package instructions for plug safety.
- Never nail, tack or stress wiring when hanging lights and keep plugs elevated to avoid contact with water.
- Turn off lights before leaving
- Do not hang decorations from light fittings, a sturdy strung washing line is a good alternative

1 DECIDE if it's right
to use a ladder

Ladders can be appropriate for low risk and short duration tasks (no more than 30 mins)



2 SELECT the right equipment

Does it meet current product standard?

Is it the right type of ladder for the task?



3 FOLLOW the manufacturer's instructions at all times!



4 CHECK your ladder is in good condition

Before use - is it safe to use NOW?



Then, carry out regular detailed inspections

5 POSITION the ladder correctly

All feet should be on the ground and any steps level

A leaning ladder should be at a 75 degree angle



6 MAKE SURE the ladder is long enough for the task



7 CONSIDER overhead power lines

Check HSE guidance for information on minimum safe distances



8 GET A GRIP!



Maintain a firm handhold - only let go when the task requires you to do so for a short time

9 DO NOT overload

Consider your own weight and whatever you're carrying (i.e. festive decorations) - only carry light tools and materials



10 DON'T OVERREACH

Avoid this common mistake - it could result in the ladder toppling over! Re-position the ladder as necessary

11 SECURE your ladder



Tie-in, use a stability device, wedge, or foot the ladder (in that order - footing is the last resort)

12 GET TRAINED to know when to use a ladder (and when not to!), how to choose the right ladder and how to use it safely.

FIND YOUR NEAREST APPROVED TRAINING CENTRE & DOWNLOAD MORE FREE LADDER SAFETY GUIDANCE AT:

www.ladderassociation.org.uk