



Safeguarding,
Health and Safety
Consultants

The Safety Scene

Making Sense of Safeguarding

We've had some big changes at KAHSC, and we're excited to share that Laura is heading off on maternity leave as she prepares to welcome a new addition to her family! We couldn't be happier for her and wish her all the best during this special time.

We're also pleased to welcome Janie Bell to the KAHSC team. As many of you know, Laura handled a lot of our contract work, safeguarding audits, and helped ensure much of the smooth running behind the scenes, Laura's emails are now being redirected to Courtney, who will be taking on the majority of Laura's work with Janie's support.

STAR PERFORMERS

In this edition we are praising yet more of you who have achieved outstanding results in recent Health and Safety audits. Our congratulations go to:



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IN COURT & NOTABLE INCIDENTS

School trust fined after student death - [Source](#)

A academy trust has been fined £300,000 after a 19-year-old student died as a result of a 'series of management failures'.

The teenager at the school, which is for children with special educational needs had been diagnosed with Pica – a potentially life-threatening eating disorder where sufferers have a compulsion to eat things which have no nutritional value. Despite a near miss incident just days earlier, the school failed to take action to make sure it didn't happen again.

In January 2023, the young man was out in the playground area with other students during a break from class, unsupervised, and found his way back into school. It took several minutes for his absence to be noticed and when he was found, it was around the side of the building, and he was choking. Emergency services were called, and although they retrieved a ball of paper towel from his throat, he had been without oxygen too long and later died in hospital. Days before, there had been a similar incident with this student, where he was seen in the playground by a teacher, again choking on blue towel, but he managed to clear his airway on his own.

The school failed to ensure that all the safety risks associated with Pica hazards, such as the garden area, or supplies of paper towels, were correctly identified and that the preventive and protective measures including supervision, were organised in such a way as to protect him. They also failed to effectively investigate and respond to the concerns raised by his family.

The Trust pleaded guilty to breaching Section 3(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974. They were fined £300,000 and ordered to pay £10,750 in costs at Coventry Magistrates Court.

School trust fined after pupil's finger was amputated - [Source](#)

The child was leaving the toilet when their right hand slipped into the hinge side of a door, which had no protective guard installed. As a result, their hand became trapped, leading to the tip of their middle finger being severed.

A staff member found the detached fingertip, and the child was taken to Hospital where they underwent surgery to reattach it.

The Trust pleaded guilty to breaching Section 3(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974. It was fined £6,000 and ordered to pay £6,875.70 in costs following a hearing at Staines Magistrates' Court.

A HSE principal inspector stated: "This little boy and his family could have been spared a lot of pain and upset if the trust had installed widely available, effective, and inexpensive hinge guards on the doors young children had access to. I would ask all schools to review their estates to make sure they have hinge guards where needed so no other children are hurt in this way when at school."

Please see our [Safety Series: G44 Preventing Finger Trapping in Doors \(V2\)](#) for guidance.



WalkSafe - FREE Personal safety app



WalkSafe has previously been rolled out in 35 towns and cities throughout the UK. The free app has now received the backing of organisations and agencies including Cumbria Police, following concerns raised in a recent survey carried out by Cumbria Police which wanted to hear from women and girls on how they felt about their own personal safety.

The app features a map of the city that pinpoints local venues that provide enhanced safety features that may make people feel safer on a night out, including venues that operate 'ask for Angela' and locations of on-street support such as the Safer Streets Welfare Hub.

WalkSafe can be downloaded on the App Store or at Google Play.



FOLLOW ME

Walking the dog? Going for a run? Just wandering? Follow Me allows you to start a journey with no destination in mind. Simply select a length of time to share your location for and select friends to keep you safe then you're good to go!



HOMESAFE

Set a specific place and a specific time, and share your journey plan with loved ones. If you don't successfully complete your journey, your loved ones are notified.



WALKSAFE

Going somewhere? WalkSafe journeys differ from HomeSafe by allowing you to share your location with your trusted friends. Your location will update in real-time allowing your loved ones to keep you safe on your journey.



Strut Safe is a UK-wide phone line. If you're walking alone, our volunteers will be a friendly voice to keep you company and help you feel safe until you are through the door.

0333 335 0026

**Fridays & Saturdays: 19:00 - 03:00
Sundays: 19:00 - 01:00**

Free online training!

Through engaging, evidence-based training, you'll develop a deep understanding of the risks associated with gaming and gambling, confidence in spotting early warning signs, and practical strategies for supporting young people.

We'll explore the evolving digital landscape together, ensuring you can identify risks and access support when needed

Our staff training covers the topics of:

- ✓ Gaming & gambling harm
- ✓ Advertising
- ✓ Mental health & wellbeing
- ✓ Blurred lines between gaming & gambling
- ✓ How to spot signs of harm
- ✓ Where to get help & support

90 minute introductory workshop on gaming and gambling harms followed by a 60 minute follow up session, or a complete training in a single 2 hour session.

Training sessions are from 6th March 2025 - 24th June 2025 online. Link below to book:

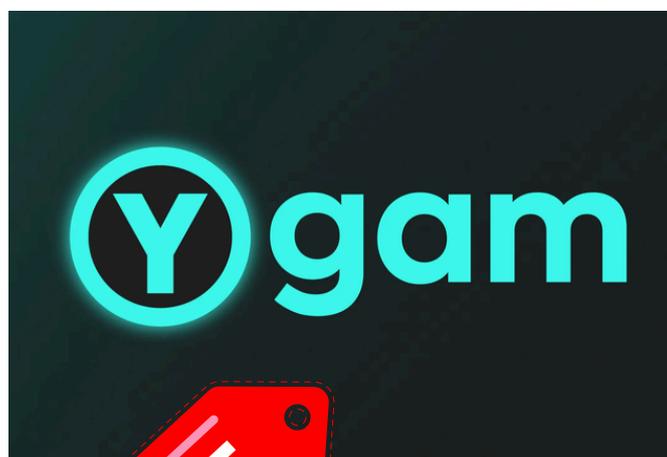
<https://ygam.org/training/teachers-youth-workers/book/> or contact training@ygam.org



Working for **Cumberland Council** and
Westmorland & Furness Council

The learning outcomes are:

- ✓ Updates to the DA Act 2021
- ✓ Understand controlling and coercive behaviour and how abusive relationships develop.
- ✓ Explore typologies of abuse using Michael Johnson's model and consider how this impacts our assessment of risk and intervention for families.
- ✓ Understand the importance of risk assessment- using tools such as the SafeLives DASH (as specific to Cumbria which uses a combined DASH) but also our professional judgement
- ✓ Identify how trauma impacts survivors and how we can work in a more trauma-informed way.
- ✓ Understand best practice when working with those impacted by DA and how to use our knowledge of DA to respond in a non-victim-blaming way.

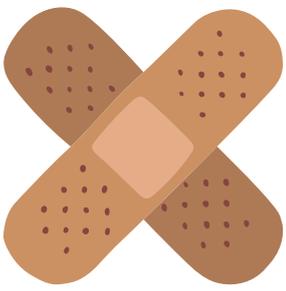


Responding Well – Domestic Abuse Training

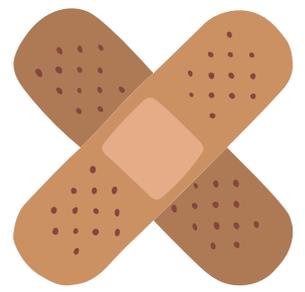
August - December 2025
in-person across Cumbria

[Click here to
Book now!](#)





ACCIDENTS & INCIDENTS



DANGEROUS OCCURANCE

certain incidents with a high potential to cause death or serious injury.

- lifting equipment
- overhead power lines
- explosions
- biological agents
- collapse of scaffolding

NEAR MISS/NON-INJURY

An event that, while not causing harm, has the potential to cause injury or ill health.

SPECIFIED INJURY

- Fractures and breaks to bones except fingers and toes
- Amputations
- reduction or permanent sight loss
- crush to head or torso
- serious burns (10%+) or causes significant damage to eyes, respiratory system
- scalping requiring hospital
- loss of consciousness due to a head injury or asphyxia
- Injury due to working in an enclosed space



Please report to KAHSC as soon as possible as some specified injuries and those which result in an absence of more than 7 days need reported to the HSE within 10 days.

MINOR INJURY

all other injuries which stop a person from working for less than three days.

- Cuts and bruises
- Bump/blow
- Minor burns
- Sprains
- Broken nose, fingers and toes

WHAT IS REPORTABLE AND WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

- Specified injuries and those resulting in an absence of more than 7 days (employees) as detailed above
- Certain occupational diseases that are likely to have been caused or made worse by work such as Carpal tunnel syndrome, severe cramp of hand/forearm, occupational dermatitis, hand-arm vibration syndrome or occupational asthma

ACADEMY, INDEPENDENTS, AIDED AND FOUNDATION

Report on the KAHub within 7 days. We will always contact you **BEFORE** we report an incident to the HSE on your behalf.

COMMUNITY & VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED

Report to your relevant council

Does Limiting Mobile Phone Use Improve School Performance?

Research was undertaken between November 2022 and November 2023 to find the differences between restrictive schools and permissive schools regarding the use of mobile phones by pupils (229 restrictive / 96 permissive). The results published in February 2025 revealed that when restrictions were put in place there was **little difference** to:

- Mental wellbeing, anxiety and depression
- Physical Activity and Sleep
- Educational Outcomes English and Maths attainment and levels of disruptive classroom behaviour

Average daily phone use by students is **5 hours**

Smartphone bans in schools did lead to a slight decrease in students daily use of phones (approx. 40 minutes) and social media (approx. 30 minutes) in school, but the study suggests that the impact is small and that school policies banning recreational phone use did not lead to a meaningful reduction in the overall time spent using phones and social media.

[Article](#) | [Research paper](#)



Professor Miranda Pallan from the University of Birmingham, and a senior author of the paper said:

“Our study suggests that school policies are not the silver bullet for preventing the detrimental impacts of smartphone and social media use. The paper shows that restrictive policies on recreational phone use in schools do not lead to better outcomes among students, but that addressing overall phone use should be a priority for improving health and wellbeing among adolescents.”

Support for parents to access their child's UK eVisa

The UK Government is replacing physical immigration documents with eVisas, a digital proof of immigration status.

Parents and guardians of children who are not British or Irish citizens, and whose children have either a biometric residence permit (BRP) card which expired on 31 December 2024, or a passport with an indefinite leave to remain ink stamp or vignette sticker, should take action to access their eVisa now, and do so on behalf of their children too.

An eVisa cannot be lost or stolen and can be accessed online by visa holders at any time to prove their rights in the UK. It's free and their immigration status won't be affected. You can find a range of shareable eVisa communications materials, including factsheets and social media content in the [eVisa partner pack](#).

What's the Mooove?

School Trips to Farms – A Season to Explore and Learn!

With spring in full bloom and the sun finally making more regular appearances, it's the perfect time for schools to head outdoors and reconnect students with nature. One of the most popular seasonal activities? Farm visits!

These trips offer children a wonderful opportunity to see animals up close, learn where food comes from, and enjoy hands-on experiences that stick with them long after they return to the classroom. From bottle-feeding lambs to spotting freshly hatched chicks, spring is a magical time to visit a working farm.

As your school plans its upcoming farm adventures or have visiting animals in school, here are a few helpful reminders to keep things safe and smooth:

- **Hygiene first:** Make sure children (and adults!) wash their hands thoroughly after touching animals or being near animal enclosures.
- **Dress for the mess:** Farms can be muddy, even on sunny days. Wellies and weather-appropriate clothing are a must.
- **Listen and learn:** Encourage children to follow the guidance of farmers and educators during demonstrations—both for safety and to get the most out of the experience.
- **Supervision counts:** Keep group sizes manageable and ensure plenty of adult supervision throughout the visit.

We know many of you will be doing these trips over the coming weeks and maybe even inviting animals onto school site, if you have any questions just get in touch or take a look at the below Risk Assessments and Resources.

Downloadable Risk Assessments and Resources for farm visits and animals on site:

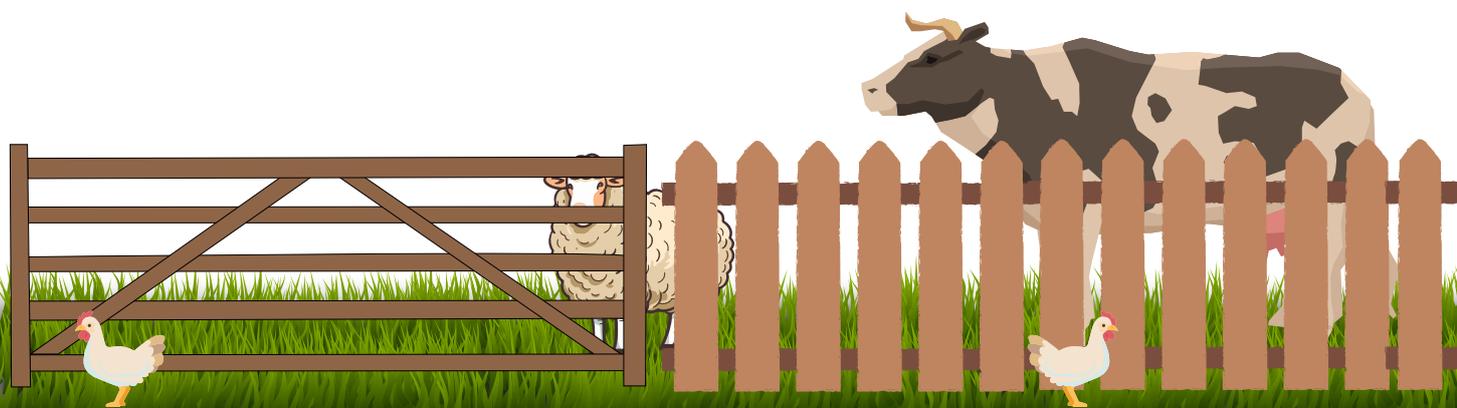
- **Farm & Animal Attractions RA** - KAHSC
- **Keeping and handling animals** - KAHSC
- **Farms and visitor attractions involving animals** - KAHSC
- **Farm animals in schools and on visits (Secondary)** - Cleapss
- **Visits to farms resource packs** - HPA

Did you know?

Kym lives on a farm which has had over 160 lambs this spring!



You can search 'Farm' on the hub for more resources!



KAHSC Audits

As we continue to prioritise your safety and compliance, we also strive to ensure the smooth and efficient operation of our services. With this in mind, we are announcing an important update to our cancellation policy for health and safety audits.

Introducing a New Cancellation Fee

Effective immediately, any cancellations of audits made within four weeks of the agreed date will incur a cancellation fee of £150 + VAT. This policy change is a necessary step to manage our resources more effectively and to accommodate the high demand for our services. Our team invests a substantial amount of time in preparation for each audit. As many of you know, we are currently booked up until Autumn 2025, and this new policy will help us maintain the highest standards of service for all.

We understand that circumstances can change unexpectedly. To avoid incurring the cancellation fee, we encourage you to review your schedules carefully and inform us as early as possible if you need to reschedule or cancel your audit. This will allow us to adjust our schedules accordingly and possibly accommodate other clients who are in urgent need of our services.

Finally, it is crucial that schools prepare in advance for their health and safety audit. Information on what is required on the day is sent out well in advance and appropriate preparation will save the auditor and school significant time on the day.

KAHSC training and additional services

For more information on the courses we have available please visit buytickets.at/kahsc or click the locations below. 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.

IOSH Refresher | [Workington](#) | [Wigton](#) | [Kendal](#)

IOSH 2 DAY FOR EDUCATION | [Kendal](#) | [Blackpool](#) | [Wigton](#)

EVC Full day | [Kendal](#) | [Wigton](#) | [½ day Online Refresher](#)



Fire Warden ½ Day | [Wigton](#) | [Kendal](#)

KAHSC training and additional services

Take advantage of our support

Policies

We understand that you are all under a great deal of pressure and that it is difficult to keep up with changes to policies and procedures. If you are unsure about the status of your policies and procedures and are using our models, then we can update or revise them for **FREE**. Our main policies can be found on the right.

If you would like to take up this service, please send your policies to courtney.allan@kymallanhsc.co.uk

Fire Risk Assessments

If you have not recently had a Fire Risk Assessment or would like a review of your current FRA please feel free to get in touch with courtney.allan@kymallanhsc.co.uk who can arrange for a risk assessment or review to be undertaken from just £200 + VAT.

Single Central Record

We are currently on Version 14 and can check, update and ensure compliance of your SCR for a small fee of £55 + VAT. Please contact kym@kymallanhsc.co.uk for more information.

If you need an SCR Ofsted check urgently, please contact Kym as soon as possible after the call. The cost of this check is the same.



Anti-fraud

Attendance

Behaviour

Charging and remissions

Child on Child abuse

Code of conduct

Complaints procedures

Data Protection

Health and Safety

Intimate care and toileting

Online Safety

Overarching Safeguarding

Positive handling Procedures

Safe Recruitment

Suspension and Exclusion

AND MORE!