



Children's Services Directorate Health & Safety Update March 2009

FIRST AID TRAINING

Please be aware that due to budgetary constraints this year the availability of LA funded H&S training is to be reduced. To ensure the duties of the employer are fulfilled, training will still be available but will be limited. The current proposal, *but subject to change* is as follows:

The **Certificate in First Aid Practice** qualification will be removed from the training program. Schools may still request this but it will be chargeable and dependant on numbers.

Appointed person training is available on request and may be chargeable and dependent on numbers.

Funded **First Aid at Work** and **Paediatric First Aid** qualifications will still be available but limited to schools on the basis of school type and numbers of persons on site, additional training requirements over and above allowances may be available dependant on numbers and will be chargeable.

LA Funded First Aid at Work Training Allowance: Primary and Middle = 2 persons, Special = 3 persons, High = 4 persons. These allowances are unlikely to fulfil your requirements especially to cover educational visits so you'll need to plan for this by assessing risk, determining your actual needs and making appropriate arrangements for additional training either with the Training department in County Hall (821000) or via Red Cross, St Johns or St Marys Hospital etc

LA Funded Paediatric First Aid Allowance: Primary = 2, Nursery = 2 (unless shared site then 3 total). As above you may contact the Training department about additional requirements but this will be chargeable training.

MINIBUS DRIVERS

Drivers of minibuses must have D / D1 on their licence and must be in possession of LA authorisation to drive.

THE WELL BEING PROGRAM

All but three schools have engaged in the program which I hope has been useful to schools. The LA are satisfied that this has been a successful alternative to the Stress Filter Tools method that all other LA establishments are still required to undertake.

As part of LA monitoring of H&S I will in the next few months be asking schools to provide, in the form of an action plan, evidence of progress, successes, areas addressed where improvement is still required and difficulties in making necessary change etc.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

New guidance released regarding approval of trips by School and LA. This includes classification of trips into either 'A' low risk, 'B' Medium risk and 'C' high risk. As from 1st April 2009 mainland visits which are neither adventurous or residential will not require LA approval.

Evolve update – The electronic 'offsite visit' approval system is now live and I'll shortly be arranging training for EVC's or will arrange to visit individual schools.

Leadership Offsite - Updated guidance is posted on the Evolve system and will also be posted on Eduwight at http://eduwight.iow.gov.uk/the_lea/policies_plans/healthan.asp in the next few days.

Data Protection – Please ensure child/student names etc are not sent to me. This is not required by the LA for visits as this data is held by school and home based contacts.

SHATTERED LIVES CAMPAIGN

The HSE have launched a national campaign to address slips, trips and falls which are the cause of many serious injuries each year. The campaign objective it to highlight risks presented to employees and visitors at various establishments, and includes those which are educational.

An e-learning component of the 'shattered lives' website allows employees to undertake a short interactive training session.

The Education website also includes other useful links regarding H&S.

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/services/education/index.htm>

"SORRY, WE CAN'T DO THAT, HEALTH AND SAFETY"

I've heard this so many times and it makes me cringe.

Usually this is a nice simple excuse used for not wanting to do something which few will question.

In general, things are not stopped because of health and safety but are prevented from going ahead because either resources, cost, time, capabilities or willingness are unavailable.

Good management of health and safety is key to undertaking what needs to be done safely.

Try this; the next time you hear "...sorry, health and safety reasons.." simply ask; "and they are?"

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