



Safeguarding,
Health and Safety
Consultants

The Safety Scene

Making Sense of Safeguarding

THIS ISSUE:

County lines

#Freeperiods

Tiktok

5 steps to mental
health

COVID-19

Winter ready

Welcome to the Safety Scene - Autumn 2020

Everyone here at Kym Allan Safeguarding, Health and Safety Consultants would like to welcome you back after a very uncertain first part of 2020. We are unable to put into words how grateful we are for all the supportive words and tokens of gratitude received over this time, it has really helped with motivation and staff moral during this busy time. We wouldn't be able to do the work we do, without the continued support and effort of yourselves.

Some of you may already be aware that Julie Smithson has moved on to pastures new. Julie was with us for 9 years and became a well respected member of the team. We wish her every success for the future in her new role.

Find us on social
media



@Kymallanhsc

Star performers

This year has been such an incredibly difficult time for everyone in the education sector, we couldn't possibly pick a couple of schools to be our star performers over this period. The hard work and dedication all of the leadership teams, teachers and incredible support staff have put in is truly admirable. Everything from providing inspiring virtual learning, non-stop cleaning and Covid-19 planning, to keeping up with all the new guidance that is constantly being released, you show us on a daily basis how loyal and dedicated you are to educating and keeping all children and staff safe. You are therefore all star performers.

In Court and notable incidents

Who was involved?

A woman who was 36 weeks pregnant, had been carrying out the daily school run. She was driving with her 13-year-old daughter and six-year-old son when her moving vehicle was struck by a large branch falling from a mature horse chestnut tree. The branch broke through the windscreen and front driver window and struck the right side of the mothers stomach. She was taken to hospital with suspected major trauma and her baby girl was delivered by an emergency caesarean, living for 15 hours before sadly passing away.

What happened?

The incident happened on the morning of 10 November 2016. An HSE investigation uncovered that the large branch which fell had a crack on its upper edge where it was joined to the main trunk. It had begun to separate from the main trunk for at least one growing season before the failure. The tree had not been inspected for at least 13 years.

The conclusion

HSE said that Wirral Borough Council failed to:

- Identify and manage the risks from falling trees and branches;
- Implement a robust system of inspection of trees in its remit despite a similar incident occurring on the same road in January 2015.

The outcome

Wirral Borough Council pleaded guilty to breaching Section 3(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974. The Local Authority was fined £100,000 and ordered to pay costs of £49,363. This was the result due poor risk assessments and neglecting to put measures in place to stop similar incidents happening after it happened previously in 2015.

It is important that schools and landowners have a system in place for regularly inspecting any trees on site and take the recommended remedial measures to reduce the risk of injury to others.

Who was involved?

On 17 June 2016, the Assistant Head teacher at Putteridge High School was called to deal with a disruptive pupil who was refusing to go into a detention room. After clearing the classroom of the other pupils, the pupil launched a sustained assault on the teacher, using a mobile phone and inflicting life changing injuries.

What happened?

The HSE's investigation found that there were significant shortcomings in relation to the measures at the school, regarding violence and aggression posed by the pupils to others. No effective consideration was given to the risk of injury or death posed by the pupils to others and measures were not taken to reduce that threat to as low as reasonably practicable.

The conclusion

According to the HSE:

- Luton Borough Council did not ensure that the school had people with sufficient competence in the management of health and safety involved in running the school to ensure that the threat was addressed;
- The Council did not see to it that staff members at the school had the training either to remedy that shortcoming or to deal with violent and aggressive pupils in a way which did not expose them to risk;
- The Council failed to monitor the adequacy of the measures Putteridge High School had in place and the Council therefore failed to pick up and address the shortcomings.

The outcome

Luton Borough Council pleaded guilty to breaching Section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 and was fined £104,000 with £60,000 costs. The fine was reduced from £300,000 due to the Council's lack of revenue as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

Hot off the press and coming soon

UK coaching has released a new 2020 Edition of 'Safe Practice in Physical Education, School Sport & Physical Activity'. The book is a great reference and developmental tool that offers up-to-date advice across PESSPA, to help teachers, coaches and school governors protect their students, and themselves from potential risks across both the curriculum, and extra-curricular activities. The book currently retails at £44.99. Click [here](#) to purchase.



In between all our normal work and the increased workload from Covid-19, we have been working behind the scenes to create a brand new website which we hope will be up and running in early 2021. The website will be more streamlined, easy to use and faster which we hope will benefit yourselves and improve user experience.

PHE have announced a 'Rise Above' scheme. They have provided lesson plans and PowerPoints for upper KS2, KS3 and KS4 pupils which have been co-created with teachers, and video content developed with 10-16-year olds. Topics covered include social media, dealing with change, puberty, dealing with exam stress, bullying, body image, online stress, and fear of missing out.

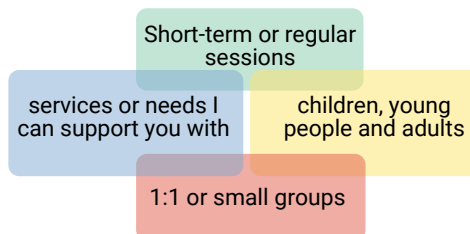
For more information search 'PHE Rise above' or click [here](#)



Susy Armstrong Counselling

As a trained psychotherapist and counsellor with 16 years' experience working in a GP surgery, schools and with CAHMs services, I am pleased to offer a bespoke service for school and colleges.

I am a BACP registered counsellor and I qualified in 2006. I have many years' experience of working with both adult and children supporting them through times of trauma, loss, anxiety, depression, low self-esteem and other challenging issues that life can throw at you. I can support you and your organisation in a variety of ways that works for you and your needs: support for school-related learning or wider home-life concerns or mental health and well-being; from short term support to regular group work sessions; as 1:1 or small groups; or with adults or children from Primary school age, teenagers and adults.



If you would like an informal chat with me, to discuss what I can provide for your school or college, you are welcome to either ring or email me.

Mobile: 07921611062

E-mail susy.armstrong@me.com

WINTER POP QUIZ!

1. What is the normal MINIMUM tyre tread depth?
2. What is the winter recommended tyre tread depth?
3. Can wet hair cause a cold?
4. At what temperature can you start to suffer from hyperthermia?
5. What kind of poisoning is caused by fires and heaters?
6. When clearing snow from height, how far should you be from the snow?
7. Where is the most body heat lost?
8. Is it illegal to drive with snow on your car?
9. How far away should a heat source be from flammable items e.g. a rug?
10. What is the coldest temperature the UK has seen during winter?

You can find the answers on page 6

Keeping children safe in sports clubs

DfE have released a handy leaflet for keeping children safe during sports clubs and other extra-curricular activities: guidance for providers running out-of-school Settings.

You can find it by searching 'Keeping children safe during sports clubs and other extra-curricular activities' or by clicking [here](#)



County lines during Covid-19

County line gangs have had to change their usual tactics due to Covid-19 restrictions. These gangs normally use young children and vulnerable adults to get drugs from large cities such as London to other areas in the country using trains and cars. Police continue to investigate and track the county line gangs, which has shown an increase in young and impressionable adults being drawn into selling drugs, due to unstable financial and home situations because of COVID-19.

In the past, children have been sent off on trains and buses with large quantities of drugs in their backpacks; this was seen as an easy way of distributing as children and young adults alone are less likely to be seen as suspicious. When both country wide lock down happened and local lockdowns came into force, distributors were more likely to be seen and questioned as to why they were travelling, so they were being sent with smaller amount of drugs which they could hide inside of themselves, so instead of moving £1,000 worth of drugs once a week, they were forced to move smaller amounts every day or so. The most common drugs to be moved by county lines are Class A such as Crack Cocaine and Heroin.

SIGNS THAT SOMEONE IS INVOLVED IN COUNTY LINES

Going missing from home, staying out late and travelling to different areas

Sudden new friendship groups

In a relationship or friendship with someone older than them

Multiple phones or SIM cards

Making more phone calls or texts than usual



Older teenagers aged 16-18 creating friendships with younger children to recruit.

Unexplained injuries and refusing to seek medical help

Carrying weapons

Use of drugs and alcohol

Being angry, violent, or aggressive

Visit the Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership for more information and advice when supporting a child involved with county lines or with drug and alcohol issues. A list of support agencies can be found on the CSCP website or by clicking [here](#).

Product recalls



Crazy Aaron's Thinking Putty

- Crazy Aarons Mini (5cm) Electric Thinking Putty Neon flash
- Crazy Aarons mini (5cm) Hyper-colour Thinking Putty Amethyst Blush

Recalled in July 2020 due to the boron content of these products has been found to be in excess of the legal levels.

Package item up, and contact the retailer you bought it from or 'Greenelephantrading' for a full refund.

TK Maxx Tricoastal drinks bottle

There are 4 designs; Robot, dinosaurs and 2 with unicorns.

Recalled 20th July 2020. They have been recalled due to a potential choking hazard.

Please return any bottles back to any TK Maxx for a full refund.



Currently only 40% of schools in England have signed up for their FREE period products.

68% said they felt less able to pay attention in class at school or college while menstruating.

40% of girls in the UK have used toilet roll because they couldn't afford menstrual products.

In 2017, a survey by Plan International UK reported that 1 in 10 girls had been unable to afford period products; 1 in 7 had to ask to borrow products from a friend due to affordability issues; and 1 in 10 had to improvise. Research has found that some use newspaper, old clothes and toilet paper as alternatives. It is estimated that over 137,000 children across the UK have missed school days due to period poverty.

To claim your free period products please call PHS directly on 01827 255500 or e-mail periodproducts@phs.co.uk.



On Thursday 1st October 2020 Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership (CSCP) in partnership with the NSPCC, launched their year-long awareness raising campaign for child exploitation – "It's not OK".

The campaign will focus on three key themes. Delivery will include, but is not limited to, workshops and training sessions for parents, young people and professionals, awareness raising activities including stalls and public events (subject to Covid-19 restrictions), and support with launch events.

CHILD CRIMINAL EXPLOITATION (CCE)

ONLINE SAFETY

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Save the date



Random Acts of Kindness Day
Monday 17th February 2021



SAVE the DATE

Safer Internet Day

2021 | Tuesday
9 February

www.saferinternetday.org



Did you know that schools and colleges in England can access

FREE

period products through the government scheme?

The Fuel Box Project

FreePeriods

In the know: TikTok

You would be hard pressed to have lasted this long through 2020 and not come across a video created on TikTok. TikTok is a social media platform where you can create edited videos that last no longer than 60 seconds for free. It is used across the world however, recently USA are looking to ban it over privacy concerns, the UK government are not currently concerned.

You will find many celebrities on tiktok sharing videos with their fans, however there is also a new wave of 'TikTok famous' creators such as 16 year old Charlie D'Amelio, who currently has nearly 100 million fans and over 7.5 billion likes on her videos and is likely known by thousands of young people across Cumbria. Charlie's videos are known to be child friendly, mostly being dance videos and challenges.

TikTok is a video creating platform therefore requires access to your camera and microphone. You can become 'fans' of creators, like their videos, share their videos and comment on them. You can create a private account so others cannot see your videos and you can turn commenting off.

Are you concerned or want to know more about a specific online platform? You can e-mail courtney.allan@kymallanhsc.co.uk who can find out about almost any online platform or creator to keep you 'in the know'.

AS OF 2020, THERE ARE 800 MILLION ACTIVE USERS A MONTH AND THE APP HAS BEEN DOWNLOADED NEARLY 2 BILLION TIMES.



The Pros

- Encourages creativity
- Many positive influencers with a range of interests such as dance, crafts, cooking, sports, gaming, cleaning, gardening and small businesses, the list is truly endless.
- Videos are suggested directly by what you have previously watched, therefore it is highly unlikely (not impossible) to see adult content if you just watch dance videos or young influencers.
- Great for connecting with friends and family
- Free to use
- Safety features are easy to enable
- Certain words or search terms can be blocked.
- Can chat to people with similar interests (internet friends are a big thing now!)

The Cons

- Tiktok challenges can sometimes be dangerous. Likes, comments and shares can be hurtful to someone's feelings or confidence.
- You can directly reply, known as 'duet' to someone's video with your reaction, which if not used for the intended purpose could be used to bully or humiliate. (This feature can be disabled)
- Harmful, offensive, and sensitive content is easily accessible if not blocked. Videos including explicit language, self-harm, suicide and drug/alcohol use are just some of the negative content available to view.
- Can promote unrealistic lifestyles and image expectations which can be harmful to self-confidence/worth and cause anxiety (comparing with peers is common with all social media, at all ages)



Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families

Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families has released '5 steps to mental health and wellbeing – a framework for Schools and Colleges'. The site has lots of resources and details on how to encourage and implement changes to support mental health awareness.

5 steps to mental health

1. Leading change
2. Working together
3. Understanding need
4. Promoting wellbeing
5. Supporting staff

To find more information search 'Anna Freud 5 steps to mental health and wellbeing' or click [here](#)

**LEADING
CHANGE**

**PROMOTING
WELLBEING**

**WORKING
TOGETHER**

**SUPPORTING
STAFF**

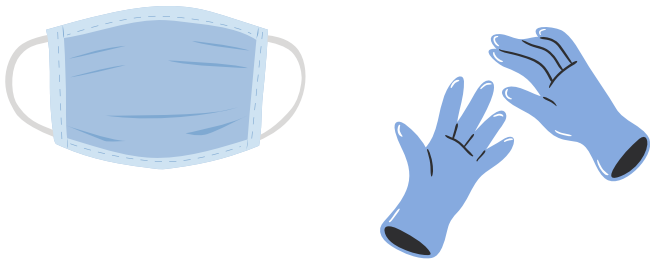
**UNDERSTANDING
NEED**

COVID-19

On-site visits

Before we visit your site, we ask that you have thorough COVID-19 risk assessments, policies and practices in place which are relevant to your setting. We will do everything we can to reduce risk by having PPE on hand and keeping to social distancing guidelines. If you do not feel comfortable with us coming to your site please let us know and we can try and arrange a virtual meeting or we can rearrange for a later date.

To book a visit to your school please contact kym@kymallanhsc.co.uk or call us on 01228 210152



Training

We have started up our open courses and in-house training again. If you would like any training delivered in-house, then please let us know.

Our open courses will have limited availability to help comply with social distancing and for the safety of everyone. We have lots of new procedures in place to help everyone keep and feel safer while training with us.

Some new covid training procedures:

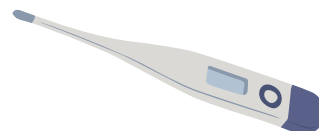
- No handouts, we ask delegates to print out any packs we send prior or have as a digital copy available to avoid handling
- Physically distanced seating and venues

To see all our available open courses visit buytickets.at/kahsc

To host an in-house training session, e-mail laura.sim@kymallanhsc.co.uk or call us on 01228 210152

Pop quiz answers

1. **What is the minimum legal tyre tread depth?** 1.6mm
2. **What is the winter recommended tyre tread depth?** 3-4mm
3. **Can wet hair cause a cold?** No, a cold is caused by a virus
4. **What temperature can you start to suffer hyperthermia?** 21°C in Water or if you body temperature drops below 10°C
5. **What kind of poisoning is caused by fires and heaters?** Carbon monoxide
6. **When clearing snow from height, how far away should you be?** 6 feet



Key contacts

DFE COVID HELPLINE

This helpline is used for COVID-19 related questions regarding school closures and COVID-19 management queries. You **MUST** notify the DfE with any confirmed cases in your setting.

0800 046 8687

NHS HELPLINE

If you are concerned about anyone displaying symptoms of Coronavirus. If you are unable to call or get through to NHS 111, there is now a '111 online service'

111

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

For information and advice about controlling infectious diseases in a work environment

0344 225 0562

KYM ALLAN SAFEGUARDING, HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSULTANTS

Queries for any health, safety and safeguarding issues including Coronavirus.

01228 210152

KAHSC training and additional services

We are excited to announce we have moved onto an online booking system which we hope will make training easier and more efficient. 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 payments are made before the training takes place where possible



Live webinars

We have held some very successful live webinar training sessions, and while we understand it won't ever be the same as 'in-person' training, we believe it is the most safe and secure way of providing training during the pandemic.

We can provide a range of training sessions online both open to everyone or closed just for your staff members including:

- Designated Safeguarding Lead update
- Single Central Record training
- Online safety
- Governor H&S training
- Wellbeing awareness
- Work at height
- DSE
- and more

If you would like virtual training which is not on the list above, please contact us on 01228 210152 or e-mail laura.sim@kymallanhsc.co.uk and we will try our best to accommodate your requests.

- ✓ 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

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 kym@kymallanhsc.co.uk

Audits

If you are a Community or Voluntary Controlled School and are due an LA Health & Safety Audit, we can carry out a 'Pre-County Audit' to help you get prepared. If you are an Academy, Voluntary Aided or Foundation School and have not recently had a health & safety audit from ourselves. Please contact our office to book this in or for further details.

SCR

We can check and amend your SCR for a small fee of £30 + VAT to make sure you are compliant with the most up to date guidance.

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

CHILD PROTECTION

WHOLE SCHOOL BEHAVIOUR

OVERARCHING SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STAFF & OTHERS

SAFE RECRUITMENT, SELECTION & VETTING

DATA PROTECTION

CHARGING & REMISSIONS

SUPPORTING PUPILS WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Winter ready



As the cold sets in, have you got everything you need in your vehicle in case of a breakdown or emergency?

Here is a list of the basic items you should have in your car during the winter.

- Bottle of water
- Sugary snacks
- Fully charged mobile phone, this could even be an old phone that you do not use that stays turned off but can be used in emergencies
- Power bank
- Blanket or sleeping bag
- Torch
- Basic first aid kit
- Reflective hazard triangles
- Warm clothing including gloves, hat, scarf, socks and an extra coat
- Jump cables

Car seats

Please make parents, carers and others aware about the dangers of putting a child into a car seat while wearing multiple layers or a thick jacket. The clothes compress when impact occurs leading to significant injury to the child.

Instead, take their jacket off and put the child in the seat wearing their normal clothing, then place a blanket or the jacket OVER the straps to keep them toasty warm. The child may get cold temporarily while you take their jacket off to put them in the car, but it is better than taking the risk of wearing a jacket or multiple layers while driving, especially while roads are icy or wet.

In and around school

Things to consider:



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

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

And finally, from all of us at KAHSC have a

**Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year!**