



Safeguarding,  
Health and Safety  
Consultants

# The Safety Scene

## Making Sense of Safeguarding

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IN COURT

VAPING

CHAT GPT & AI

FREE TRAINING

CONFERENCE

SWIM SAFE

## Welcome to the Safety Scene - Summer 2023

Half-term is over and we are now on a countdown to the summer break. We have, as usual, a busy few weeks left of this academic year. The draft version of KCSiE 2023 has been published so we will be working on incorporating any changes to the necessary documents.

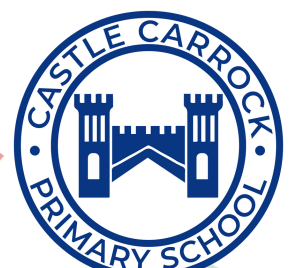
I would also like to express a warm welcome to a new colleague Paul Wanless. Paul has recently qualified as a Fire Risk Assessor and an Access auditor so if you have a need for either of these services, please get in touch.

If I don't speak to you in the meantime, have a super summer break. Have fun.

Star performers



*Kym Allan*



A big well done to Kirkby Stephen Grammar, St Patrick's Catholic Primary, Crosby-on-Eden, Crosthwaite, Castle Carrock and Beetham Schools who all achieved excellent Health and Safety Audit results recently!

## In Court

# "Council fined after fatal 2.5m fall"

In February 2023, a Council was fined £66,666 and ordered to pay £5,000 in costs after pleading guilty to a breach of the Health and Safety 'Work at Height regulations 2005.

A 71 year old gentleman was employed at a school back in August 2018 when he sustained a fatal head injury while cleaning the roof of a bike shed, he fell from the ladder, a distance of approximately 2.5metres onto the tarmac surface below.

HSE found the local authority had failed to ensure that the cleaning of the bike shed was:

- properly planned;
- appropriately supervised;
- carried out using a safe work method.

HSE inspector Natalie Pomfret said: "Falls from height remain one of the most common causes of work-related fatalities in this country and the risks associated with working at height are well-known. In this case, this tragic incident led to a man's avoidable death. This death could have been prevented if his employer had acted to plan and supervise the work activity and ensured a safe method of work was in place."



# "Employment tribunal classes long COVID as a disability"

In a groundbreaking legal case concerning individuals with long COVID, an employment tribunal recently made a significant ruling, acknowledging that the symptoms associated with this condition could be classified as a disability.

A caretaker who had been employed since 2001, filed claims of unfair dismissal and disability discrimination after being terminated from his position in 2021. Following his contraction of COVID-19 in November 2020, he experienced substantial and persistent effects that rendered him unable to attend work for a period of nine months. During a preliminary hearing, the tribunal carefully examined his symptoms and ultimately concluded that they met the criteria of disability as defined by the Equality Act 2010. Consequently, the tribunal granted him permission to proceed with his claim of disability discrimination against his former employer.

# FIGHT FLOAT ACTIONS TIME

YOUR INSTINCT TO PANIC OR SWIM HARD

BACK IN THE WATER TO KEEP YOUR AIRWAY CLEAR

YOUR BODY UP, EXTEND YOUR ARMS AND LEGS, PUSHING YOUR STOMACH UP

GENTLY MOVE YOUR HANDS AND FEET TO HELP YOU FLOAT

IN 60-90 SECONDS YOU'LL BE ABLE TO CONTROL YOUR BREATHING



After the devastating event in Carlisle over half term, we would like to express our sincere condolences to Lewis's family, friends and classmates.

Below are some key points to remember which can make everyone safer when in and around water:

- Keep a fully charged phone in a waterproof pouch on your person when entering water.
- Even if your phone shows no service, try calling 999 or 112 anyway, as in an emergency your phone will be able to use another phone network.
- When in or around water inland and calling for an emergency, request fire and rescue
- If you are alone, inform someone about your plans and the time you expect to return.
- If someone is in difficulty, throw a floatation device such as lifebuoy, football, or even an empty water bottle

Do not enter the water to save a person or animal. Around half the people who die at the coast never intended to go in the water. Jumpers, scarfs and trousers can be used to try and reach someone.

## Access Audits

Access audits are assessments of buildings and designed to evaluate their accessibility to people with disabilities. These audits aim to identify barriers that hinder individuals with disabilities from using or accessing buildings, facilities, and services, and provide recommendations for eliminating these barriers.

The process of conducting an access audit involves a physical inspection of your school, along with a review of relevant policies, procedures, and documentation. Our colleague, Paul will examine features such as entrances, parking, signage, elevators, and toilets to assess whether they meet current accessibility standards. Subsequently, a report will be provided, highlighting the areas where you have met the requirements and offering recommendations for improvements.

Access audits directly contribute to the school's accessibility plan which is statutorily required to be published on your school website.  
Book today from just £175 + VAT\*



**We're here to help!**

If you have any questions or would like to book an access audit please contact paul.wanless@kymallan.hsc.co.uk



\*Price varies depending on school pupil numbers

## Young People and Vaping

As most of us are aware, vaping has witnessed a significant increase in use in recent years, particularly among young people.

In the past decade, there was a significant trend of smoking becoming less popular. In 2006, 20% of 15-year-olds surveyed were regular smokers, but that number dropped to only 5% in 2018. However, since then, in 2022, it has spiked back up to nearly 16% of 11-17-year-olds having tried vaping.

45% of those who have tried it, did it to just give it a try, however the next most common reason was that they like the flavours. The most popular flavours among young vapers were fruit (74%), menthol/mint (53%), and sweets/chocolate (36%).

Vaping exposes young individuals to various health risks, including nicotine addiction and potential long-term effects on their respiratory and cardiovascular systems. Nicotine, often present in e-cigarettes, is highly addictive and can harm adolescent brain development. Open communication channels are essential for sharing information, discussing concerns, and reinforcing consistent messages about the risks of vaping.

We have added a section into our model behaviour policy where you can provide details of your school rules on the use of vapes. Remember your Behaviour Policy and procedures should be published to parents, pupils and others at least annually.

For more information, [click here to visit the ASH website.](#)



**We're here to help!**

If you need help amending your behaviour policy to include vaping procedures, please contact [courtney.allan@kymallanhsc.co.uk](mailto:courtney.allan@kymallanhsc.co.uk)

**"Vaping: Government plans under-age crackdown**

**A loophole allowing retailers to give free vape samples to children is set to be closed under government plans to curb their use among young people. There will also be a review into the rules around the sale of "nicotine-free" products to under-18s."**

## Nitrous Oxide - No laughing matter

Nitrous oxide (also known as laughing gas, balloons, canisters and N<sub>2</sub>O) is commonly used as a recreational drug, and often perceived as harmless by users. However, across the UK, hospitals are reporting increasing cases of nerve and spinal cord damage due to the use of nitrous oxide.

Immediate high

High lasts a couple minutes

Colourless gas

Illegal to sell or give away

Cheap and easy to purchase

Bought online as whipped cream canisters

Causes feeling of euphoria, relaxation, laughter & hallucinations

Legal to possess



Image from [talktofrank.com](http://talktofrank.com)

Other names for N<sub>2</sub>O – Balloons, Chargers, Hippie Crack, Laughing Gas, Nos, Noz and Whippits!

Nitrous oxide is commonly dispensed into balloons then inhaled from the balloon. The biggest risks when taking N<sub>2</sub>O is lack of oxygen from inhaling and burns as the canisters get very cold when being released.

## Product recalls

### Emerade 300 and 500 microgram adrenaline pens

On the 9th May 2023, Patients, or carers of patients, who carry Emerade 300 or 500 microgram adrenaline auto-injector pens should contact their GP to be supplied with an alternative brand. They should then return their Emerade 300 or 500 microgram pens to their local pharmacy. The recall is precautionary due to some pens failing to activate if they are dropped, meaning a dose of adrenaline would not be delivered. Please check spares held in school.



## Save the date



### World Music Day

21st June 2023

### KAHSC Safeguarding conference

As many of you will be aware, we had to postpone the original safeguarding conference. It is now being held on

6th July 2023

Details and to book onto our safeguarding conference can be found on the last page of this newsletter

### Supporting young people to take down nudes shared online

Report Remove can help to take down nude or sexual images that include at least one of the following:

- nude or semi-nude sexual posing;
- someone nude or semi-nude touching themselves in a sexual way;
- any sexual activity involving a child;
- someone hurting someone else sexually;
- sexual activity that includes animals.



### Remember, you should never view the image!

[learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/report-remove](https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/report-remove)

Follow the instructions to confirm their age

Log in or create a Childline account

Submit the image or video

They may be asked if they want to prove their age using ID

Childline will let the young person know the outcome of their report

A specialist analyst at IWF will review it and work to have it removed if it breaks the law

## In the know: AI & Chat GPT

Chat GPT was released in November 2022 and is similar to any other 'chatbot' that has been around for decades (similar to Smarterchild on AOL and MSN), however a lot more sophisticated in terms of human-like responses.

### How do we access it?

Chat GPT is a website, a google search will bring up thousands of alternatives and knock offs, however it is the one hosted by openai.com that is the most well known, complex and used.

### How does it work?

ChatGPT has been 'trained' by developers to analyze inputted text prompts to generate responses. Everything that ChatGPT knows comes from articles, websites and publications, which is then merged into a human-like response to the end user.

### What is it used for?

You can ask AI anything: general chat, summarize a lengthy text, explain contexts, translate, check grammar, create website coding, create images, and more. The more detail you give the bot, the more helpful it can be. For example, you could ask, 'Give me 10 facts about the Royal Family,' and it would list 10 facts. However, you could also say, 'Can you write me a 1000-word essay about the Royal Family, including their history and recent events?' Chat GPT would then write a 1000-word essay for you.

### How does this affect education?

AI is the future, with researchers at University of Cambridge suggesting it's going to be as transformational as Google was in 1998.

Students are currently using AI to support their learning, and they will continue to do so in the future. Therefore, it is recommended that schools educate themselves on how it can benefit both staff and pupils.

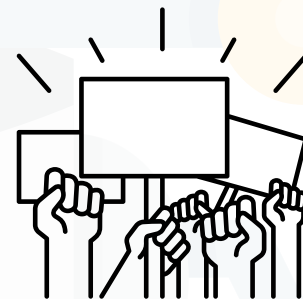
The University of Cambridge have a great blog post with Q&A from two researchers covering their perspective on the opportunities, challenges and possibilities of AI in education.

AI = Artificial Intelligence

## Hollywood Strikes!

As of May 2023, Hollywood film writers are on strike, and one of their demands is ensuring the future security of their jobs in light of the introduction of AI. They are requesting a clause to prevent AI from generating any 'literary material'. However, as of May 1st, major AMPTP members such as Netflix, Amazon, Apple TV, Sony Pictures, and Disney have rejected this proposal.

According to OpenAI, they claim to be capable of reducing the time required to write a script by 50%. OpenAI also say that their AI technology can already outperform 90% of humans in reading and math SATs. However, concerns have been raised regarding potential job losses and the absence of creativity and genuine human experiences being incorporated into scripts.



### Quick Facts

- It costs an estimated £550,000 a day to run
- It's estimated 70% of users are male
- It took 5 days to reach 1 million users, and 2 months to reach 100 million users
- AI image creation creates around 4 million images a day
- The system has consumed over 300 billion words to build its 'knowledge'
- Microsoft has invested \$1 billion into Open AI
- Elon Musk was a co-founder and left in 2018 and is reportedly planning to set up a rival system.

If you have any questions regarding Chat GPT or other social media platforms, please contact [courtney.allan@kymallanhsc.co.uk](mailto:courtney.allan@kymallanhsc.co.uk)

**FREE**

BBC are giving away classroom sets of 30 micro:bits to primary schools across the UK as part of our BBC micro:bit – the next gen campaign.

BBC are relaunching the micro:bit in the UK with a focus on empowering primary school children with the digital skills to understand the world around them and to shape their own future.

The smart, pocket-sized computer has been designed to inspire children to explore creative ideas using real code and can be used for teaching computing across the curriculum. Its goal is to make coding fun, creative and exciting for pupils and teachers alike.



Teachers can get free access to training (including live webinars) on how to use the micro:bit [here](#).

**FREE**

**NSPCC**

*'Listen up, Speak Up' NSPCC*

**Listen up  
speak up**

Take our **10-minute training** to help keep children safe



'Listen up, speak up' is a FREE 10minute digital training to show you where to go if you need support, and how to speak up for children who may need support.

The training is part of the NSPCC's Connect the DOTS campaign:

- **D** - Don't ignore it
- **O** - Observe the situation
- **T** - Think, if not you, then who?
- **S** - Speak up

[Click here to sign up and start your free short training!](#)

**kooth**

Kooth is an anonymous platform which helps young people to feel safe and confident in exploring their concerns and seeking professional support for their wellbeing. The platform is available in Cumbria for young people aged between 11 and 18 and includes:

- Articles, personal experiences and tips from other young people and the Kooth Team
- Discussion boards
- Live chat function and Message function to talk to a Kooth team member
- Daily journal to write about and track your feelings, emotions and to reflect back on how your doing.

**Visit [Kooth.com](https://www.kooth.com) to join for free.**

# Antisemitism in schools

The study, conducted by the UCL Centre for Holocaust Education, interviewed over 1,200 secondary school teachers from across England who are responsible for teaching about the Nazi genocide. The study employed a mixed-method approach, collecting extensive survey responses from 1,077 teachers who teach about the Holocaust. Additionally, quantitative data was gathered through group interviews with 134 teachers from 45 different schools. The findings are as follows:

- Nearly 4 in 10 teachers in the study reported encountering antisemitism among their students.
- Approximately 1 in 6 teachers (15%) stated that they encountered students who voiced Holocaust denial either occasionally or often.
- 74.9% of teachers had encountered students who repeated mistruths about the Holocaust that they had read online.

As part of a new partnership involving UCL and two of England's leading multi-academy trusts, schools are set to receive teacher training and educational resources on the Holocaust. This initiative aims to combat misinformation and confusion about the Holocaust in English schools, thereby addressing the rise of antisemitism.

The intended outcome of the partnership is to provide teachers with the necessary training and resources, they will be better equipped to teach about the Holocaust in a comprehensive and accurate manner. This will contribute to fostering a deeper understanding of the historical events, promoting empathy, and raising awareness about the consequences of antisemitism.



## Tree care

As the warmer weather approaches, we will be spending more time outdoors. In our previous newsletter, we discussed an unfortunate event that occurred in 2020, where a young child lost her life after a decaying willow tree collapsed on her while she was at school. More recently, Bupa was fined £400,000 after a decaying lime tree, which was diseased with a common fungus, collapsed and crushed a child's leg. Consequently, the child had to undergo a leg amputation.

If you have trees within your property boundaries, you are responsible for looking after them and ensuring that they do not pose a threat to employees, contractors, or members of the public. Identifying and managing common defects does not need to be difficult. You can consider some basic points yourself, including:

- Are there large dead branches?
- Are there detached, hanging branches?
- Have any branches fallen from the tree?
- Is there loose bark on the trunk?
- Are there cracks or splits in the trunk or where branches are attached?
- Has the trunk developed unusually?
- Has the area recently been altered by construction or other events such as flooding?

Conduct a thorough visual inspection of the tree, including Check for dead or dying branches

Assess whether the tree is leaning significantly or appears unstable.

Consider the tree's proximity to buildings, power lines, or other structures. Ensure that there is adequate clearance to prevent any potential damage in case the tree falls.



## Our top tips

Look for signs of pest infestation or diseases. Common signs include holes in the trunk, sawdust-like material at the base of the tree, or abnormal leaf discoloration.

Inspect the area around the tree for signs of upturned soil, exposed roots, or significant root damage.

If you have any school maintenance queries you can contact [helen.blamire@kymallanhsc.co.uk](mailto:helen.blamire@kymallanhsc.co.uk)



## KAHSC training and additional services

For more information on the courses we have available please visit [buytickets.at/kahsc](http://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



### BOX OFFICE

#### Live webinars

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
- and more

If you would like virtual training which is not on the list above, please contact us on 01228 210152 or e-mail [courtney.allan@kymallanhsc.co.uk](mailto:courtney.allan@kymallanhsc.co.uk) and we will try our best to accommodate your requests.

### 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 (we do have others so please enquire).

If you would like to take up this service, please send your Policies to [courtney.allan@kymallanhsc.co.uk](mailto:courtney.allan@kymallanhsc.co.uk)

#### Single Central Records

We can check and amend your SCR for a small fee of £35 + 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](mailto:laura.sim@kymallanhsc.co.uk)

**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**

# MAKING SENSE OF SAFEGUARDING CONFERENCE!

## \*NEW DATE\*

This Conference satisfies the requirement for DSL's to undergo updated child protection training every two years.



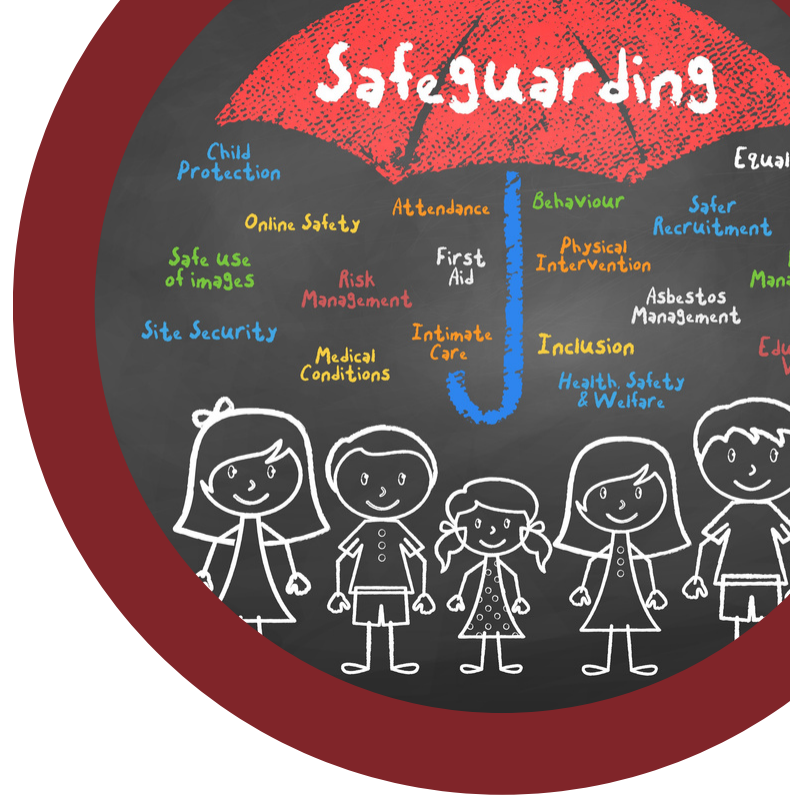
**6th July 2023**

08:45 to 16:00



**North Lakes Hotel**  
Penrith

For more details or to book, please visit our box office or e-mail [courtney.allan@kymallanhsc.co.uk](mailto:courtney.allan@kymallanhsc.co.uk)



**James Parkes**  
Young Suicide  
Prevention



**Kyle Riding**  
Gaming and  
Gambling Harm  
Prevention



**Carolyn Eyre**  
Fabricated and  
Induced  
Illnesses (FII)



**Karl Hopwood**  
Online Harms

