

Health & Safety Schools Newsletter



From: Doug Brady - Health & Safety Advisor

To: All schools

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Welcome

Welcome to this edition of the Health & Safety Schools Newsletter. If there is anything you want to see or share with other schools then please let me know. The lead Safety Adviser for schools and your first point of contact is Andy Anderson on 07876 578143. However, if Andy is not available and you require urgent or immediate assistance contact Doug Brady on 07876 578149 or Phil West on 07876 578148 or use the above address.

School Roof



The recent accident to a 11 – year old boy who fell through a skylight at his school during the half term break was a stark reminder how venerable many of our buildings could be when they are closed for normal business. It is recommended that all schools review site security.

- Does your school have a problem with unauthorised people accessing the roof?
- Are you aware of pupils or intruders regularly gaining access to parts of your roof?

You may decide to fit anti scaling devices or to apply anti climbing paint or you may decide that signs are suffice. Further advice may be sought from the Councils Building Surveyor or Your local Crime Prevention Officer.

The Heat is on !



The warm weather has arrived and soon many schools will find classrooms unbearable due to the heat. The following are some ideas worth considering that will help the situation.

- Encourage pupils & staff to drink adequate amounts of water as this can help prevent a range of health problems including **HEADACHES** see below for further info

<http://www.wateriscoolinschool.org.uk/learning.html>

- Summer uniform policy, no blazers or ties.
- Sports days to commence early morning rather than afternoon.
- If possible rotate the use of air condition rooms (ICT) for pupils & staff.
- Section 3 (15) of your Schools H&S Guidance Manual includes guidance for parents and staff on sun safety see below for further info.

<http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/15-sun-safety.pdf>

Accidents



We have had several reports of staff and pupils tripping over uneven paving slabs at school properties. It is advised that all schools visual check paved areas on a weekly basis to minimise the risk of accidents happening.

Another area of concern is speed bumps as there has been incidents of visitors tripping over them. A regular visual check to check their condition and to ensure warning signage is visible is also advised. Further advice may be sought from the Council's Building Surveyors.

Health and Safety Audits



The Health Safety Audits plan for 2007/9 commenced last month and every Bracknell Forest Establishment will receive an audit. One of the Health & Safety advisors will contact your school prior to your audit.

The areas to be covered during the Audits will be :

**HEALTH & SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES,
ACCIDENTS / INCIDENTS,
ASBESTOS,
FIRE,
RISK ASSESSMENT,
H&S TRAINING,
WELFARE FACILITIES,
WORK EQUIPMENT/ SCHOOL
WORKSHOPS,
ANY OTHER CONCERNS, ISSUES.**