

Schools Health and Safety Newsletter

Spring 2020

COVID-19 – Guidance for Educational settings

We would like to take this opportunity to check in with you all and hope that you are all ok. This is a very unsettling time for everyone and we hope you are coping.

We would refer you to the following UK Government website for up-to-date advice and guidance.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

or

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

There is currently no vaccine to prevent infection and avoiding the virus. We would recommend the continuing of washing of hands often with soap and water and the additional use of alcohol hand sanitisers.

Accident Reporting

You should all now be in receipt of instructions on the new Accident reporting system sent out by Stephanie and Emma.

There will be no changes to your log in procedures, so carry on in the usual way. The format looks slightly different.

If you need any assistance with regards to the new system, please email the SHST@enfield.gov.uk inbox.

CLASSI reporting of COVID-19

Please note that the Council is required to make a report under RIDDOR (The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013) of certain instances of COVID-19.

Therefore, any of the following 3 instances should be reported on the Councils accident reporting system

“CLASSI” under the category “Accidents”.

Contact the Schools Health and Safety team for any queries.

1. An unintended incident at work has led to someone’s possible or actual exposure to coronavirus.

If something happens at work which results in (or could result in) the release or escape of coronavirus you must report this.

2. A worker has been diagnosed as having COVID 19 and there is reasonable evidence that it was caused by exposure at work.

If there is reasonable evidence that someone diagnosed with COVID-19 was likely exposed because of their work you must report this.

3. A worker dies as a result of occupational exposure to coronavirus.

If someone dies as a result of a work related

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exposure to coronavirus and this is confirmed as the likely cause of death by a registered medical practitioner then you must report this as soon as is practical and within 10 days of the death.

Schools Health & Safety Committee

The members of the Schools Health & Safety Committee had a virtual meeting to discuss matter of health and safety arising in schools.

Copies of these minutes will be posted on the Schools Traded Services Portal for you all to see.

Recent Prosecutions

In the news recently, a tutorial service was fined

after a teacher sustained serious injuries including multiple fractures and crush injuries, when she was struck by a delivery van.

The driver reversed over the teacher, only stopping after members of the public alerted him.

The HSE investigation found that the Tutorial Service had not segregated vehicles and pedestrians, although had identified measures, had failed to implement them.

We would recommend that Schools review all their Risk Assessments regularly. We have a Car Park and Vehicle Risk Assessment available on the Schools Traded Services portal.

Period product scheme for schools and colleges in England

Some schools may already be aware of the Period Product Scheme that has been publicised by the Department of Education.

This means learners at all state-maintained schools and 16 to 19 education organisations in England will have access to free period products in their place of study.

Please click on the following link for further information.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/period-products-in-schools-and-colleges/period-product-scheme-for-schools-and-colleges-in-england>

Asbestos

Just a little reminder that if you have had Asbestos remediation (either removal/encapsulation), the Asbestos Team will need to have the prepopulated ASB15 returned to them.

The Asbestos Team updates The Asbestos Action Plan for Schools and actions that have been outstanding are brought to the attention of the Director of Education.

For any queries or returns of ASB15s, please email:

Asbestos@enfield.gov.uk

Prevention of Legionella – Requirements for Schools

The risk of Legionella growth in a water system is increased when the temperature of the water is between 25 and 45 °C; and when water is stagnant in the system i.e. not being used.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind schools to continue their flushing regimes. This is something we remind schools of just before the Summer holidays but thought it an opportune moment to remind you of now.

If the hot and cold-water systems have not been used or have had little use then disinfection of both hot and cold water systems should be considered.

Aerosols containing legionellae; when inhaled can cause Legionnaires'

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disease; these are produced when turning on a shower; running a tap; flushing a toilet; operating jet sprays etc.

Washing Machines

In the news a while ago, there had been some advice regarding the recall to manufacturers of certain types of washing machines/dryers. Extra models have been added and we would recommend that Schools check which washing machines/dryers they have.

Quite a few manufacturers have information on their websites and we would advise Schools to check.

Training

The new Schools Health & Safety Training Programme for 2020/21 has now been sent to all schools.

We have cancelled training for now for the foreseeable future but still have the Computer Based Training modules available for School Staff to access.

Please email the SHST@enfield.gov.uk inbox if you need any assistance

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