

Health & Safety Bulletin

Autumn 2026

Welcome to the Shropshire Council's Health and Safety Bulletin for
Autumn 2026

Any queries / feedback should be sent to
health.safety@shropshire.gov.uk

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We are all responsible for Health & Safety



Policies & arrangements updated

Available on SLG, A—Z

Allergy Model School Policy—This has been reviewed following the final guidance by the DfE issued in July and is based upon the two leading charity model policies.

Natasha's Foundation (Allergy School): Schools can sign up to the **free webinar** for New DfE allergy guidance:

They will be running webinars on the following dates and times:

Wednesday 14 October (9:30 - 10am)

Tuesday 17 November (3:45 - 4:15pm)

Tuesday 8 December (9:30 - 10am)

Free training in partnership with the Natasha Foundation is available through High speed training; Free Allergy & Anaphylaxis Training For Schools | City & Guilds Assured

Catering & Food Safety Policy (New School Model Policy) This links in with the Allergy Policy **(To be completed and implemented by all schools)**

- **Asthma Guidance** (Useful Links updated)
- **Health & Safety Responsibilities and duties for schools** (DfE Guidance Link)
- **Health & Safety Auditing and Self Monitoring Arrangement**
- **Working at Height** – Guidance for Schools
- **Martyn's Law** Protective security and preparedness for education settings - Guidance
- **Emergency Response & Business Recovery** (Link to SLG Audit & Insurance page)
- **Education Visits and Journeys** (Key contact and Links)
- **Asbestos Quick Guide**
- Internal Window **Blind Safety Requirements**
- New **Lithium-ion Batteries—Guidance on safe use**

Recent HSE Prosecutions & cases

Recent HSE Prosecutions & Cases

[Details for Case No.4818113](#)— 11 year old pupil, 2 fingers partially severed (needing surgery) following trapping them in the hinge side of a manual swing gate. Investigation by the HSE found that the school had failed assess the risks arising from an un-protected hinge area of a gate within the playground area of the school and install any type of hinge guard / protection.

(Health and Safety At Work Act 1974, Section 3, Sub Section 1— Legally obliges employers to protect anyone who is not their employee from being exposed to health and safety risks caused by their business activities)

This case shows the importance of regularly reviewing the [Door Finger Guard](#) arrangements in place and to consider outdoor gates within your assessment.

[Council fined £6000 after stepladder collapse leaves worker with broken ribs – HSE Media Centre](#) (12th Aug 26)



Worker suffered broken ribs and a fractured collarbone after falling from a stepladder suffering painful and life-changing injuries in a fall that could have been prevented. Despite identifying the ladders were not in a good state of repair and unsafe to use, they remained in place, stored outside and were accessible to employees who were not trained on how to assess a ladder as being safe.

The employee was attempting to access a loft space when the incident occurred. As he neared the top of the stepladder, it gave way causing him to fall to the ground. He suffered a fractured collarbone and broken ribs.

Academy Trust fined £32,000 after site supervisor left wondering if he would survive after fall from height – HSE Media Centre (16th July 26)



The site supervisor suffered life-changing injuries after falling from the school roof. He had climbed up to the roof on an unsecured ladder to collect footballs when he fell from the roof and onto the concrete playground. He was found on the ground by a member of the public.

As a result of the fall, he suffered traumatic injuries including bleeding on the brain and fractures to his face, hand and foot. At one point, doctors were unsure whether he would survive and if he did, they couldn't say if he would ever walk again. Since the incident he continues to experience memory problems, difficulties with speech, and challenges carrying out every day cognitive tasks, such as using the washing machine or microwave.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that the roof had no edge protection or other means to prevent or mitigate a fall from height. The Trust did not have a standalone work at height risk assessment or safe system of work, outlining how this sort of task should be done safely.

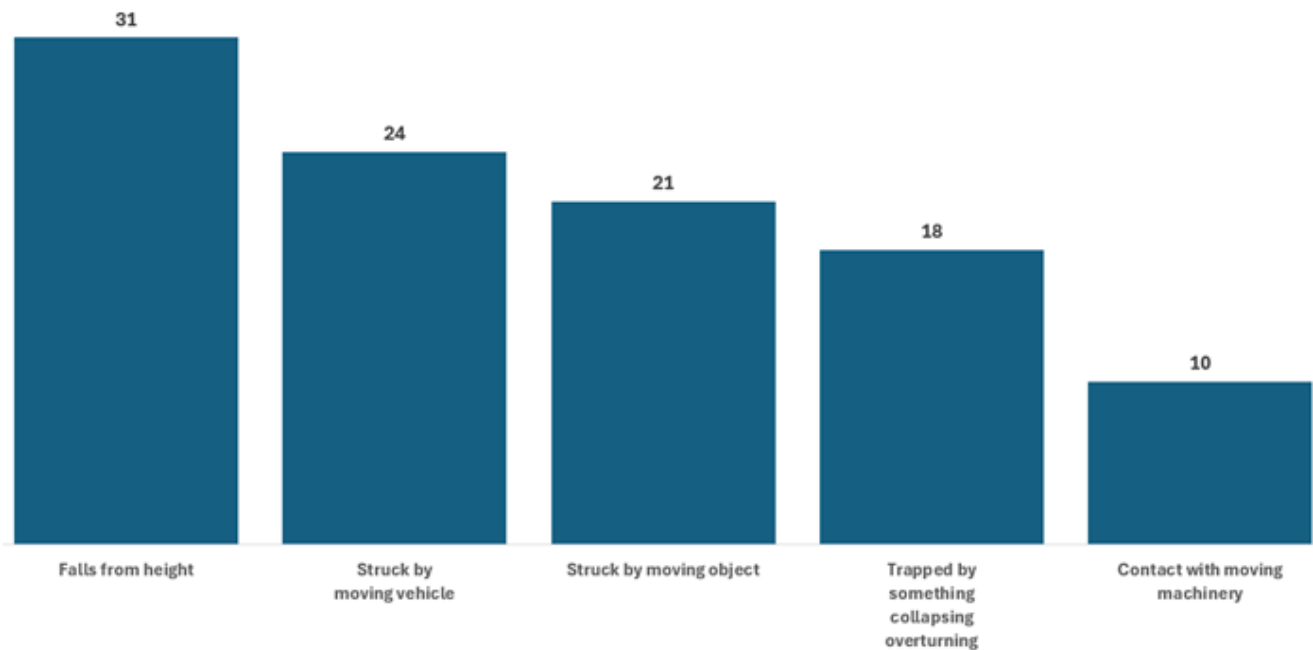
The fine was significantly reduced from its original starting point due the Trust being a non-profit charitable organisation.

Working at Height / Ladder Safety

Working at Height / Ladder Safety

The two accident scenarios detailed above are poignant reminders of the risks associated with Working at Height (WAH).

The most recent HSE accident statistics show the main kinds of fatal accidents for workers (2025/26) with the most common continuing to be falls from height, accounting for around a quarter of fatal injuries to workers.



Although falls from height account for approximately 8% of all RIDDOR reportable injuries, an average of 37 deaths per year were due to falls from a height, representing 28% of all worker fatal injuries over a 5 year period (2021/22-2025/26).

It's worth noting that slip, trips or falls on the same level, is the largest group of RIDDOR reportable injuries, accounting for approximately 30% of all reportable events.

People **do** fall over whether on ground level, on the edge of a roof or using a ladder!

Your WAH Risk Assessment must apply the work at height hierarchy of control set out in the Work at Height Regulations 2005 (regulation 6). This means the assessment should demonstrate that the following options have been considered in order of priority:

- Avoid work at height wherever reasonably practicable.
- Prevent falls where work at height cannot be avoided.
- Minimise the distance and consequences of a fall where a risk remains.

Ensure persons who may work at height are trained and that equipment is checked periodically and before every use.

For any working at Height, please refer to the [guidance](#) available on SLG

Health & Safety Training



COURSES AVAILABLE – Face to Face

- Fire Awareness, Fire Warden & Extinguisher
- Fire Awareness & Extinguisher
- Manual Handling including Slips, Trips & Falls
- Risk Assessment Workshop
- Legionella
- Asbestos
- Working at Height
- COSHH

FACE-TO-FACE VENUES · 2026

The Lantern — Meadow Farm Drive,
Shrewsbury SY1 4NG

Bridgnorth Library — 67 Listley Street,
Bridgnorth WV16 4AW

Raven House — Prospect Road,
Market Drayton TF9 3AP

Castle View — Arthur Street,
Oswestry SY11 1JR

Helena Lane Community Centre —
20 Hamlet Rd, Ludlow SY8 2NP

EMMA CUSHING · 01743 257906 · emma.j.cushing@shropshire.gov.uk

Shropshire Council's First Aid Courses 2027 can be found through this link:
[Shropshire Council First Aid Courses 2027](#)

BOOK VIA UNIT4 ERP

1 Open the dotted menu beside Home



2 Under Your Development, select Course Catalogue



3 Select the Zoom icon for course information, then tick to sign up

Scheduled courses					
Zoom	Sign up	Wait list	Prereq.	Availability	Course
	☒				0 Emergency First Aid at Work with Paediatric Element
	☒				0 First Aid at Work Course

4 Look for the confirmation notification at the top of the screen



Health & Safety Training

eLearning - LEAP INTO LEARNING

ACCOUNT SET-UP & HOUSEKEEPING

- 01** All schools now should have set up individual staff accounts on the platform using individual email addresses, please note that a generic email address must not be used.
- 02** Can you please review the staff details provided to ensure they remain current. For staff who have left, please highlight names in **red** and for new staff joined, please highlight in **green**. Each account has a license and a cost.
- 03** Please forward updated users to leap@shropshire.gov.uk to ensure staff access and controlled costs.
- 04** The [Registration Template](#) is available on SLG under Forms/Templates/Checklists

AVAILABLE COURSES INCLUDE:

- Introduction to Health & Safety
- COSHH
- Manual Handling
- Asbestos Awareness
- Legionella Awareness
- Display Screen Equipment
- Fire Safety Awareness
- Working at Height
- RIDDOR
- Stress Awareness
- Personal Safety
- Hot Work
- Noise Awareness
- Sharps Awareness in the Workplace
- Construction (Design & Management) Regulations (CDM)

MANAGE & ACCESS TRAINING

TRACK The School [Training Matrix](#) can be used to record & manage all staff training & refresher dates this is also available on SLG under Forms/Templates/Checklists

ACCESS Leap onto Learning can be accessed here:

<https://shropshire.learningpool.com/>

HELP For further details and useful links please see H&S [Training](#) on SLG [Shropshire Learning Gateway](#)

Health and Safety Training for Maintained Schools

Governors Health and Safety Course

We are running 2 courses in October for school governors in relation to their Health & Safety responsibilities.

The course is free of charge, 1 hour long and is delivered via Microsoft Teams.

The next dates are:

Tuesday 13th October 5:30—6:30pm

Tuesday 20th Oct 10:30—11:30am

Tuesday 17th November 5:30 – 6:30pm

To book please email: kevin.jenkins@shropshire.gov.uk

New Headteachers Health and Safety Course

We are running 2 courses in September/October for new Headteachers in relation to their Health & Safety responsibilities.

The course is free of charge, 1 hour long and is delivered via Microsoft Teams.

The next dates are:

Wednesday 21st October 09:30—10:30

Thursday 29th October 10:00—11:00

To book please email: kevin.jenkins@shropshire.gov.uk



We are all responsible for Health & Safety

How to get in touch?

PRIMARY CONTACT

Kevin Jenkins

Health and Safety Officer – Schools

Radiation Protection Officer

Health & Safety Team

Property & Development · Enabling Services

Shropshire Council

01743 253736

kevin.jenkins@shropshire.gov.uk

TRAINING COURSES CONTACTS

Emma J Cushing

Lead Health & Safety and First Aid Trainer

01743 257906

emma.j.cushing@shropshire.gov.uk

Laura E Howells

Health & Safety Support Assistant

01743 252496

Laura.E.Howells@shropshire.gov.uk

NEED HELP NOW? A duty officer is available to assist.

01743 252819 · health.safety@shropshire.gov.uk

FIND GUIDANCE ONLINE

Health & Safety Arrangements

Shropshire Learning Gateway



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