

Safetyline 66

H & S UPDATE JUNE 2006

The new guidance document “**Safety of Children on University Premises**” is now on our web site in the Guidance section and aims to assist departments to manage these situations and help parents understand what is expected of them to avoid harm to their children and disruption to normal operations. This does not cover the issue of Children undertaking Work Experience in the University or of accommodation for students under 18 years of age, for which guidance can be found on the Human Resources and Accommodation & Campus Services web sites respectively.

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*We still have a few copies left of the updated version of UCEA/USHA document “**Guidance on Safety in Fieldwork**”. Once our copies have gone, if you need more copies they can be obtained from University and Colleges Employers Association, Woburn House, 20 Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HU at £12.50 each. For a copy of the remaining documents, please contact us on [safety@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:safety@sheffield.ac.uk) giving your name, department & address.*

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Please don't forget that wedging cross-corridor doors open in hot weather to improve ventilation will put people at significant risk in the event of a fire. We still have a few “**Doorguard**” units which are electronically controlled, battery powered props which can be attached to the bottom of fire doors, but unfortunately must recharge departments should they wish to have one fitted following an assessment of the risks associated with the proposed location. They cost £152.50 per unit, inclusive of VAT and fixing. Operating and battery replacement instructions will be provided.

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*We can report that **attendances at Out of Hours courses has improved** significantly over the past 4 months, with attendances in the order of 90+%. Thanks to you all for your co-operation.*

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We are currently getting reports from Porterage & Security that staff and students are entering buildings out of hours, in particular in the Arts Tower and the Geography Building, but neglecting to sign in to indicate they are in the building. I would be grateful if everyone is reminded that **signing in when working out of hours** is necessary as in the event of a fire alarm the Fire Service would have an indication of who might be in the building and where. It's for the safety of occupants that we ask people to sign in, not to stifle academic freedom.

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*A new telephone number for the public to secure advice and action on community safety and antisocial behaviour issues has been announced. The **Single Non-Emergency Number (SNEN)** is designed to improve the delivery of non-emergency services by ensuring a better co-ordinated response by local agencies whilst freeing up the 999 service to handle emergencies. The new three-digit number, 101, will initially be launched in five areas this summer and will be in use across England and Wales by 2008.*

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With the barbeque season nearly over, I may be a little late to offer advice on ensuring that you have some means to hand of extinguishing an “overactive” barbeque, other than using wine, beer or lager for which there are better uses. Have a **fire blanket** handy, as unlike powder and water extinguishers, the food should be still be hot and edible once the fire has gone out - providing you like your food well cooked. Follow instructions carefully when using a fire blanket, as you should protect your hands and face to avoid injury to yourself when putting the blanket over the fire.

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*[www.kevincoffee.com/safety\\_tips\\_index.htm](http://www.kevincoffee.com/safety_tips_index.htm) contains over 130 pages of **travel safety tips** that will be useful to anyone on the move. You will find advice on avoiding luggage theft, laptop theft hotel burglary and outwitting pickpockets. It offers international insight into various scams from being “taken for a ride” by taxi drivers in unknown cities to credit cards scams in hotels. Other topics included are travel safety tips for women and a useful guide to electrical systems worldwide.*