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LEAFLET 7 TO PART 3 TO SHEF MANUAL

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

1. The Personal Protective Equipment Regulations 1992 applies to all personal protective equipment (PPE) not subject to other specific regulations eg Noise and COSHH etc. PPE is any equipment, and addition or accessory, including clothing that protects against the weather, which is intended to be worn or held by a person at work and which protects him/her against one or more risks to their health and safety. This does not include uniforms which do not specifically protect the health and safety of the user.
2. PPE must be provided to SCE employees who may be exposed to health and safety risks when other methods cannot adequately control the risk. It must be capable of fitting the wearer and be compatible with the task and any other PPE equipment in use at the same time. It must only be used as a last resort and only with other control measures in place.
3. Where the need for PPE is identified an assessment must be made to ensure the correct equipment is obtained. Under no circumstances must any SCE employee be expected to purchase their own safety clothing/equipment.
4. Accommodation must be provided for PPE when it is not in use although this can be simple and straightforward eg cases for safety spectacles or pegs for wet weather clothing.
5. Employees/pupils must be trained in the proper use of PPE, how to correctly fit and wear it and what its limitations are and line managers/teachers are required to take all reasonable steps to ensure that it is properly used. Employees must use PPE in accordance with training or other instructions given and should take all reasonable steps to ensure that it is returned safely to its accommodation.
6. The cleaning of PPE is vital to protect against illness and disease. Simple cleaning can be carried out by the user but more complex cleaning requirements must be carried out professionally. Where PPE is shared eg safety goggles for pupils, a procedure for cleaning after each use must be produced and adhered to. This will prevent the transfer of infections from one person to another eg conjunctivitis