



National
Guidance

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Member of a Management Board or Governing Body

Outdoor learning and off site visits can have a profound effect on children and young people and their well-being; positively influencing behaviour and relationships, developing self-confidence and raising achievement. In an educational setting, 'real' experiences make learning more engaging, relevant, enjoyable and memorable and should be integral to the Establishment's work.

The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 places overall responsibility for health and safety with the Employer. It is critical that you understand who the Employer is in your setting (refer to document 1c "Status, Remit and Rationale").

Employers have duties to ensure:

- So far as is reasonably practicable the health, safety and welfare of all employees and others who may be harmed by their activities.
- That arrangements for supporting pupils with medical conditions conform to Section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014.

In addition, Local Authorities have a duty of care for the health and safety of all young people for whom they are responsible under the Children Act 2004.

As a member of a management board or school governing body you should seek to enable and ensure high quality visits and outdoor learning through support and challenge as a '**critical friend**'.

You should make sure that:

- If the management board/governing body is the direct Employer of Establishment staff you are fully aware of the Employer's responsibilities under health and safety law.
- There is an Establishment Visits/outdoor learning policy and procedures – including emergency procedures.
- There are formal notification and approval procedures for Visits, and you are clear about your role in these.
- You refer to documents 3.3c "Management Board and Governor Check List" and 5.1a "Establishment self-evaluation form". Governors in a school setting are also advised to refer to 5.1c "Learning Outside and Off-site visits: self-evaluation using the Ofsted framework".

