

SAFE HANDLING TRAINING COURSE INFORMATION

The provision of advice and training related to the Safe Handling of Pupils with a Physical Disability is co-ordinated by Fountaindale Physical Disability Specialist Service. The service employs a team of Safe Handling and Access Advisors who provide advice and training in safe handling. There are several levels of training available:

FOUNDATION (2 DAY) COURSE

It is a requirement that all LA employees working with children with physical disabilities, who require moving and handling, should attend this course. Following successful completion of this course each participant will receive a 'Handling Children and Young People with a Physical Disability' certificate.

The foundation course is a two day event and includes the following elements:

- Introduction; You and looking after yourself
- The Law
- The Spine
- Comfortable Learning
- Principles of Safe Handling
- Musculo-Skeletal Injury
- Risk Assessment
- Equipment Familiarisation (Handling Aids and Therapy Equipment)
- Hoist & Sling Techniques
- Practical Work

Please note attendance on this course does not qualify participants to complete Individual Pupil Assessments. (Please read the Safe Handling Team section)

REFRESHER COURSE

All employees attending the 2 day course, who are still working with children with physical disabilities who require moving and handling, must attend a 1 day refresher course within 1 year of the original course.

LINK WORKER COURSE

The Link Worker course is suitable for staff working in special schools who have 'hands on' experience of moving and handling pupils with physical disabilities who have also been identified by the Head Teacher as an appropriate person to carry out safe handling risk assessments and to complete the Individual Pupil Assessment forms (IPA).

Applicants for the Link Worker course must hold a current 'Handling Children and Young People with a Physical Disability' certificate. The Link Worker course consists of an additional five days training. The main focus of these additional five days is the manual handling risk assessment process.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The training events are held at the Physical Disability Specialist Service base, in the grounds of Fountaindale School, and are run on a number of occasions throughout the year. However where individual schools require a number of staff to be trained, and experience difficulty in releasing them, they should contact the Physical Disability Specialist Service as alternative courses may be offered i.e. INSET Training Days.

IMPORTANT

It is the participants' responsibility to inform a trainer, prior to attending the course, of pregnancy or any health condition that may be exacerbated by the practical nature of the training. If participants are in doubt about their fitness they should consult a doctor prior to attending the course.

For safety reasons participants must wear appropriate clothing and footwear suitable for the practical nature of this course e.g. trousers and tops which do not restrict movement or compromise modesty, trainers or similar shoes, no boots. Please do not attend with excessively long fingernails, be prepared to remove dress jewellery, and tie long hair back during practical sessions.