



HILLINGDON

LONDON

Occupational Health & Safety - GREEN ALERT School Governing Body Fined

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Applicable to all schools

The governing body of a high school and sixth form centre has been fined after an employee fell from height whilst performing routine maintenance duties.

An assistant site manager was removing footballs from the sixth form centre roof when he lost his footing, falling more than three metres to the ground. He sustained multiple fractures.

The HSE's investigation found that, despite it being a regular practice to go on to the roof to remove balls, the governing body had no protective measures in place to prevent a fall from the edges of the roof. No barriers, any type of edge protection or fall restraint system was in place.

The governing body pleaded guilty to breaching Section 2 of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 etc. They were fined £10,000 and ordered to pay costs of £5,851.50.

Speaking after the hearing, the HSE inspector: "Falls from height remain one of the most common causes of work-related fatalities in this country and the risks associated with working at height are well known."

"Companies should be aware that HSE will not hesitate to take appropriate enforcement action against those that fall below the required standard."

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What you must do;

1. Ensure you have identified **all** routine and non routine work tasks
2. Ensure you have access to competent health & safety advice
3. Check risk assessments are in place to cover **all** work tasks (where there is a significant risk of harm)
4. Check all safety controls/procedures have been **implemented**
5. **Monitor compliance** with safety controls/procedures with records are available to demonstrate this
6. **Promptly address any non compliance** with safety controls/procedures

Should you require any further information or support in implementing the requirements of this alert please contact your [Health & Safety Team](#)

Page 2 of 2

Traffic light key	
Red alerts	Mandatory - where immediate action may be required
Amber alerts	Mandatory - with a timescale for action that may be required.
Green alerts	Information only