



SUBJECT: HSE URGES SCHOOLS TO REVIEW TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLANS

RECIPIENTS: All Lincolnshire Schools

ISSUE DATE: November 2018 **REF:** HSB122

The HSE has urged all schools to review their on-site traffic arrangements and design layouts following the death of a 15-year-old pupil. The boy had been crossing the road to board his bus home when he was knocked over by a school minibus.

An inquest found the teacher to be driving the minibus at a “safe and appropriate” speed, whilst the HSE investigation found that a layby that had been created prior to the school opening in 2008 was not large enough to accommodate all of the buses that parked outside the site at the end of the school day. This resulted in school buses parking across the road from the site, and in pupils boarding buses from the road, rather than the pavement. The court was told that there had been a number of “near misses” before the boy’s death, with a bus driver describing the situation at the end of the school day as a “free for all”.

The HSE has urged all schools to review traffic arrangements within their grounds, and where possible design layouts to ensure that pupils are separated from moving traffic. “Planning and parking should take into account ‘desire lines’, which are the routes most people will choose to take,” added HSE Inspector Helen Turner. “Children may not be risk-aware, there will be a rush of children all leaving school at once, and they will race for the back seat. This unpredictable behaviour makes it all the more important that transport risk is properly managed, and regularly reviewed.”

Schools are required to assess the risk from vehicle movements on their premises and manage those risks in line with current workplace transport guidance, which recommends segregation, marking and lighting of vehicle routes, and ensuring that transport safety at every workplace should start with the creation of a ‘safe site’. Risk assessments should include vehicle movements occurring immediately outside the school premises, which may be associated with school activities, such as staff arriving and leaving work, school buses delivering pupils, or delivery vehicles.

The Council pleaded guilty to breaching Section 3(1) of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and was fined £300,000 and ordered to pay costs of £29,228.

[LCC: Vehicles on Premises](#)

[HSE: Vehicles at Work – Traffic Management](#)

If you require further assistance or clarification on the subject please contact:
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