

DISPLAY SCREEN EQUIPMENT PROCEDURE

Appleton Wiske CP School

General Statement

It is our policy that all computer (display screen) users will be assessed once they commence employment with us. This will help us determine whether or not they can be classified as users” for the purposes of current legal requirements.

This assessment will be carried out by completing a Display Screen Equipment (DSE) risk assessment. This will then determine whether or not any further action is required. Further advice can be obtained from your HandS adviser.

Legal Position

The law relating to the use of DSE equipment, such as computers, is covered by the Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992 (the DSE Regulations). These Regulations set down a series of minimum standards for the workstations used by DSE users. This includes seating, lighting levels and workstation layout. We have also incorporated the amendments made to these Regulations in 2002.

Definition of User

The Guidance to the DSE Regulations defines a ‘user’ as someone who uses a computer for ‘continuous spells of an hour or more at a time’ on a ‘more or less daily’ basis.

Procedures

In order to comply with the DSE Regulations, we have introduced some procedures which are to be followed by all staff, these are as follows:

- All new employees who are required to use computers as part of their job role will be given a self-assessment DSE risk assessment to complete within 2 weeks of starting work with us. It is the duty of the Head Teacher to provide this to all new starters.
- All existing employees should have completed a risk assessment. However, should a member of staff change workstations or become a DSE user for the first time, then another one should be completed. This should be done shortly after the change in location or job role. Whilst care has been taken to ensure that the risk assessment is self-explanatory, any queries can be referred to your line manager.
- Where the risk assessment identifies problems, such as glare, it is the responsibility of the individual’s line manager to ensure that these are rectified.
- Staff are actively encouraged to try and rotate their job tasks in order to spend a few minutes an hour away from the computer screen. This time should be spent engaged in work duties such as telephone calls and general office administration. If any employee feels that their workload does not permit adequate breaks, this should be brought to the attention of the

individual's line manager. Where possible, this situation will be rectified.

- Where necessary, staff will be provided with training and information in order to help them set up their workstation correctly.

Employees Duties

Employees are expected to complete the self-assessment DSE risk assessment in a timely manner. They are also required to set up and operate their workstations correctly. In the unlikely event that any difficulties are experienced with workstations, employees should bring this to the attention of their line manager as soon as possible. Each employee is also expected to abide by the procedures laid down in this policy.

Laptop/Tablet Users

Some of our staff may use laptops/tablets instead of, or in addition to desktop computers. This is most likely to apply to those who spend much of their day outside the office. If so, this policy should be read in conjunction with our Laptop/Tablet Health and Safety Procedure. This contains guidelines on the safe use of laptops whilst being used in less than ideal conditions, such as cars.

Signed:	Mr Neil Clark Headteacher
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