

Introduction



There is nothing better than having some money in your

pocket to spend on the things you enjoy. And knowing that you earned it all yourself makes it feel just that bit more satisfying!



Unless you are lucky enough to still get pocket



money you probably have, or are thinking about getting, a part time

job that fits in with school and seeing your friends.

But have you ever thought about **your** health and safety at work? You may think that you are safe at work and nothing could ever happen to you, but **accidents do happen and next time it could be you.**



Why should I worry about health and safety at work?

To make sure you are healthy and safe at work your employer and you (**yes, you!**) have duties under the **Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974.**

As an employee you must take care of yourself at work by not putting yourself in any danger. You must also co-operate fully with your employer. For example, if your employer asks you to



wear rubber gloves to wash up dishes, then you must do so.



Your employer must also:

- Provide a safe place of work
- Provide safe plant and equipment
- Make sure work is carried out in a safe manner
- Make sure other employees are safe and also know what to do

Enforcement of the Act



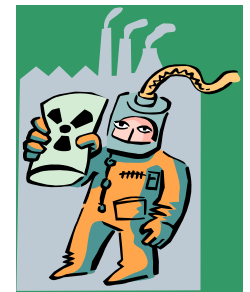
Environmental Health Officers that work for Brighton & Hove City Council enforce the **Act** at most workplaces in the area. They inspect

workplaces to make sure its safe. If it isn't safe they may take action against the employer to get things right.

What work can't I do?

You can have a part-time job at the age of 13 in the UK. But there are restrictions on what sort of work you can do.

You cannot be employed to do work which is beyond your physical or psychological capacity, or which involves exposure to chemical agents, toxic material, radiation, or extreme cold, heat or vibration.



You can't work with radiation!

You can only do light work, and this is to protect you. You may not be aware of the hazards in the workplace, simply due to your lack of experience in having a job.

Starting work

There is a lot to take in on your first few days at work, but health and safety is one of the first things your employer should talk to you about. He/she may talk you through things, or ask you to read something about the rules in your workplace.



Cleaning



Here are a few items that you **must** be told about your workplace:

- ✓ Health and safety rules, e.g. no smoking areas

- ✓ Fire and other emergency procedures
- ✓ Who to report accidents to
- ✓ The Health and Safety Policy (only if there are 5+ employees)
- ✓ The Health and Safety Law poster
- ✓ Any risky jobs or areas, and how to do your job safely
- ✓ Where the canteen, toilets and rest area are situated

If you have a job and don't know about some of these things make sure you **ask your employer** about them.

What do I need to know?



If you are under 18, your employer must carry out a **Risk Assessment** before employing you, taking into account your inexperience in the job as this may pose risk to health and safety. A **Risk Assessment** is a careful examination of what could cause harm to people in the workplace.

You may need **training** so that you can do your work without putting yourself or others in danger. Good supervision will help your employer know how you are getting on and check that your training has been effective.

Sometimes things go wrong at work...

In 2002, a 14-year-old suffered severe burns while refilling a generator on a food stand with petrol. And in 2000, a building firm was found guilty of employing a 14- and a 15-year-old to remove asbestos, which can cause cancer, from a West Yorkshire factory.

So think about what you are being asked to do. If you don't feel safe - ask for help from your employer or tell a family member.

Where can I find out more?

Health & Safety and Licensing Team
Tel. 01273 294429 Email ehl.safety@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Or Education Welfare Officer, David Noble,
Tel. 01273 293573 Email david.noble@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Or **Connexions-Direct** provide information & advice for young people aged 13-19.
Text on 07766 413219 or Tel. 0808 0013219 or
Visit their website at www.connexions-direct.com

This leaflet was produced by Brighton & Hove City Council 11/06.



Brighton & Hove

Health and Safety at Work Leaflet Young Worker Safety



Newspaper Delivery



Shop Work



Waiting tables

