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Are You Fully Compliant with Your Sponsorship Duties?

With an impending teacher shortage one solution is to look to overseas teachers. However, for teachers this involves a process of sponsorship. The process for doing this has its complexities, some of which we outlined in our last edition, and which are increasing year on year; but they can be overcome. But what about the continuing responsibilities that a school must meet in sponsoring an overseas teacher? These can be demanding.

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Sexual Harassment in Schools is on the Rise – What can be Done?

Research into sexual harassment and violence in schools presents evidence of a deeply concerning and bleak nature, ranging from rape, sexual assault and inappropriate touching to ‘sexting’ and name calling. Pupils (mainly boys towards girls and many still in primary school), are increasingly found to be harassing their classmates. Significant recent reports emphasise the urgency of the issue.

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Update on The Prevent Duty

In last month’s bulletin we highlighted the importance of the schools’ Prevent Duty being seen as part of the school’s safeguarding duty. The Prevent Duty requires schools to have ‘due regard to the need to have to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.’ This is a statutory duty; not an option.

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30 hours of free childcare provisions - Opportunities and Problems

The Government policy for the provision of 30 hours of free nursery places came into force on 1st September 2017, increasing the previous provision of 15 hours free childcare. The aim of this policy is to “help families by reducing the cost of childcare and supporting parents into work or to work more hours should they wish to”. There is no legal requirement on childcare providers to offer these places and there are problems that are holding back some providers from doing so.

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Investigations into Misconduct - How to Conduct a Fair and Comprehensive Investigation

One of the more challenging tasks a school may have to undertake is an investigation into allegations of misconduct against a member of staff. Several questions arise: How should the investigation be undertaken? What can be included? How should the results be presented?

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Caretaker accommodation on school site

It goes without saying that caretakers play a crucial role in the maintenance of school premises. In order for caretakers to complete their work more effectively, it is often the case that as a condition of their employment they are required to live in a property on the school site. But what happens when a caretaker's employment ends? Does the caretaker have any rights to remain in the property?

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GDPR: Why Your Contracts Need Updating

By now, your preparations should be well under way for the GDPR deadline of 25 May 2018. If this raises alarm bells, please see our recent [Thirteen Point Guide to the GDPR](#) to help you get up to speed. Your focus to-date is likely to have been on your organisation's use of personal data. However, it is really important that you don't forget your contracts – specifically any data processing contracts that you have (or should have) in place.

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Brief Alerts December 2017



- **Stone King GDPR Guidance Pack for schools – now available!**
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- **Lockdown and Alerts**
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- **Mental Health**
- **Last Rites for NCTL**
- **Children’s Commissioner**
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- **All New and Refurbished Schools to Have Sprinklers?**
- **New requirement for schools to give access to training providers**
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