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## Focus on Unit 4: Health and Safety in Care Settings [AS level, optional, externally assessed]

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### OVERVIEW

- Looks at how legislation influences safe practice in care settings.
- Understanding the importance of maintaining safety and security.
- Safe moving and handling techniques.
- Contribution to infection control.

### SUITABLE TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES

- Talks or interviews with a member of the Health and Safety Executive could give an excellent insight into health and safety legislation and the role of the HSE.
- Talks from the fire brigade are useful to inform candidates of the risks involved and procedures which must be followed to evacuate a building.
- Candidates could complete 'moving and handling' or first aid qualifications to gather information and also prepare them for future employment.
- Carry out risk assessments of different health and social care settings/work experience placements. These are useful to develop greater understanding of safety features and measures that could be applied.
- Talks from an Environmental Health officer and/or managers of care settings to gain an insight into infection control.

### POSSIBLE PITFALLS

- Too much focus on content of legislation means candidates limit their understanding of the application of the laws in care settings.
- Candidates must know what actually happens at each stage of risk assessment.
- Candidates write too much information which does not apply to the question asked.
- Candidates must have an understanding of the importance of taking precautions to control the spread of infection is needed.

### RESOURCES

- Health and Safety and The Law posters are essential.
- Health and Safety policies from various care settings.
- Staff handbooks and induction information from various care settings.
- The Trident Trust website has useful information for health and safety on work experience and interactive test which can be taken by candidates ([www.thetridenttrust.org.uk](http://www.thetridenttrust.org.uk)).
- Education business Partnerships may be willing to run Health and Safety courses for candidates.

## REVISION AND EXAM PREPARATION

- Use exemplar/past papers as much as you can as you teach to introduce candidates as early as possible to the format of the paper.
- Practice using diagrams/illustrations to carry out risk assessments as these will be a feature of the external assessment.
- Use a highlighter on the paper to identify the command words – explain, describe, evaluate.
- Try to encourage candidates to only fill the required space on the paper as this can focus their attention and prevent ‘waffle’.
- A good revision schedule is vital in order to cover all classroom activity/teaching.