

# Educational Visits Advisory Service

A comprehensive service to enhance safety on educational visits that reduces hassle and increases flexibility for teachers, improves consistency and compliance across the MAT and bolsters the Board's confidence that best practise is being followed.

- ▶ Are schools within your MAT taking an inconsistent approach to visit planning and risk management?
- ▶ Getting conflicting advice?
- ▶ Different visit IT systems being used within the MAT?
- ▶ Visit leaders frustrated by red tape and compliance issues?
- ▶ Unsure how you'd cope in a major incident?

**Pharos Response has the answers**



# How we can help

The Pharos Response Educational Visits Advisory Service (EVAS) can support your MAT in the following ways:

- ▶ **Unlimited trips and visits advice** for compliance, risk management and H&S from a dedicated Visits Adviser who is also backed up by a team of specialists with experience and qualifications in nearly all the trips you could possibly consider!
- ▶ **Best practice policies and procedures** implemented, specific to your schools, to help ensure consistent MAT-wide compliance. This can include the introduction of a 'Learning Zone', allowing teachers to safely take their class out of school at short notice with no additional paperwork (to pre-approved locations).
- ▶ **24/7 critical incident support** from experienced incident handlers who can provide immediate practical support and advice to the visit leaders at the scene, as well as more strategic advice to the SLT. The wider 24/7 team includes crisis communications and PR professionals, social media gurus, trauma counsellors and operational risk management and health & safety specialists. The help you need help is only a call away.
- ▶ **Optional visit planning IT system** designed in partnership with the Outdoor Education Advisers' Panel with direct links to National Guidance for educational visits and to LOtC Quality Badge and AALA License holders. It offers a single log-in for central MAT staff and a more user friendly platform for individual visit leaders to save them time. Of course we can also work with your existing visit planning system.



# Benefits of the service

## ► Benefits for the MAT Board

- Confidence, governance and a consistent approach to trip safety management across all schools
- Single source of advice for all trips and all schools reducing potential conflicts across the MAT
- Implementation of a consistent MAT-wide approvals mechanism
- Greater support and protection for busy school staff
- A scalable solution that can easily be adopted by new schools as the MAT grows
- Access to specialist second opinions for more complex/higher risk trips
- Invaluable support in the event of a major incident
- Personal service from a named and dedicated senior Adviser.

## ► Benefits for each Academy

- A more time efficient system and process for managing trips and visits
- 'Learning Zone' concept enables teachers freedom to conduct spur-of-the-moment visits/fixtures to pre-approved sites without any trip specific red tape or approvals required
- Access to day-to-day visit advice and support whenever you need it
- Specialist advice available from OEAP members and other industry specialists to suit your needs
- Additional support to help ensure trips can happen that may otherwise not have been possible
- Evidence of compliance to good practice, should it ever be required
- Support and CPD training for busy teachers
- Confidence for Head teachers that visit leaders have followed due process
- Direct access to current National Governing Body guidelines on trips and visits .

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# About Pharos Response

**Pharos Response, with a pedigree in school trip management** is a member of the British Safety Council, Outdoor Education Advisers' Panel and an Organisational Member of Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC), working with MATs in addition to a wide range of individual schools (State & Independent). We also work with a large number of adventure, travel and charity challenge brands in addition to supporting National Citizen Service (NCS) nationwide.

Although a great deal of our time is spent helping to prevent incidents from happening, we have also supported our clients in handling a wide range of complex and serious incidents. Examples include: an overturned coach on a school trip overseas which caused life-changing injuries; a student suicide at home with potential links to peer bullying and an armed hotel raid by robbers on a school trip in western Africa.

Additional services Pharos provides include school security and school trip audits, training and incident simulations. MATs have found our lockdown procedures, response templates and Senior Leadership Team security workshops hugely beneficial in the changing security climate.



Call or email us to find out how we can support your MAT. We will listen to your needs and come back with a detailed costed proposal and a sample service level agreement.

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