

Keeping Pedestrians Safe In The Workplace



Pedestrians

Drivers and pedestrians need enough time to react effectively if they meet one another in the workplace (for example, where there is limited visibility and noise).

Where it is reasonable to do so, you should provide separate routes for pedestrians to keep them away from vehicles. The most effective way to do this is to separate pedestrians from vehicle activity, by making routes entirely separate. Where possible, pedestrian traffic routes should represent the paths people would naturally follow, to encourage people to stay on them.

If vehicles are also operated inside buildings, signage and markings on the floor must be provided to inform both drivers and pedestrians. Suitable barriers or guardrails must be provided at any pedestrian walkway that leads directly onto a vehicle route and at both.

Provide adequate clearance between the vehicles and pedestrians and ensure that there are no obstructions along the route that could create a trapping or tripping hazard.

On shared routes used by both pedestrians and automatic (driverless) vehicles, ensure that vehicles do not trap pedestrians. The vehicles should be fitted with safeguards to keep the risk of injury low if they were to collide with a pedestrian.



Pedestrian Crossings

Where pedestrian and vehicle routes cross in the workplace, you must provide appropriate, suitably marked, and signposted crossing points. Including dropped kerbs where the walkway is raised due to the driving surface and barriers or guardrails to prevent pedestrians from walking directly into the traffic.

When designing the pedestrian crossing you must consider the location, ensuring it provides good visibility and stopping distance. Consider whether pedestrian crossing lights are needed and how wide the crossing needs to be, this will depend on the size of vehicles that will be using it.

Temporary Road Crossings

Temporary road crossings are used regularly in industries such as construction. The law says you must organise a construction site so that vehicles and pedestrians using site routes can move around safely.

The routes need to be suitable for the persons or vehicles using them, in suitable positions and sufficient in number and size.

The majority of construction transport accidents result from the inadequate separation of pedestrians and vehicles.



This can usually be avoided by careful planning, particularly at the design stage, and by controlling vehicle operations during construction work.

The following actions will help keep pedestrians and vehicles apart on construction sites:

- Entrances and exits provide separate entry and exit gateways for pedestrians and vehicles.
- Walkways provide firm, level, well-drained pedestrian walkways that take a direct route where possible.
- **Crossings** where walkways cross roadways, provide a clearly signed and lit crossing point where drivers and pedestrians can see each other clearly.
- Visibility make sure drivers driving out onto public roads can see both ways along the footway before they move on to it.
- Obstructions do not block walkways so that pedestrians must step onto the vehicle route.
- Barriers think about installing a barrier between the roadway and walkway.

Footbridges

Footbridges are good examples of complete segregation in the workplace. You may also need to consider access for disabled people.



Barriers and Markings

Effective ways to keep vehicles away from pedestrian areas include:

- Protective barriers and guardrails, at the entrance/ exit to the building, corners and at any pedestrian walkway that lead directly onto a vehicle route.
- Clear markings to set apart vehicle and pedestrian routes.
- Raised kerbs to mark vehicle and pedestrian areas.

Shared Premises

When employees of more than one company are at work and using vehicles on the same site, this is known as a shared workplace. Whenever this occurs, those involved should be fully aware of their roles and responsibilities before any activity is undertaken. All vehicle movements must be planned and clear instructions and information should be available to those involved. If you do not own the site, you should liaise with your landlord as you both have legal responsibilities to ensure pedestrians and drivers are safe.

Visitors

Ensure that visiting pedestrians report to the site office and are always accompanied by a supervisor. Inform visitors of your site safety policies including your workplace transport procedures before they are allowed into areas where vehicles work. Even visiting pedestrians must wear high visibility clothing.





Safe Driver | Safe Site | Safe Vehicle

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