

# **SSITA**

## **Safe Schools Information Technology Alliance**

December 2013

**SSITA** is a rapidly growing alliance of organisations and experts working together for a safe learning and teaching environment in schools, nurseries and colleges.

Dear Headteacher,

It has happily come to our attention that some headteachers, including those of both independent and state schools, have been reading and assimilating the material that we have been sending them on the risks of allowing the children in their care to be irradiated with [Wi-Fi, a Class 2B carcinogen](#)<sup>1</sup> (World Health Organisation/International Agency for Research on Cancer).

A growing number of you are quietly taking laudable pre-emptive and precautionary measures to reduce children's exposure to this radiation.

1. Some headteachers are realising that if the Wi-Fi was "piggy backed" onto an existing hard-wired system, they can indeed revert to using that hard-wired system, as recommended by the [Council of Europe in Resolution 1815](#)<sup>2</sup> in 2011.
2. Others are training their teachers to turn off the WAPs (routers) when not in use. We learn from some parents that children are reminding their teachers to do so!

Headteachers are looking to see what they can achieve in the short term to reduce their children's and staff's exposure to Wi-Fi, instead of waiting for years until the Department of Health decides that the evidence stacks up. We believe that we already have enough evidence for urgent action and to substantiate this we refer you to [our letter to Rt. Hon Jeremy Hunt](#)<sup>3</sup> (Secretary of State for Health) and especially to our list of references given there.

### **Teacher wins appeal for damaging effects of Wi-Fi on health**

A British teacher whose health is seriously affected by Wi-Fi, mobile phones, phone masts and other microwave producing technology has recently won an appeal in a Tribunal. The teacher was made so ill by the pulsating microwave radiation from Wi-Fi routers throughout the school and by the use of mobile phones by staff and pupils, that giving up work was the only option.

Since leaving this environment the teacher has fully recovered and is able to function normally when away from all sources of pulsating microwave radiation. However, this has led to a drastic deterioration of lifestyle and income because of the proliferation of such technologies in public places.

The Judge stated that "were it not for EMR the appellant would lead a normal life with little or no functional impairment". Contact SSITA for more details.

Please also look at the TUC document "[Occupational Cancer - a Workplace guide](#)"<sup>4</sup>, where on Page 6 it states that "caution should be used to prevent exposure to substances in Group 2B."

A look at many of the topics on our website, including our [Complaint to the HPA](#)<sup>5</sup>, will reveal the depth of our concerns. A recent addition to the **SSITA** website is our Doctors' Initiative letter:

[Open letter by British medical doctors: Health and safety of Wi-Fi and mobile phones](#)<sup>6</sup>

We have also put on the **SSITA** website, under "[Electrosensitivity in Teachers and School Personnel](#)"<sup>7</sup>, a link to a [case study report](#) prepared by one of our teachers, entitled "[Wi-Fi radiation in schools](#)"<sup>8</sup>.

The exposures within a classroom of wireless laptops are illustrated in two of our [videos](#)<sup>9</sup>. See this section on the **SSITA** website and the first two videos from the Australian website, [Wi-Fi in Schools Australia](#)<sup>10</sup>.

The attractiveness of Wi-Fi as a learning tool in schools is significantly decreased if it could be damaging the cognitive abilities and brain development of pupils. Please download these [studies](#)<sup>11</sup> on the [Wifiinschols.org.uk](#) website. They explain:

The studies used a Wi-Fi access point (1.5m away), giving a field strength of 0.49V/m. This is well within the exposures experienced by someone using a Wi-Fi enabled laptop.

Altering the brain activity of children and young people by the presence of a Wi-Fi signal for prolonged periods of time is likely to affect brain development.

Is this appropriate within an educational or examination setting?

Some headteachers are quietly dismantling Wi-Fi. If you take steps to reduce the exposures of children and staff in your school, you don't need to shout this from the rooftops. It is the taking action to improve the safety of your school that matters.

Marko Markov and Yuri Grigoriev state<sup>12</sup> in "[Wi-Fi technology - an uncontrolled global experiment on the health of mankind](#)"<sup>13</sup> that, "We should stop telling the scientists, politicians and general population that Wi-Fi is harmless. Who else if not we? When if not now?"

With best wishes to you all for a happy Christmas,

**SSITA**

For more information, contact Diana Hanson (National Co-ordinator for **SSITA**) today.

**Call 0121 704 9988**

Email [contactssita11@virginmedia.com](mailto:contactssita11@virginmedia.com) or visit [www.ssita.org.uk](http://www.ssita.org.uk)

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.iarc.fr/en/media-centre/pr/2011/pdfs/pr208\\_E.pdf](http://www.iarc.fr/en/media-centre/pr/2011/pdfs/pr208_E.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <http://assembly.coe.int/mainf.asp?link=/documents/adoptedtext/ta11/eres1815.htm>

<sup>3</sup> [SSITA letter to Rt.Hon. Jeremy Hunt. MP](#)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.tuc.org.uk/sites/default/files/occupationalcancer.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://ssita.org.uk/the-health-protection-agency/>

<sup>6</sup> <http://ssita.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/British-doctors-letter-wifi-10-July-2013.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> <http://ssita.org.uk/teachers-and-school-personnel/>

<sup>8</sup> <http://ssita.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/WiFi-radiation-in-schools-Teachersemployers.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> <http://ssita.org.uk/videos/>

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.wifi-in-schools-australia.org/>

<sup>11</sup> <http://wifiinschols.org.uk/resources/wifi+brain+July+2011.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> Markov M & Grigoriev Y, 2013, Wi-Fi technology - an uncontrolled global experiment on the health of mankind, *Electromagnetic Biology and Medicine* 32:200-208

<sup>13</sup> [An Uncontrolled Global Experiment on the Health of Mankind - Marko Markov Yuri G. Grigoriev](#)

