

Trading Standards and Young Consumers

Norfolk County Council Trading Standards service want all consumers in Norfolk to be confident safe consumers. Through our wide and varied role we aim to inform and educate consumers on topics including 'shopping' rights, safety of products and understanding food and nutrition.

We are keen to develop partnerships with school to assist young people to gain this knowledge and grow up as safe confident consumers.

To enable this Trading Standards will be promoting a number of projects, competitions, activities and materials to schools. If your school requires any further information on any of the information given here, or to register to participate please contact Stephen Maunder (Trading Standards Education Officer) on 0844 800 8013 or email trading.standards@norfolk.gov.uk

- **Citizenship Curriculum Support** – Trading standards can provide teachers with advice and resource materials to enable them to teach the consumer education-related aspects of the Citizenship curriculum including
 - Key Stage 2 – Years 5 & 6 – Making Consumer Choices
 - Key Stage 3 – Year 7 – What is a Consumer ?
 - Year 8 – Consumer / Trader Rights & Responsibilities
 - Year 9 – Exercising my Consumer Rights
 - Key Stage 4 – Year 10 – Practical Consumer Law
 - Year 11 – Personal Finance
- **Playsafe 2009** – Playsafe has been designed by the Trading Standards Institute in conjunction with the British Toy and Hobby Association to encourage a greater awareness of safety features in the design of toys.

Playsafe provides a vehicle not only for worthwhile study information but also the opportunity for innovative individual or team project work in a classroom situation and is suitable for students aged 7-11, 12-14 and 15-17.

The essence of the competition is to design a toy (on paper) paying special attention to safety. The design should be produced for a toy suitable for children from 3 to 7 years of age and both the design and any supporting notes should be presented on one side of a sheet of A3 paper and show where applicable: -

 - Indication of safety features
 - Materials used
 - Play and development value of design elements
 - The environment in which the toy will be used (indoors, outdoors, in car, etc)
 - Whether it is designed to meet any special needs or disabilities
 - What labelling and/or instructions will be included on the packaging
 - Rules

- Designs will be judged in two entrant age groups 6-11 and 12-17 (pupils to be within one of these ranges on 1st March 2009)
- Schools may submit a maximum of four designs per age range, and only one per pupil.

Further information on Playsafe 2009 can be found at www.tradingstandards.gov.uk/yconsumers/playsafe.htm or www.btha.co.uk/value_of_play/playsafe.php

- **Consumer Challenge Quiz 2009** – The Consumer Challenge quiz is a fun, national competition for children in Special Schools. It has received an award from the European Commission for the most original idea for a consumer campaign.

The competition is designed to help students with moderate learning difficulties become more aware of their role as citizens. Questions cover consumer issues such as signs and symbols, safety, shoppers' rights and legal matters. The competition is open to any Special School within Norfolk.

- **Young Consumer of the Year 2009** - Young Consumers of The Year is a unique competition that involves hundreds of schools from across the country, that rise to the challenge to become the nation's top young consumers of 2009.

Co-ordinated by the Trading Standards Institute, it invites teams of four aged between 14 and 18 years old to compete in a knockout quiz which tests them on a range of consumer issues including:

- Consumer Rights and Responsibilities
- Money and Finance
- Food and Health
- Safety and the Environment
- Europe

The competition makes the competitors aware of their responsibilities as well as their rights and gives them essential life skills as they prepare for the world of work and, for teachers, on many occasions links to the Citizenship Curriculum.

Norfolk Trading Standards is happy to support any Norfolk school that wishes to enter the competition in 2009.

Further information and rules of the competition can be found at www.tradingstandards.gov.uk/yconsumers/comp.htm.

Scam alerts will contain an active link to the sign up web page (on the word here) so no other contact details will be attached. I will also be asking for it to be a separate 'item' on the courier to the other parts.