

Does your child's school contain asbestos?

Later today a debate will take place at Westminster on asbestos in schools. This issue needs to be brought into the public domain. A policy of progressive removal has been called for by teaching unions. Paul Rowan MP, the Liberal Democrat Shadow Spokesman on Work and Pensions is leading the debate

Following the debate the **BBC1 "Inside Out"** programme is reporting on asbestos in schools. The programme is due to be shown across the regions **tonight at 7.30pm.** [Click here for BBC link.](#)

Even a very small amount of exposure to asbestos can cause mesothelioma, a fatal cancer caused only by asbestos. It is a sad fact that the majority of schools still contain asbestos. At present the government are electing to 'manage' the asbestos as opposed to a complete removal. Managing asbestos can be effective however evidence has shown that there are a number of schools where asbestos is not being managed effectively.

There have been a significant number of teachers who have developed mesothelioma from working in this supposedly 'low risk' profession. If teachers are developing mesothelioma it is possible that pupils are also being exposed and may, one day, die as a result of this deadly exposure.

For further information please visit: <http://www.asbestosexposureschools.co.uk/>

[John Pickering and Partners LLP](#)- Specialist [mesothelioma compensation solicitors](#)

We are a specialist personal injury law firm. We have been handling claims for industrial disease for over 30 years. Most of our work involves acting for asbestos disease victims. We only act for the sufferers of asbestos diseases and never act for the organisations that caused the asbestos exposure or their insurers. We have an ethical approach and pledge to donate 10% of our net profits every year to good causes that help asbestos sufferers. [Click here](#) to find out about our donations to good causes. We have also been involved in most of the landmark judgments that shape this area of law. Find out more [about us](#) or find out about [our reported cases](#). We are on the panels of several asbestos support groups and are ranked highly by legal guides. [Click here](#) to find out more about what others have said about us.

[John Pickering and Partners LLP](#) is a niche legal practice that has represented Claimants in the leading asbestos "test cases" in the last ten years. The firm

represented Sylvia Barker in *Barker v Corus (UK) Plc*, a case that highlighted the legal tactics of employers and insurers trying to cut back their compensation liabilities to mesothelioma sufferers, and which prompted the amendment of the Compensation Act 2006 to ensure full compensation for mesothelioma claims. The firm represented two of the three Claimants in the *Fairchild appeal*, in which the insurance industry tried unsuccessfully to block compensation altogether for mesothelioma sufferers unable to identify which of two or more sources of asbestos exposure had caused their illness.

The firm represented Alice Jefferson, a mesothelioma sufferer, whose illness and compensation claim against Cape Asbestos were featured in the important documentary "*Alice: A Fight For Life.*" Shown by Yorkshire Television in July 1982, the programme was an important catalyst for legal change and public awareness of the plight of mesothelioma and other asbestos disease sufferers and a prompt for important legal reform.

Mesothelioma is a type of cancer that affects the lining of certain bodily organs. It most commonly affects the lining of the lungs (the pleura) but it can affect other areas including organs in the abdominal cavity (the peritoneum).

According to the [British Lung Foundation](#), more than 2,000 people are diagnosed with mesothelioma every year in the UK and there is one mesothelioma death every five hours. The number of deaths from mesothelioma increased from 153 in 1968 to 1,969 in 2004 and is expected to peak at 2,450 between 2011 and 2015.

The [British Lung Foundation](#), supported by John Pickering and Partners LLP, launched the first Action Mesothelioma Day on 27th February 2006, to raise awareness about mesothelioma, to improve the treatment and care of mesothelioma patients, and to lobby for better funding for research into mesothelioma and for the protection and education of people working with asbestos.

If you need advice about an asbestos related illness, [contact us](#) now for information about making a claim for compensation.