

Teaching resources on noise:

- Hear This teaching pack: KS 1-2
- Neighbour Noise and Me: KS 1-2
- Sounding Off: KS 3-4
- Noise Action Week activity sheet

(All the above available from EPUK, www.environmental-protection.org.uk)

About Noise Action Week



Noise Action Week, an annual event coordinated by national charity Environmental Protection UK, inspires communities and organisations around the country to raise awareness of the impacts of excessive noise, come up with solutions to noise problems — and have fun while doing it.

Noise Action Week 2011 takes place from 23-27 May and will focus on noise and schools — the importance of a healthy noise environment for children and teachers — and noise in our gardens and open spaces.

For more information, contact: noiseactionweek@environmental-protection.org.uk, call on (01273) 878770 or visit noiseactionweek.org.uk



Environmental Protection UK is a leading national charity that provides expert analysis, advice and advocacy on air pollution, land quality, waste and noise, and how they affect communities.

We are made up of 1,800 members, including policy makers, environmental professionals working in local authorities, academics and business leaders.

Formed in 1898, EPUK is based in Brighton, East Sussex with 10 regional offices throughout the UK.

For more information about our work, visit www.environmental-protection.org.uk



The Institute of Acoustics is the UK's professional body for those working in acoustics, noise and vibration, comprising 3,000 members including engineers, scientists, educators, lawyers, occupational hygienists, architects and environmental health officers.

The Institute of Acoustics is a nominated body of the Engineering Council, offering registration at Chartered and Incorporated Engineer levels.

For more information about the IOA's work, visit ioa.org.uk or call (01727) 848195

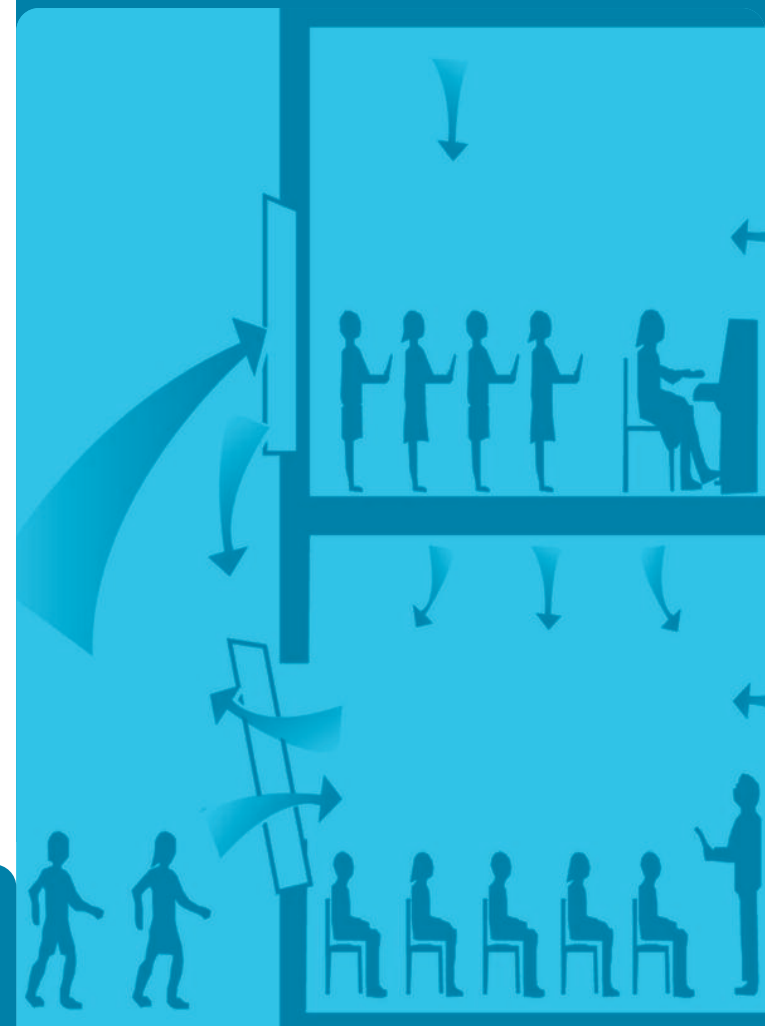
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Noise and Your School



Quiet in class!

In a school, students need to be able to hear their teachers to enable them to learn, and they need quiet places to study.

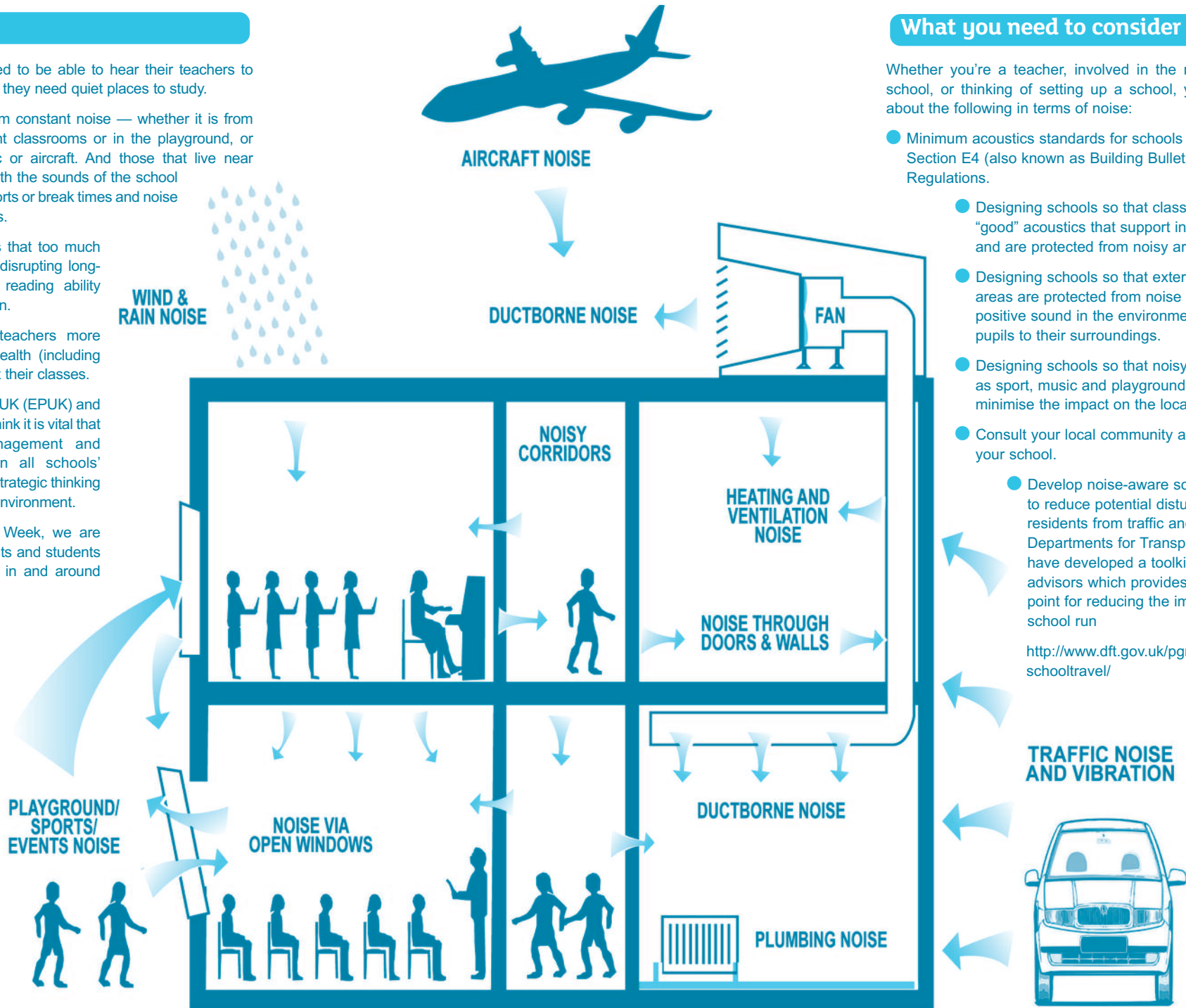
In reality, many suffer from constant noise — whether it is from other students in adjacent classrooms or in the playground, or noise outside from traffic or aircraft. And those that live near schools have to put up with the sounds of the school run, the exuberance of sports or break times and noise from out-of-hours activities.

Scientific research shows that too much noise affects learning by disrupting long-term memory, impairing reading ability and affecting concentration.

Noise can also make teachers more prone to stress and ill health (including voice strain), and interrupt their classes.

Environmental Protection UK (EPUK) and the Institute of Acoustics think it is vital that a plan for noise management and reduction is included in all schools' operational plans, and in strategic thinking for improving the school environment.

As part of Noise Action Week, we are calling on teachers, parents and students to tackle noise problems in and around their schools.



What you need to consider

Whether you're a teacher, involved in the management of a school, or thinking of setting up a school, you need to think about the following in terms of noise:

- Minimum acoustics standards for schools – found in Section E4 (also known as Building Bulletin 93) of Building Regulations.
- Designing schools so that classrooms have “good” acoustics that support inclusive learning and are protected from noisy areas.
- Designing schools so that external teaching areas are protected from noise and make use of positive sound in the environment to connect pupils to their surroundings.
- Designing schools so that noisy activities, such as sport, music and playground activities, minimise the impact on the local community.
- Consult your local community about plans for your school.
 - Develop noise-aware school travel plans to reduce potential disturbance to residents from traffic and people – the Departments for Transport and Education have developed a toolkit for school travel advisors which provides a useful starting point for reducing the impact of the school run

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/sustainable/schooltravel/>

TRAFFIC NOISE AND VIBRATION

