



JTM Service

Commercial Laundry Equipment
& Dishwasher Experts

Commercial Laundry & Dishwashing Equipment

Complying With The Water Regulations In Your Care Home

Commercial laundry equipment and dishwashers in your Care or Nursing Home need to comply with The Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999 ('The Water Regulations'. What are the risks, and how do you prevent non-compliance?

With over 40 years' experience, at JTM Service we are specialists in commercial laundry equipment and dishwashers, supporting the Care sector. In this guide we explain more about the reasons for The Water Regulations, and how you can ensure that you safeguard against non-compliance.



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Risks

When a business uses water from the public mains supply, such as with a washing machine or dishwasher, there is a risk that contaminated water could flow back in the reverse direction and get into the public water supply. This is called 'Backflow'. The Water Regulations are in place to set out the requirements to prevent this.

Requirements

Businesses are required to use laundry equipment and dishwashers which:

- meets the Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999 ("Water Regulations"), which includes having water fittings which prevent 'backflow'
- is installed and operating correctly

Regulation 4 of the Water Regulations provides more details of the requirements for the fittings to be used, for example:

- Regulation 4(1)(a) states they are to be 'of an appropriate quality and standard'
- Schedule 1 sets out different categories of water being used called 'fluid categories'. These range from:
 - fluid category 1 (drinking water); up to
 - fluid category 5 (fluid representing a serious health hazard, including fluid containing faecal material or other human waste)
- Schedule 2, paragraph 15(3) states that the device "shall be appropriate to the highest applicable fluid category to which the fitting is subject"

In Care and Healthcare settings, fittings should meet the requirements for fluid category 5.



Compliance

To prevent Backflow and therefore meet the Water Regulations, the washing machine or dishwasher should be fitted with an 'air gap' and a 'check valve assembly', in line with the applicable fluid category (category 5). The appliance then needs to be installed correctly at the time of installation.

There are a number of schemes that manufacturers use to demonstrate compliance with Regulation 4 of The Water Regulations. The most common method of demonstrating compliance previously was with WRAS approval, but there are now other schemes used, and the 3 most common are:

- 'WRAS' Approval (Water Regulations Advisory Scheme)
- NSF Reg4 Certification Scheme
- Kiwa UK Regulation 4 Product Approval Scheme ('KUKreg4')

How Can We Help ?

We supply commercial washing machines and dishwashers from leading manufacturers which are certified to meet the Water Regulations, for example with WRAS Approval, NSF Reg4 Certification or Kiwa UK Regulation 4 Approval. And because we specialise in the supply and installation of commercial laundry equipment and dishwashers, we ensure they are installed correctly in compliance with the Water Regulations.

To speak to us about your commercial laundry equipment and dishwasher needs, and how we can ensure you are compliant with the Water Regulations, please contact us on 0113 2572221 or info@jtmservice.co.uk



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