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A school OSH qualification – development, implementation and results

Mainstreaming OSH into Education, Brussels, 24.02.10
British Safety Council (BSC)

One of the UK’s leading health and safety organisations

Mission: to support a healthier, safer and more sustainable society

Operate in over 50 countries worldwide with 8000+ member companies

Mixture of commercial and charitable activities

Official awarding body recognised by UK Qualifications and Examinations Regulator, with a full suite of health and safety qualifications
A qualification to keep young people healthy and safe at work:

BSC Entry Level Award in Workplace Hazard Awareness
Entry Level Award in Workplace Hazard Awareness

Aim

To raise young people’s awareness of workplace hazards before they embark on work experience or their first job.
Entry Level Award in Workplace Hazard Awareness

Rationale

A young person is seriously injured in a UK workplace every 40 minutes

In the UK, in the last decade, 66 under-19s have been killed at work

No previous provision of accredited workplace health & safety training for schools
Benefits to schools

Accredited in UK National Qualifications Framework

Fits into existing programmes of study (science or work-related learning)

Provides a formal assessment outcome to the requirement of health and safety training in the UK National Curriculum

Contributes to UK school performance figures

Important component of UK 14-19 Diploma

Supported by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) – the government regulator for health and safety in the UK
Benefits to young people

Help to keep safe on work experience or in first job

Raised awareness of important health and safety issues

Increased confidence and self esteem

A recognised, accredited qualification
Supported by free teaching resources

Teacher Resource Pack including:

Student workbook
Detailed teacher guide
CD with electronic versions of the teaching materials

Supported by online learning resources (exercises, film clips etc)
Subject content

Mapped to National Occupational Standards for Health and Safety

Includes:

Identification of hazards
Safety, fire and traffic signs in the workplace
Causes of fire and preventative action
Personal Protective Equipment
Personal hygiene
First aid provision
Reporting accidents, near misses and ill health
Responsibilities of the employer and employee
Flexible approaches to delivery and assessment

Recommended 8 hours to complete learning and assessment

Assessed by a simple portfolio of evidence

Other approaches encouraged: e.g. photographs, videos, posters

Allowances made for candidates with special requirements

Five submission dates/moderation windows per year

No assessment fees
Suggestions for delivery

Deliver the qualification as part of build-up to work experience

Series of Personal, Social and Health Education (PHSE) lessons

School Workplace Hazard Awareness Day

Invite a local employer to deliver a presentation on hazards and risks in the workplace

Participate in BSC poster/video competitions
Marking and moderation

Each candidates’ work is marked by an internal assessor.

To achieve the qualification candidates must meet at least 90% of the requirements.

Upon receipt of marks, BSC requests a sample of candidate work for moderation.

If marking is satisfactory, results and certificates will be issued for the cohort.
Delivery and assessment process

1. Register as a centre
2. Enter candidates
3. Access free online teaching materials
4. Deliver learning
5. Collate portfolios
6. Submit marks
7. BSC requests moderation sample
Progression route...

Candidates can choose to progress to the (higher level) BSC Level 1 Certificate in Health and Safety at Work
A great start . . .

Launched for academic year 2007/2008

1,800 schools (35% of UK total) have participated in the programme

25,000 young people have received a qualification to date
“This is a very positive development. The pupils have benefited enormously and have thoroughly enjoyed the experience”
Anita Cook, Head Teacher, Bedwas High School

“They have enjoyed the learning and will go on work experience confident of how to be safe at work. This has been a wonderful opportunity for them”
Alex Hammond, Head Teacher, Hagley High School

“As a major employer, we fully support this excellent initiative to provide workplace hazard awareness training to school pupils”
Russel Drakeley, Health & Safety Manager, Birmingham International Airport
So why has it been a success?

Assessment and training is free (funded by BSC)

High quality of teaching resources

Flexible methods of delivery

Minimum administration required

Relevant and appropriate subject matter

Engaging and fun for the students

Qualification is recognised and accredited by UK Regulatory Authorities
The next 10 years...

BSC has committed £5 million of its charitable reserves to fund the programme over the next ten years

BSC is interested in working with international partners to extend this training (already available in British International Schools)
In the developing world…

BSC is working with volunteer organisations operating in the developing world

BSC is training volunteers to deliver basic health and safety to children in the developing world

BSC aims to reach 3,000 children in the developing world this year through volunteer programmes
Evaluating the impact of the programme

In 2010, BSC is conducting research to evaluate the impact of this qualification upon young people.

Research aims to determine its effectiveness in keeping young people healthy and safe in the workplace.

Undertaken by surveys and interviews with participating students, before/after completed the course and completed work experience.

Preliminary results expected in July 2010.
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www.britsafe.org/schools