Keeping Young Workers Safe

British Safety Council
Entry Level Award in Workplace Hazard Awareness

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Workplace injury to young people in Great Britain, 2007/08 – 2008/09

- In 2008/09 nearly 2,300 non-fatal major accidents in the workplace involving young men and 996 involving young women, between the ages of 16-24
- compares with nearly 2,600 and 1,040 for young men and women respectively for the previous statistical year 2007/08
- 13 young people died as the result of fatal accidents at work in 2008/09 compared to 23 young workers in 2007/08
- number of fatal and major industries fell between 2007/08 and 2008/09 as did the incidence rate – in the case of major incidents involving young men quite significantly
Recently published US research by the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention in April 2010 surveyed injury trends to young workers from 1998-2007:

- Fatality rate for young workers was lower than the rate for older workers (the rate increases the older workers are).
- Scale of injuries to young workers was twice as high as for older workers.
- 7.9 million young workers were treated in hospital emergency departments is staggering over the ten year period.

See “Occupational injuries and deaths among younger workers, United States: 1998-2007” – [www.cdc.gov/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5915a2.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5915a2.htm)
British Safety Council (BSC)

Independent organisation, not run by the government

A charity

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

Operate in over 50 countries worldwide with 8000+ member companies

Awarding body for qualifications, recognised by government regulator, with a range of health and safety qualifications

Keeping Young Workers Safe
A qualification to keep young people healthy and safe at work:

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

In the UK, there is no government provision of accredited workplace health & safety training for schools
Benefits to schools

Accredited in UK National Qualifications Framework

Can be taught within existing programmes of study (science or work-related learning)

Teachers do not require training to deliver the qualification

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)

Teachers are able to deliver the qualification without the need for additional training
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

8 hours recommended to complete learning and assessment

Assessed by a simple portfolio of evidence

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

Allowances made for candidates with special requirements

Five submission 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

The teacher assesses each students’ portfolio

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
Progression route…

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

This qualification is not aimed specifically at schools but is popular with those already in employment

Unlike the Entry Level Award, this qualification is not free of charge, but is heavily subsidised for schools
A great start . . .

Launched in academic year 2007/2008

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

90,000 young people have received the qualification to date
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 to work with international partners to extend this training (already available in British International Schools)
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.

Research findings scheduled for Spring 2011.
Some preliminary findings:

- Pre-qual questionnaire revealed most pupils already had a sound knowledge of basic health & safety.
- Pre-qual questionnaire revealed that most pupils already displayed potentially sound behaviours to health & safety.
- One-in-two pupils in pre-qual pupils said they would speak up about poor health & safety – increased to six-out-of-ten post qual.
- Still a significant number post-qual who would still find it difficult to speak if something was wrong with health & safety in their workplace.
- Nine-out-ten post qual pupils thought it would help keep them healthy and safe in the workplace.
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BSC Entry Level Award in Workplace Hazard Awareness:
www.britsafe.org/schools