



## National Unit Specification: general information

**UNIT** Health and Safety in the Construction Industry (SCQF level 6)

**CODE** F3JA 12

### SUMMARY

This Unit is suitable for candidates who have limited or no experience of health and safety and welfare requirements within the construction industry context.

This Unit aims to introduce the candidate to the importance of safety awareness by increasing knowledge and understanding in not only hazard identification but the correct procedures associated with risk assessment and the introduction of safe working practices for given site operations. This Unit will also provide the candidate with the basic understanding of procedures to be followed in the event of fire or accident in the workplace.

### OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the importance of site safety awareness and training in the construction industry.
- 2 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of Safe Working Practices in the construction industry.
- 3 Identify hazards and describe safety precautions associated with given construction site operations.
- 4 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of risk assessment procedures in a construction industry environment.
- 5 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the procedure in the event of fire and accident in a specific construction industry project.

### RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

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#### Administrative Information

**Superclass:** TE

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## **National Unit Specification: general information (cont)**

**UNIT**        Health and Safety in the Construction Industry (SCQF level 6)

### **CREDIT VALUE**

1 credit at Higher (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6\*).

*\*SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

### **CORE SKILLS**

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this Unit. Opportunities for developing aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in *Guidance on Learning and Teaching Approaches*.

## **National Unit Specification: statement of standards**

### **UNIT        Health and Safety in the Construction Industry (SCQF level 6)**

Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit Specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

#### **OUTCOME 1**

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the importance of site safety awareness and training in the construction industry.

##### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Explain the concept of site safety awareness in accordance with current guidelines.
- (b) Describe unsafe acts and unsafe conditions accurately.
- (c) Explain the benefits of safety awareness training for those working in the construction industry.

#### **OUTCOME 2**

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of safe working practices in the construction industry.

##### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Describe safe system of work schedules in accordance with current practices in the construction industry.
- (b) Describe Personal Protective Equipment required for given working practices in the construction industry.
- (c) Describe the safe use of equipment in accordance with safe working practices.

#### **OUTCOME 3**

Identify hazards and describe safety precautions associated with given construction site operations.

##### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Identify hazards associated with working in and around excavations and describe appropriate safety precautions.
- (b) Identify hazards associated with working around heavy plant and describe appropriate safety precautions.
- (c) Identify hazard associated with working from heights and describe appropriate safety precautions.
- (d) Identify hazards associated with working in confined spaces and describe appropriate safety precautions.

#### **OUTCOME 4**

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of risk assessment procedures in a construction industry environment.

## National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

### UNIT Health and Safety in the Construction Industry (SCQF level 6)

#### Performance Criteria

- (a) List the five steps to Risk Assessment.
- (b) Explain the difference between a risk and a hazard.
- (c) Explain the benefits associated with undertaking a risk assessment in a construction industry environment.

#### OUTCOME 5

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the procedure in the event of fire and accident in a specific construction industry project.

#### Performance Criteria

- (a) Describe the different classifications of fire.
- (b) List the uses for different types of fire extinguishers.
- (c) Describe the procedures to be followed in the event of an accident.
- (d) Describe the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire.

#### EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT

Evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidates have achieved all Outcomes to the standard specified in the Performance Criteria.

Written and/or recorded oral evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidate has achieved this Unit to the standard specified in the Outcomes and Performance Criteria. The evidence for this Unit should be obtained under controlled, supervised conditions. The assessment will be open-book, candidate can refer to candidate notes and the assessment of all Outcomes should last no more than two hours

In this Unit an appropriate instrument of assessment would be a question paper consisting of a balance of short answer, restricted response and structured questions based on case study material.

Evidence will be gathered at appropriate points throughout the delivery of the Unit. Assessments must be manageable and practicable for centres and candidates.

Outcome 1 should focus on the following areas:

- ◆ *Site Safety Awareness*: how site safety awareness is promoted on construction sites which have excavation, scaffolding, ladders, working from heights, heavy plant activities planned
- ◆ *Unsafe acts and unsafe conditions*: unsafe acts or conditions associated with excavation, scaffolding, ladders, working from heights, heavy plant activities
- ◆ *Safety awareness training*: benefits of safety awareness training

## National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

### UNIT Health and Safety in the Construction Industry (SCQF level 6)

Outcome 2 should focus on the following areas:

- ◆ *Safe systems of work schedules*: any two **work tasks**, eg setting up the task of work, planning the task, specification, conditions, completing of the task
- ◆ *Safe working practices*: any two **work tasks** listed below and identify personal protective equipment (PPE), essential planning steps before, during and after work tasks have completed
- ◆ *Personal protective equipment*: any two of the **work tasks** listed below
- ◆ *Safe use of equipment*: one **work task** from the list given below
- ◆ *Work tasks*: Working at heights, in confined spaces, in excavations and around heavy mechanical plant

Outcome 5 should focus on the following areas:

- ◆ *Fire*: Wood, paper, liquid, gases, metal and electricity
- ◆ *Procedures for fire and accident*: Tools to enable investigation, investigation and reporting process

The Assessment Support Pack for this Unit provides appropriate sample assessment materials. Where centres wish to develop their own assessment materials they should refer to the Assessment Support Pack to ensure a comparable standard.

## **National Unit Specification: support notes**

### **UNIT        Health and Safety in the Construction Industry (SCQF level 6)**

This part of the Unit Specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

#### **GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT**

This Unit has been developed as a mandatory Unit within the National Certificate in Built Environment and Civil Engineering at SCQF level 6 and can be delivered as a freestanding Unit.

This Unit aims to introduce the candidate to the importance of safety awareness by developing awareness of unsafe acts, conditions and the identification of hazards around a number of given construction operations along with the benefits associated with safety awareness training and the implementation of safe working practices. This Unit further develops the candidate's understanding of the procedures to be followed in the preparation risk assessments, fire and accident in the workplace.

#### **GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT**

Emphasis in delivery of the Unit should be on familiarisation with terminology and basic concepts.

The use of case study material is particularly recommended for both the learning and assessment components of this Unit. The study material should commence by providing the candidate with an initial introduction to what site safety awareness means and how such can be achieved which would include a study of the benefits of safety awareness training. The study material would then direct the learning to look at unsafe acts and conditions, safe systems of works and the promoting and implementation of safe working practices into the workplace and the correct use of personal protective equipment (PPE).

The final stage of learning would be to look at the varied levels of risk assessment, the benefits of regularly undertaking such and how this is linked with hazard identification for given site operations and procedures which should be put in place in the event of fire and accident within the workplace.

Suggested teaching and learning methods for this Unit could include: the use of visual aids, ICT, group lectures and discussions, practical demonstrations, question and answer sessions, direct study and site visits.

Formative work for the Unit could specifically include group discussions as such approaches could be particularly beneficial to candidates with no industrial experience. This Unit could be integrated through the delivery of other Units in the Group Award.

#### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORE SKILL DEVELOPMENT**

In this Unit candidates will be:

- ◆ applying theoretical knowledge of a range of practical health and safety issues
- ◆ identifying and examining the relevance of all factors, including current legislation, to promoting and implementing of safe working practices

## National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

### UNIT Health and Safety in the Construction Industry (SCQF level 6)

- ◆ identifying the procedures of risk assessment and the affects of risks and hazards in the workplace

These offer opportunities to develop aspects of the Core Skill of:

- ◆ *Problem Solving*
- ◆ *Working with Others*

### GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

#### Opportunities for the use of e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by information and communications technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003)*, *SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

Evidence will be gathered at appropriate points throughout the delivery of the Unit. In this Unit an appropriate instrument of assessment could be a question paper consisting of a balance of short answer, restricted response and structured questions based on case study material.

Outcomes 1, 2, 4 and 5 may be assessed using restricted response questions contextualised which includes work tasks identified in within each Outcome.

Outcome 3 may be assessed by presenting a pictorial scene, real or simulated context to the candidate which requires the identification of hazards which have been incorporated.

At the end of the delivery of each Outcome, the candidate should be given a set of tasks or questions corresponding to the Outcome, the responses for which may be collated into the portfolio of evidence.

Preparation for assessment should include formative work with opportunities for constructive feedback.

Planning should allow time for re-assessment. Given that assessment for this Unit must be conducted in controlled conditions, centres must ensure that a different assessment is given for re-assessment purposes and that the same controlled conditions apply.

#### CANDIDATES WITH DISABILITIES AND/OR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs (www.sqa.org.uk)*.