DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION

HEALTH & SAFETY

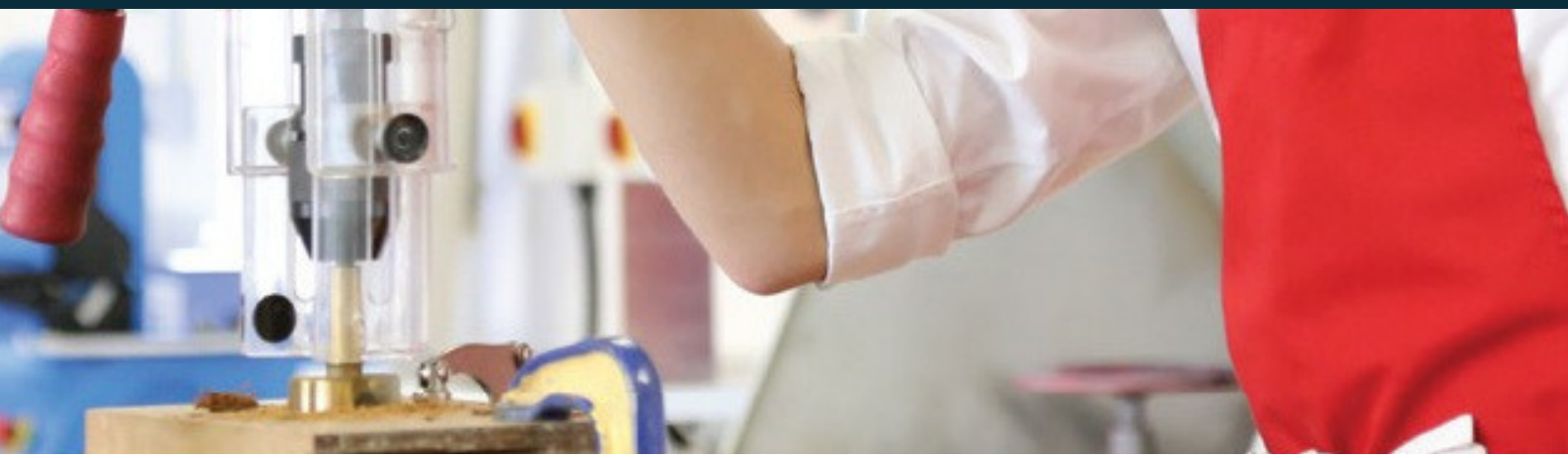
A guide to the health and safety accreditation scheme for design and technology

Training, competency and accreditation for safer D&T practice.



Design & Technology Matters

designtechnology.org.uk
Health and safety training and accreditation



Are your teachers, technicians and site staff trained and accredited in accordance with the British Standard Code of Practice?

Health and Safety Training Standards

For schools, the training standards are set out as follows.

Core Level Theory, SCHS

The D&T Association recommends that all secondary teachers, technicians and support staff working in D&T work towards accreditation at the Secondary Core Health and Safety Level. Following training, staff are required to assemble a personal D&T health and safety portfolio to demonstrate their knowledge of the 36 Core Level Standards.

The portfolio provides a personal record of staff training and working practice in school. Training is particularly effective when departments complete it as a whole team, helping to ensure a consistent approach to health and safety across the department.

Specialist Levels

Staff should also work towards accreditation within the Secondary Specialist Levels appropriate to their work:

- Primary Core, PCHS, 6 hours
- Secondary Core, SCHS, 6 hours
- Food Technology, SFHS, 6 hours
- Textiles Technology, STHS, 6 hours
- Systems and Control, SSHS, 1-2 hours

Specialist Extension Levels

Staff working in workshop environments, including textiles rooms, should work towards accreditation for the equipment and processes relevant to their role:

- Wood sawing machines, S1HS, 1 to 3 hours dependent on machine
- Centre lathe and CNC lathe, S2HS, 4 to 6 hours
- Casting non-ferrous metals, S3HS, 4 to 6 hours
- Electric welding and cutting, S4HS, 1 to 4 hours dependent on process
- Gas welding and cutting, S5HS, 4 to 6 hours per process
- Milling machines and machining centres, S6HS, 4 to 6 hours per machine
- Wood turning lathe, S7HS, 4 to 6 hours
- Planer and thicknesser machines, S8HS, 2 to 4 hours per machine
- Portable power tools, S9HS, 1 to 2 hours per tool
- Grinding and sharpening, S10HS, 4 to 6 hours
- Health and safety for site staff using portable power tools, S11HS, 6 hours
- Health and safety for D&T technicians, S12HS, 6 hours
- Secondary materials, SMHS, generally 0.5 to 2 hours for each item

Recommended publications

'BS 4163:2021+A1:2022, Health and Safety Training Standards in D&T', 'Make it Safe' and 'Risk Assessment in Secondary Schools and Colleges D&T Teaching Environments'. All three are available from the D&T Association online shop at designtechnology.org.uk.

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How to access training

When planning training, first decide whether you need initial or refresher training. Begin by visiting the D&T Association website to familiarise yourself with the accreditation scheme.

Use the consultant directory to find Registered Design and Technology Health and Safety Consultants, RDTHSCs, by region and their accreditation areas.

Training to the D&T Association Health and Safety Training Standards is delivered by RDTHSCs (Registered Design and Technology Health and Safety Consultants), who are trained and quality assured by the Association.

Contact your chosen consultant for advice on the training most appropriate to your needs, the time required and the costs involved.

Training can be arranged directly with an RDTHSC for your establishment or a group of local schools. Regionally based courses are also advertised at: designtechnology.org.uk/training-and-events

Food Safety training

Food specialist RDTHSCs can deliver a one day course covering the Secondary Food Health and Safety Training Standards, SFHS, where current Level 2 Food Safety certification is already held.

How much will it cost?

Training courses advertised on the D&T Association website are costed per person.

Individual RDTHSCs will confirm consultancy fees for training groups in school. These will include an accreditation fee of £30 per person.

Training and the British Standard

The D&T Association supports schools, academies, colleges, initial teacher training and other educational establishments to help employers meet their statutory obligations for staff health and safety training.

The D&T Association Health and Safety Training Standards were established in 2000. More than 49,000 teaching and support staff have been accredited against these Standards.

They provide a benchmark for training in D&T and help staff demonstrate the competency and accreditation required by 'BS 4163:2021+A1:2022, Health and safety for design and technology in educational and similar establishments'.

The code of practice sets clear expectations for all staff working in D&T. Codes of practice have a special legal status. A body investigating an accident, such as the HSE, will consult the relevant code of practice as well as applicable health and safety regulations.

In practice, an employer must have a good reason for not following a code of practice.

'BS 4163:2021+A1:2022' should therefore be treated as the standard against which procedures and practice may be compared.

Further information

Contact:
healthandsafety@designtechnology.org.uk