

Intermediate Level 2 Certificate in Salon Hygiene

2003

24 Guided Learning Hours

Qualification Number: 100/1810/4

Description

The Level 2 Certificate in Salon Hygiene was established by the Royal Society for Public Health in collaboration with representatives of appropriate professional bodies, colleges and the medical profession. The qualification is designed principally for hairdressers or beauty therapists (and students) who have, or potentially have, some individual responsibility or autonomy in their work. The qualification will also be of benefit to salon owners and managers.

The aim of the qualification is to equip salon staff with the knowledge and understanding required to help ensure the safety of their clients, and of themselves and their colleagues, through the use of safe and hygienic practices and procedures within the salon.

The outcome options focus on the hygiene and safety aspects of situations that the hairdresser/beauty therapist experiences whilst working in the salon, and provide the necessary underpinning knowledge. Outcomes have been mapped against elements of the hygiene and safety units of the National Occupational Standards for Hairdressing, and for Health and Beauty Therapy, at Level 2 as defined within the National Qualifications Framework.

The RSPH Level 2 Certificate in Salon Hygiene is a single unit qualification with two pathways. There is a compulsory 'core' of outcomes plus the choice of outcomes related to either Hairdressing or Beauty Therapy. The majority of content of the two pathways is common, as they are applicable to both hairdressing and beauty salons although they may be interpreted differently depending on the type of salon. Where syllabus elements are exclusive to one occupation or the other, they are included with asterisks (*). For the benefit of trainers, however, the content of the Level 2 Certificate in Salon Hygiene (Hairdressing), and CSH (Beauty Therapy) pathways are printed separately in Part 2 of this specification.

Summary of Outcomes

The candidate will know and understand the conditions relevant to the hairdresser or beauty therapist and Health and Safety at work by:

- Demonstrating an awareness of microbiology, especially in relation to salon procedures and practices and explain the causes of infections.
- Being able to briefly describe the natural history of disorders; relevant conditions; means of transmission and, where applicable, prevention.
- Demonstrating an understanding of health, safety and hygiene related to the operation of a salon.
- Demonstrating an understanding of emergency procedures related to the operation of a salon.
- Being able to describe the importance of personal hygiene.

Relevance to Industry

The outcomes were compiled by the RSPH in collaboration with representatives of the following professional and educational bodies in the hairdressing and beauty therapy industry: the Hairdressing Council, the Training Standards Council, the Hairdressing Training Board, the Vocational Training Charitable Trust, the Hairdressing and Beauty Industry Authority (HABIA), the Health and Beauty Therapy Board and Review of Standards Steering Committee and the London College of Fashion.

The outcomes reflect the Level 2 National Occupational Standards in hairdressing and in beauty therapy established by the Hairdressing and Beauty Industry Authority.

Content

Pathway A: Hairdressing

Most elements in this pathway are common with those of the Beauty Therapy pathway. Those elements exclusive to Hairdressing only are marked with an asterisk (*).

Note: Candidates must be aware of the need for maintenance of customer confidentiality, privacy and dignity in relation to relevant elements of all Content

1. Conditions relevant to the hairdresser

Microbiology in relation to salon procedures and practices and the causes of infections.

- Briefly describe the main characteristics and requirements for the growth of:
 - Bacteria (staphylococci, streptococci, bacilli)
 - Viruses
 - Fungi
- Describe the transmission of infection and infestations, the body's reaction to them and defences against them.

The natural history of disorders: conditions, means of transmission and prevention.

- Distinguish between non-infections and infectious diseases that may be encountered in the salon.
- Indicate the cause, transmission (including direct and indirect contact) and symptoms of the following and any action you would take if found on a client:
 - a) Droplet infections exemplified by:
 - Common cold
 - Influenza
 - b) Bacterial infections exemplified by:
 - Impetigo
 - Furuncles (boils)
 - Carbuncles
 - Sycosis barbae (barbers rash)*
 - Conjunctivitis
 - Folliculitis
 - c) Viral infections exemplified by:
 - Herpes simplex
 - Verrucae (warts)
 - Hepatitis B & C
 - AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)
 - d) Fungal infections exemplified by:
 - Tinea barbae (ringworm of the beard)
 - Tinea capitis (ringworm of the scalp)
 - Tinea corporis (ringworm of the body)
 - Pityriasis/Tinea versicolor
- Recognise the following non-infectious diseases/disorders and for each indicate the cause(s), symptoms, the action taken if found on a client, and possible treatment within salon:
 - Pityriasis simplex (dandruff)
 - Seborrhoea
 - Seborrhoeic dermatitis*
 - Sebaceous cysts
 - Hyperhidrosis
 - Bromidrosis
 - Psoriasis
 - Alopecia (male and female pattern baldness)*
 - Alopecia areata*
 - Alopecia totalis*
 - Alopecia universalis
 - Diffuse alopecia*
 - Traction alopecia*
 - Senile alopecia*
 - Cicatricial alopecia (scarring alopecia)
 - Eczema (including contact eczema or dermatitis)
 - Sunburn
 - Hypertrichosis
 - Hirsutism
 - Trichorrhexis nodosa*

- Fragilitas crinium (split ends)*
- Recognise the following infestations and for each indicate the cause(s), symptoms and action to be taken:
 - Pediculosis capitis (head louse infestation)
 - Scabies (itch mite infestation)

Key Skills: Section 1 may provide opportunities for demonstrating Key Skills activities in working with others.

2. Health and Safety in the Hairdressing Salon

Health and Safety and hygiene issues related to the operation of a salon.

- Demonstrate a practical knowledge of salon design and finishes including:
 - Walls
 - Floors
 - Ceilings
- Explain the importance of maintaining a suitable environment and be aware of the advantages and disadvantages of various methods of:
 - Heating
 - Lighting
 - Ventilation
 - Air conditioning
- Demonstrate a working knowledge of the selection, care and siting of:
 - Seating
 - Work surfaces
 - Wash basins
 - Toilets
 - Equipment
- Explain the importance of hygienic waste storage and disposal.
- Describe how to prevent infestation of premises and explain the procedures to follow should it occur and what remedial action should be taken.
- *Describe in detail the correct use, cleaning and storage of:
 - Towels and gowns
 - Hairdressing tools
 - Salon equipment (including fire-fighting equipment)
- Describe the terms: sterilisation, disinfection and antiseptics
- Describe in detail the methods of carrying out sterilisation and disinfection of salon equipment using
 - Chemical disinfectants
 - Dry heat

- Moist heat
- Radiation

- Describe how to use, store and dispose of chemicals safely in accordance with the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations.
- *Describe the reasons for carrying out precautionary tests, the methods to be used and the significance of the results, for each of the following:
 - Skin tests
 - Strand tests
 - Hair relaxing (Afro-Caribbean)

- Describe the potential dangers, and preventive measures, associated with:
 - Aerosols
 - Fire hazards
 - Electric hazards
 - Chemical hazards

- Explain the basic requirements of Health & Safety at Work legislation as it applies to:
 - Manufacturers/suppliers
 - Employers
 - Employees
 - Self-employed
 - Customers/members of the public

- Describe briefly the main function of the Environmental Health Officer with regard to salons.

Emergency procedures related to the operation of a Salon

- Recognise a First-aid box by its external appearance.
- List the contents of a First-aid box (as required by legislation).
- State the purpose of First aid boxes and describe the basic first aid procedures for:
 - Bleeding (cuts, skin punctures, nose bleeding – inc. hygiene precautions)
 - Burns and scalds
 - Chemicals in the eye
 - Unconsciousness (including fainting)
 - Feeling faint
 - Epileptic fits
 - Hysterical fits
 - Electric shock

- Explain the procedures to ensure safety of staff and customers in case of fire in the salon.
- Explain the procedures to ensure safety of staff and customers in case of a gas leak in the salon.

The importance of personal hygiene.

- Describe how to maintain a high standard of personal hygiene, in particular:
 - Hands
 - Feet
 - Hair
 - The body in general
- Describe the reasons for selecting suitable clothing and footwear for use in a salon.

Key Skills: Section 2 may provide opportunities for demonstrating Key Skills activities in communication, application of number, problem solving and working with others.

Pathway B: Beauty Therapy

Most elements in this option are common with the Hairdressing option. Those elements exclusive to Beauty Therapy only are marked with an asterisk (*).

Note: Candidates must be aware of the need for the maintenance of customer confidentiality, privacy and dignity in relation to relevant elements of all Objectives.

1. Conditions relevant to the Beauty Therapist

Microbiology in relation to salon procedures and practices and the causes of the infections

- Briefly describe the main characteristics and requirements for the growth of:
 - Bacteria (staphylococci, streptococci, bacilli)
 - Viruses
 - Fungi
- Describe the transmission of infection and infestations and the body's reaction to and defences against them.

The natural history of disorders: conditions, means of transmission and prevention

- Distinguish between non-infectious and infectious diseases that may be encountered in the salon.
- Indicate the cause, transmission (including direct and indirect contact) and symptoms of the following and any action you would take if found on a client:
 - a) Droplet infections exemplified by:
 - Common cold
 - Influenza
 - b) Bacterial infections exemplified by:
 - Impetigo

- Furuncles (boils)
 - Carbuncles
 - Conjunctivitis
 - Folliculitis
 - Acne vulgaris*
- c) Viral infections exemplified by:
- Molluscum contagiosum*
 - Herpes simplex (cold sores)
 - Genital herpes*
 - Verrucae (warts)
 - Hepatitis B & C
 - AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)
- d) Fungal infections exemplified by:
- Tinea barbae (ringworm of the beard)
 - Tinea capitis (ringworm of the scalp)
 - Tinea corporis (ringworm of the body)
 - Tinea pedis (ringworm of the foot)*
 - Tinea unguium (ringworm of the nails)*
 - Pityriasis/Tinea versicolor
 - Moniliasis (Thrush)*
- How to recognise the following non-infectious diseases/disorders and for each indicate the cause(s), symptoms, the action taken if found on a client, and possible treatment within the salon.
- Pityriasis simplex (dandruff)
 - Seborrhoea
 - Sebaceous cysts
 - Hyperhidrosis
 - Bromidrosis
 - Psoriasis
 - Alopecia universalis
 - Cicatricial alopecia (scarring alopecia)
 - Eczema (including contact eczema or dermatitis)
 - Sunburn
 - Hypertrichosis
 - Hirsutism
- Recognise the following infestations and for each indicate the cause(s), symptoms and action to be taken:
- Pediculosis capitis (head louse infestation)
 - Pediculosis pubis (pubic louse infestation)
 - Pediculosis corporis (body louse infestation)
 - Scabies (itch mite infestation)

Key Skills: Section 1 may provide opportunities for demonstrating Key Skills activities in working with others.

2. Health and safety in the Beauty Therapy Salon

Health and Safety and hygiene issues related to the operation of a salon.

- Demonstrate a practical knowledge of salon design and finishes including:
 - Walls
 - Floors
 - Ceilings
- Explain the importance of maintaining a suitable environment and be aware of the advantages and disadvantages of various methods of:
 - Heating
 - Lighting
 - Ventilation
 - Air conditioning
- Demonstrate a working knowledge of the selection, care and siting of:
 - Seating
 - Work surfaces
 - Wash basins
 - Toilets
 - Equipment
- *Explain the importance of hygienic waste storage and disposal, including disposables.
- Describe how to prevent infestation of premises and explain the procedures to follow should it occur and what remedial action should be taken.
- *Describe in detail the correct use, cleaning and storage of:
 - Gowns
 - Comedone extractors
 - Towels
 - Make-up sponges
 - Waxing equipment
 - Jacuzzis
 - Facial saunas
 - Brushes
 - Tools
 - Couches
 - Exercise equipment
 - Beds
 - Trolleys
 - General equipment
- Describe the terms: sterilisation, disinfection and antiseptics
- Describe in detail the methods of carrying out sterilisation and disinfection of salon equipment using:

- Chemical disinfectants
 - Dry heat
 - Moist heat
 - Radiation
- Describe how to use, store and dispose of chemicals safely in accordance with the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations.
- *Describe the correct use and disposal of needles in electrical epilation.
- Describe the potential dangers and preventative measures, associated with:
- Aerosols
 - Fire hazards
 - Electrical hazards
 - Chemical hazards
- List contra-indications to beauty therapy treatments.
- *Describe hygiene and safety precautions during beauty therapy treatments including:
- Application of creams and make-up
 - Manicure and pedicure
 - Ear-piercing
 - Waxing, 'sugaring' and other depilatory techniques
 - Faradic
 - Eyebrow shaping
 - Eyelash and eyebrow tinting
- Explain the basic requirements of Health and Safety at Work legislation as it applies to:
- Manufacturers/suppliers
 - Employers
 - Employees
 - Self-employed
 - Customers/members of the public
- Describe briefly the main function of the Environmental Health Officer with regard to salons.
- *State the main provisions of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 part viii, in relation to ear piercing.

Emergency procedures related to the operation of a Salon.

- Recognise a First-aid box by its external appearance.
- List the contents of a First-aid box (as required by legislation).
- State the purpose of First aid boxes and describe the basic first aid procedures for:
- Bleeding (cuts, skin punctures, nose bleeding – inc. hygiene precautions)
 - Burns and scalds

- Chemicals in the eye
 - Unconsciousness (including fainting)
 - Feeling faint
 - Leg cramps*
 - Epileptic fits
 - Hysterical fits
 - Electric shock
- Explain the procedures to ensure safety of staff and customers in case of fire in the salon.
- Explain the procedures to ensure safety of staff and customers in case of a gas leak in the salon.

The importance of personal hygiene

- Describe how to maintain high standards of personal hygiene, in particular:
- Hands
 - Feet
 - Mouth
 - Hair
 - The body in general
- Describe the reasons for selecting suitable clothing and footwear for use in salon.

Key Skills: Section 2 may provide opportunities for demonstrating Key Skills activities in communication, application of number, problem solving and working with others.

Registration of Training / Examination Centres

Trainers and organisations wishing to offer courses leading to the RSPH Level 2 Certificate in Salon Hygiene should first apply for registration to the RSPH.

Prospective trainers should have an Advanced Hairdressing or Beauty qualification of related degree level qualification.

Full details of registration criteria, procedures and application forms are available on the RSPH website www.rsph.org.uk

Pre-course Entry Requirements

There are no mandatory pre-course entry requirements, although it is recommended that the candidate have standards of literacy and numeracy to at least Level 1, and also some experience of working in either a hairdressing salon or a beauty salon, in order to fully access the course.

Entry to Examination

- Candidates must be a minimum of 16 years of age and have attained the knowledge outcomes of the qualification, either by attending an RSPH approved course or by other means.
- Candidates may **not** sit the examination for both the Hairdressing and the Beauty Therapy pathways during the same examination session.
- The examination is available on demand.
- Application for entry to the examination must be made through an RSPH registered examination centre to the

The Qualifications Department,
Royal Society for Public Health
3rd Floor
Market Towers
1 Nine Elms Lane
SW8 5NQ

- to arrive at least two weeks before the date of the examination.
- Centres may wish to make special arrangements for candidates for whom the standard examination format might present difficulties. Contact the Qualifications Department for further information.

Assessment

The examination for the Level 2 Certificate in Salon Hygiene (Hairdressing or Beauty Therapy) consists of one written paper of two hours' duration.

Candidates must answer five questions: both questions in Section 1 of the paper and three questions (from a choice of six) in Section 2. The examination is marked out of 100 and candidates must achieve a total of 50% or more in order to pass. No reference books are permitted in the examination room.

Examination Results and Certificates

Each centre will receive a written statement of results, giving the grade of performance of each candidate.

There are three grades of pass awarded according to the mark attained by the candidate:

Honours - 80 to 100 marks
Credit – 65 to 79
Pass – 50 to 64 marks
Fail – 0 to 49 marks

Each successful candidate will receive a certificate upon which the grade awarded will be shown. Certificates are normally sent to centres for distribution to candidates.

If a candidate feels that the results of the examination do not meet their expectations, the candidate may ask their centre to appeal on their behalf.

Progression

Successful candidates may progress to hairdressing and beauty therapy qualifications set at level 3 in the National Qualifications Framework.

Key Skills

The teaching of the outcomes for the RSPH Level 2 Certificate in Salon Hygiene provides opportunities for developing and assessing certain Key Skills. The examination does not directly assess Key Skills, but the knowledge required, if put into practice a course, would require the application of Key Skills which might be independently assessed at the same time in line with published guidance. The sign-posting throughout the outcomes directs teachers/trainers to areas that provide opportunities for independent assessment of Key Skills.