

Fire Safety Awareness

COURSE INTRODUCTION

This training has been designed to increase your awareness and understanding around the legal requirements for Fire Safety in the workplace.

Learning Aims

- To learn and understand our legal responsibilities for fire safety at work
- Risks associated with fires in the workplace
- Fire preventions
- Procedures to follow in the event of a fire
- And Different types of firefighting equipment

This course is divided into 5 modules:

1. The rules and regulations
2. Risk Awareness
3. Fire Prevention
4. safety procedures
5. Firefighting Equipment

Module 1 The rules and regulations

regulations that relate to fire safety in the workplace.

- The fire safety act 2021
- **The Fire Safety (England) Regulations 2022**
- The Health & Safety at Work Act (1974)
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) (2002)

It is your Employer Responsibility to:

- Fire Safety Policy in place with clear evacuation procedures
- Make sure adequate smoke alarms installed and tested regularly
- Appropriate firefighting equipment available
- Make sure all staff are adequately trained

Fire Safety Awareness

As an employee your legal responsibilities are:

- To take reasonable care of yourself
- To take reasonable care of others
- Cooperate with the fire policy and follow fire procedures
- Report dangers and any fire risks in the workplace

Module 2 risk awareness

Risk assessments should be the basis of all fire safety plans in every working environment.

The risk assessment must identify any possible dangers along with considering who may be at risk and take steps to reduce the risk from fire as far as is reasonably possible.

Providers and managers should ensure that fire risk assessments are up to date and reviewed regularly.

Fire risk assessments should ensure that:

- All fire doors can close and are not held open
- fire extinguishers are located appropriately and are in working order
- electrical equipment is not causing a hazard, especially overloaded power sockets
- evacuation routes are kept clear
- the workspace kept tidy, ensuring that combustible materials are not in contact with heat or close to fire.

Fire Emergency Plan

Your workplace should have a fire emergency plan which details and guides staff on what to do in the event of a fire.

Fire Tests

Fire tests must be done with service users in mind; therefore, each test must be:

- Well organised
- Carried out after all have been informed that it is going to happen
- At different times each week, which includes different shifts

Fire Safety Awareness

Fire Drills

Legally, fire drills must be done once a year as a minimum requirement.

Fire Wardens

Fire Wardens play an important role in ensuring the continuity of the workplace and are prepared for a fire emergency, Fire wardens must have received appropriate training to carry out this duty.

Fire Alarms

Fire Alarms are a mandatory requirement in workplace establishments and manage people's safety significantly in the event of fire.

As a health and social care worker, you have a 'duty of care' to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Module 3 – Fire prevention

Fire is a chemical reaction that gives off light and heat. Fire is sometimes useful, but also very dangerous.

For a fire to burn, fire needs three things:

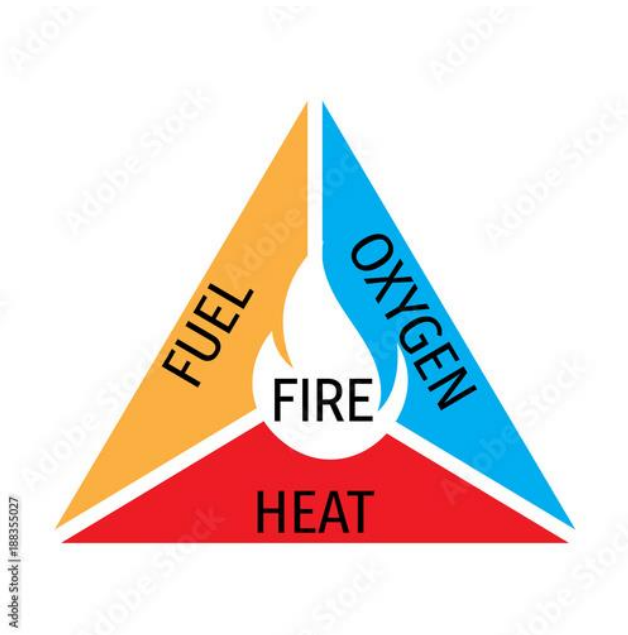
Heat

Oxygen

Fuel

This is known as the Fire Triangle.

Fire Safety Awareness



To prevent a fire from spreading, one of the elements of the fire triangle needs to be removed.

Did you know that the 5 most common causes of fire in the workplace are due to

- Faulty equipment.
- Clutter.
- Combustibles on site.
- Human Error.
- Arson.

Module 4 – Safety procedures

In the event of a fire, your response is key to the safety of everyone in the building.

It is important that you know the fire procedures for your workplace and the evacuation procedure for the individuals that you support.

Your practical training for Fire Safety should include Fire Tests, equipment available and evacuation procedures.

Evacuation routes should always be kept completely clear.

Always remove anything which is blocking, or partially blocking, a fire exit.

You should notify your line manager if you are concerned that there is any sort of blockage in evacuation routes.

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Doing this will prevent serious injury or fatalities in the event of a fire.

Evacuation will not only be for the individuals you support, but also for any other person that may be in the building.

Including

- Visitors, e.g. carers, family, friends
- Other professionals
- Staff
- Volunteers
- Contractors

Any individual who is unable to independently evacuate the building in the event of a fire should have the following:

- A Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan

This is known as a PEEP and is vital for any individual who has complex or ever-changing needs.

Pre-Arranged Assembly Point

is a meeting place outside that is a safe distance from the building.

This is often in your workplace car park.

The fire wardens on duty will need to account for everyone in the building and have clear instruction for the Fire Brigade about who may be at risk because they are still in the building.

In the event of a fire, you should:

Get everyone out of the building as quickly as possible. Don't try to pick up valuables or possessions.

Make your way out as safely as you can, and although it may be difficult, try not to panic and stay calm.

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Call fire brigade on 999, clearly stating the address and any other relevant details, for example how many people may still be in the building.

Never go back into the building until a fire officer has told you it is safe to do so.

Module 5 -Fire Equipment

Part of your fire training includes knowing whether you can fight the fire safely to avoid it spreading.

it is important that you are practically trained in using the available equipment, and you must not use it unless you have been trained to do so.

There are 6 different classes of fire, and each should be attacked in a different way.

Class A – Combustible materials such as wood, paper, and fabric.

Class B – Flammable liquids such as petrol and paint.

Class C – Flammable gases such as methane and propane.

Class D – Combustible metals - Lithium, Potassium, and Magnesium.

Class F – Cooking oils and fats.

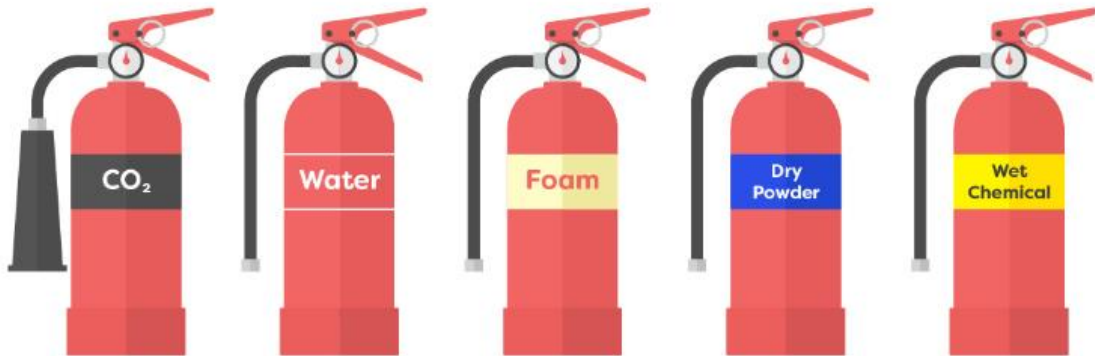
Electrical Fires

It is a legal requirement that your workplace has appropriate fire extinguishers placed throughout the building that are suitable for the type of fire that is the highest risk.

There are 5 types of extinguishers which are colour coded to signify the type of fire that they can put out.

Fire blankets are suitable for kitchen fires, such as those involving cooking oil and fats.

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1) Water Extinguishers

Colour Bar: Red

Suitable for: Class A Fires. Most premises will require either water or foam extinguishers

2) Foamspray Extinguishers

Colour Bar: Cream

Suitable for: Class A and Class B

3) Carbon Dioxide Extinguishers

Colour Bar: Black

Suitable for: Class B

4) Dry Powder Extinguishers

Colour Bar: Blue

Suitable for: Class A / Class B / electrical risks

5) Wet Chemical Fire Extinguishers

Colour Bar: Yellow

Suitable for: Class A / Class F

Remember!

If the fire is too dangerous to fight yourself then your priority is to:

Fire Safety Awareness

- Get everyone out
- Stay out
- Call the emergency services

Well done! You have completed this training.