

Work Experience: Health and safety in the workplace 1

Aim To encourage a student to think about issues of health and safety in the workplace

Preparation VIEW Retail must be pre-installed on a stand alone PC or network (where licensed). The work experience activity could be undertaken by an individual or group of students.

Students will need some support in beginning their exploration of VIEW Retail. This can be achieved through a quick demonstration of by using the 'student guide' first. The students may also benefit from having access to maps on a printed sheet, to help them navigate around.

Students will need the attached student sheet with a pen or pencil, writing on the sheet or on another piece of paper.

Links to WRL Work experience preparation

Outcomes Improved skills with VIEW
Familiarisation with topic content in VIEW
Improved work experience

Pre activity Stress importance of following the student sheet and not getting distracted. Offer help if lost to get back on track.

Before attempting the task the students should discuss the concept of a 'hazard' or 'risk' in the workplace and understand the difference between the two terms. They should appreciate that all occupations include risk and that the practice of health and safety is to reduce risk. Who or what precisely is 'at risk' ? the employee, the customer, the products etc? What could the consequences of any accident be?

They need to understand that different occupations attract different levels and types of risk before they begin to explore how 'health and safety' actions can be taken to reduce risk.

Activity The student begins at the HoF entrance and follow the printed visit guide. The student will locate four employees that work in the store and use any information they find, together with their imagination to make a list of risks to the health and safety of each employee. The employees offered undertake very different roles within the store.

Post activity Students can compare their respective lists and build up a class view of potential risks in each occupation. They can discuss which employee has the most risky job !

The concept of the probability of a risk occurring against the potential consequences may provoke a range of points of view.

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Extension activities Students can begin to discuss how they might protect the employee against each risk that they have identified. Brighter students might begin to understand that some risks can be eliminated, some avoided, some protected against etc.

Some brighter students may benefit from exploring the Health and Safety Executive's website (HSE) at www.hse.gov.uk

You will need...

You will need a paper and a pen or pencil to make some notes. Having a printed copy of the floor maps might be useful to help you find your way around.

Each of the people below work in the House of Fraser store. They each have very different jobs, but do any of them face any risks to their health and safety in performing their job roles?

Find each of these people in the store, look around, read any narrative and other than for the security guard, checkout the interviews.

Make a list of any hazards that you think these people might face at work. A hazard is something that might cause them harm. For each hazard in your list make it clear what the hazard is, what harm the hazard might cause the employee and the risk of any harm occurring.

Use this table to record your results.

The hazard	The harm that might be caused to the employee by the hazard.	The risk that this harm might occur. Likely, possible, unlikely

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Which risks do you think most likely to happen and which risks would have the worst consequences for the employee?

The Security Guard

The guard can be found close to the main entrance to the store.

Maintenance Manager

Colin can be found in the boiler room which can be accessed through Therapy and 'Security' in the lower ground floor.

Replenishment Manager

Sally can be found at the west end of the ground floor sales area.

Sales Consultant

Mutsa can be found on the Benefit stand in the middle of the ground floor sales area and close to the stairs down to Therapy

When you are on your work experience make a similar list for some employees based on some of the different people you meet.