





Site Ready Skimming Course

Background

The construction industry is facing a skills shortage for a number of trades. A recent Manpower Group Talent Shortage Survey* showed that for five consecutive years skilled construction trades topped the list of hardest positions to fill, and plasterers are a major part of that skills gap.

In response to this decline, and having taken additional input from UK Federations and sub-contractors, we are preparing to change the way we deliver training in our network of UK Academies to address the skills gap for plaster skim finishers.

We are supporting sub-contractors in upskilling their plastering labourers, general labourers, dry lining tapers or employees working in similar roles, with the skills required to undertake the skimming of plasterboards on site.

We are also looking for prospective employers who will provide work on a sub-contracted or employed basis for plastering diploma students from Colleges, ex-offenders or ex-forces personnel.

The aim of the British Gypsum Site Ready Skimming Course is to provide attendees with the skills needed to make an immediate contribution on site upon completion of the course.

*www.manpowergroup.us/campaigns/talent-shortage/assets/pdf/2016-Global-Talent-Shortage-Infographic.pdf



Course details

How long is the course?

The course will last for 7 weeks and will include a final assessment to ensure candidates are ready to undertake skimming work on site. Attendees who have good trowel skills could complete this course within a shorter timeframe, subject to passing this assessment. Our main objective is to ensure that all attendees leave the course confident to carry out skimming work on site.

The course is based on a 4 day week over 7 weeks at City of Wolverhampton College.

Course overview

Throughout the 7 weeks attendees will complete practical training in the key skills required for skimming plasterboard.





This will include:

- Straight flat wall application
- Window wall, reveals & beading process (external angles)
- Finishing internal angles (hard angle)
- Services to flat and window walls (socket boxes, pipes, vents)
- Use of different tools including spats, speedskims and plastic trowels
- Ceilings
- Bulkhead to ceiling, splayed angle (wall), column/peer and curved wall
- Skim large wall areas to replicate commercial project work on large jobs

Stretch and challenge

Candidates are pushed to get the plastering meterage on the wall to make sure they can earn a wage on site once they have left the course. This approach brings great benefit in building confidence and to demonstrate course attendees that they have the ability to apply skimming to large wall areas.

Useful information

Business skills

Attendees will be taken through the process required to become self-employed and understand what this involves.

Being prepared for work on site

As part of the course and for attendees who do not have a CSCS card, attendees are supported through to the application of gaining a trainee CSCS card. This will involve attending a subsidised 1 day level 1 health and safety award course. The health and safety touch screen test and applying for the trainee CSCS card will need to be paid for by the course attendee. The cost is £21.00 for the test and £36.00 to obtain a CSCS card.

End of course support for attendees

Attendees will have direct access to our resident plasterers in the Academies if they need to discuss any issues they are having on site with skimming plasterboards. A tool kit for each attendee will be included as part of the course package and will be provided

at the start of the course so skills can be developed with the range of tools which are used in skimming plasterboard.

Course attendees take the set of tools away with them so they can start work on site on site straight away.

On completion of the course you will be registered to gain your NVQ qualification through the OSAT route, which stands for on site assessment and training.

Gaining your NVQ in plastering skimming

An assessor will visit you on site at a time agreed with the individuals to gather the onsite assessment towards gaining an NVQ Level 2 Basic Plastering.

For more information

Call **0115 945 1154** or email **Technical.Academy@saint-gobain.com** if you would like discuss availability and any aspects.



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