

COUNTRY: Choose an item. Ireland	
EUROPEAN ORGANISATION you are affiliated to: EfVET	
ACTIVITY: OSHVET	Project title: Occupational Safety and Health in Further Education and Training (FET) in Ireland
DATE (Approx): February 2025	PLACE: Case Study Site: Galway Technical Institute (GTI) College of Further Education, Galway, Ireland. Other: Spans FET education institutions and stakeholders in Ireland.
Description (max. 1.500 characters) in English	Introduction <p>The Health and Safety Authority (HSA) is undertaking several initiatives to improve awareness of occupational safety and health (OSH) for students and teachers in Further Education and Training (FET), in Ireland, as part of the OSHVET project. This links to our overall education strategy of partnering with stakeholders to (1) 'mainstream OSH education' and adopt (2) a 'full school' approach.</p> <p>The HSA's work in the OSVET project spans the following activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Single site case study: targeting OSH awareness raising activities with FET students and staff at GTI, Galway, Ireland. 2. Developing resources for FET students (information sheets, awareness raising courses on hsalearning.ie). 3. Running a national poster competition related to the theme of carcinogens at work, targeted at students in FET institutions in Ireland. 4. Influencing OSH curriculum design at GTI. 5. Influencing FET stakeholders in relation to embedding OSH learning outcomes in FET curriculum design. 6. Stakeholder communications (website, social media, stakeholder events). 7. Management of OSH During Work Placements– In Progress. <p>Please note that all these activities have started.</p> <p>1. GTI, Student & Staff Workshop Sessions</p> <p>This involves three workshop sessions with students, and one workshop with staff. All workshops are led by HSA inspectors.</p>

	<p>In relation to students, the first workshop was undertaken in November 2024. A second workshop is scheduled for Autumn 2025, and a third will be undertaken in Spring 2026.</p> <p>In relation to staff, the first workshop was undertaken in May 2025.</p> <p>Workshop 1: OSH Overview (Students). (✓)</p> <p>Two inspectors from the HSA led an interactive workshop, on site at GTI, in November 2025. The workshop involved n=20 participants. All attendees were from the Advanced Aesthetics course. The objective was to ensure that FET students are aware of risks in their chosen profession, and of their rights as workers, and employer obligations. There was a focus on the theme of vulnerable workers and apprentices. The workshop involved a mix of presentations, interactive exercises, live polls, and a survey. The presentation material included general information about roles and responsibilities, information about vulnerable workers, relevant accident data, and signposting to relevant tools and resources developed by the HSA addressing OSH generally, and OSH for apprentices. At the end of the workshop, all participants undertook a survey. The duration of this workshop was one hour.</p> <p>Workshop 2: OSH Overview (Students) – Autumn 2025.</p> <p>Same format as workshop 1, to be undertaken at GTI in Autumn 2025.</p> <p>Workshop 3: Safe use of Chemicals (Students) – Spring 2026</p> <p>This workshop will address the theme ‘safe use of chemicals in training and in the workplace’. The workshop will focus on specific practices related to the safe use of chemicals – with a particular attention on carcinogens. Information about HSA tools and resources will also be disseminated. There will be a survey at the end of the workshop. The students will include advanced aesthetics students, hairdressing students and apprentices.</p> <p>Workshop 4: OSH best practices (Staff). (✓)</p> <p>In May 2025, the HSA delivered an information session/workshop with staff on best practices for the management of OSH at GTI. The primary focus was on chemicals. The audience included teaching staff with a remit in chemical usage (i.e., dog grooming, hairdressing, construction, beauty, science) and staff involved in facilities management (i.e., caretakers). As part of the session, resources developed by EU OSHA relating to the ‘Roadmap on Carcinogens 3.0’ were highlighted.</p> <p>2. Resources</p> <p>Chemicals in Further Education and Training (✓)</p> <p>The HSA has developed an information sheet addressing the safe use of chemicals in Further Education and Training. For more, please see here: https://www.hsa.ie/eng/publications_and_forms/publications/education/chemicals_in_further_education_and_training_fet.pdf.</p> <p>We will actively disseminate this information sheet with the support of the OSHVET Ambassador for Ireland.</p> <p>Apprentices (✓)</p> <p>In addition, the HSA has developed two information sheets focusing on Apprentices. The first addresses safety on the job for apprentices. Safety on the Job for Apprentices</p> <p>The second information sheet is written for people who employ apprentices. It provides a summary overview of how to fulfil your duties as an employer and protect apprentices, who may be more at risk of injury and ill health. Employing Apprentices: Safety on the Job</p>
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	<p>We will actively disseminate these information sheets with the support of the OSHVET Ambassador for Ireland.</p> <p>Apprentices: New Courses on hsalearning.ie</p> <p>The HSA has a short awareness raising course addressing OSH for all apprentices. Please see here: Health and Safety in the Workplace for Apprentices.</p> <p>We will collaborate with GTI regarding the development of additional awareness raising courses targeting key work types/sectors for apprentices. The first course in this collaboration series concerns apprentices working with Salons (hair, beauty and nail). The course titled 'Health and Safety for Apprentices Working in Salons' will be developed in Articulate Rise and accessible on the HSA's learning management system - hsalearning.ie. This course is due to go live in Q4 2025.</p> <p>3. National FET Poster Competition – Launched October 2025. (✓)</p> <p>The HSA is running a poster competition across FET in Ireland. The competition was launched in Autumn 2025. The competition is being rolled out nationally for FET colleges only (n = 25 to 30 colleges). We will seek to get 20% saturation across FET sites. The competition addresses the theme of carcinogens – linking to the EU OSHA project (and outputs) related to the Roadmap on Carcinogens 3.0. Each college will submit one or two posters for the national competition. The top three placed entries will receive prizes. The shortlisted entries will be exhibited at the HSAs International Conference on Carcinogens in September 2026 (part of the EU Presidency). For more information, please see here: OSHVET Poster Competition.</p> <p>4. Influence Curriculum Design (GTI OSH Course) – in progress</p> <p>A workshop will be undertaken with 10 staff members involved in the OSH module at GTI in 2025. The objective will be to address the specific learning outcomes in relation to key topics areas (including the safe use of chemicals). A survey addressing information needs and gaps will also be undertaken before the workshop, to direct the workshop discussion.</p> <p>5. FET Stakeholder Influence (Curriculum Design & Certification) – in progress</p> <p>This HSA is seeking to influence the design of FET programmes – specifically in relation to the inclusion of OSH learning outcomes. This work started in 2024 and will continue in 2025 and 2026. Currently, the HSA has developed a high-level stakeholder map. This map will be validated with GTI – specifically, in relation to prioritizing relevant stakeholders involved in curriculum design and certification, regarding OSH themes. Over 2025/2026, we will be engaging with different stakeholders regarding approaches to embedding OSH learning outcomes in FET curriculum design. As part of this, we will agree on priorities for cohorts and courses to target.</p> <p>6. Awareness, Promotion and Communications (Website, Social Media & Stakeholder Events) (✓)</p> <p>The HSA has developed an OSHVET section on our website. Please see here.</p> <p>https://www.hsa.ie/eng/education/safety_and_health_initiatives_in_education/further_education/oshvet/oshvet.html</p> <p>We will actively promote our engagement on this project on our social media channels and at stakeholder events.</p>
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	<p>In addition, the HSA is seeking to include OSH resources on the FET Digital Library. This will support awareness of OSH amongst students and staff. For more, please see here: https://library.etbi.ie/library</p> <p>7. Management of OSH During Work Placements– In Progress</p> <p>The HSA is developing a resource to clarify the roles and responsibilities of Employers, Further Education and Training (FET) providers, and Students/Apprentices, in relation to the management of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) during work placements.</p>
Program in English:	Not yet available.
Expected number of attendees / Media channels:	<p>GTI Case Study: Workshop 1 (n=20), Workshop 2 (n=20)</p> <p>National poster competition: (n=2,000) (involve 20% of FET sites?).</p> <p>New resources: n=2,000.</p> <p>Stakeholder influence. TBD</p>
Attendees' organization profiles	<p>GTI, Galway, Ireland (https://www.gti.ie/).</p> <p>Galway Roscommon Education and Training Board (https://gretb.ie/).</p> <p>Health and Safety Authority, Ireland.</p>
Useful links (to website/social media)	<p>https://www.gti.ie/</p> <p>https://gretb.ie</p> <p>https://www.hsa.ie/eng/education/</p> <p>Health and Safety in the Workplace Course for Apprentices (course on hsalearning.ie)</p> <p>Employing Apprentices: Safety on the Job</p> <p>Safety on the Job for Apprentices</p> <p>Safe Use of Chemicals in Further Education.</p> <p>https://osha.europa.eu/en/themes/dangerous-substances/roadmap-to-carcinogens</p> <p>https://besmart.ie/</p> <p>https://library.etbi.ie/library (FET digital library Ireland)</p>