

Rationale for ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Nail Technology

Aims and objectives

The ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Nail Technology comprises of ITEC units:

- Unit 11 Manicure & Pedicure
- Unit 20 Nail Technology
- Unit 22 Professional Conduct & Business Awareness

Each unit is mandatory and has 3 elements – theory, practical and case studies with the exception of Professional Conduct & Business Awareness which is theory only.

The main aim of the ITEC Level 3 Diploma is to enable candidates to provide treatments for the purpose of caring for and enhancing nails.

It also aims:

- to provide skills at Level 3 in the National Qualification Framework for those interested in the Beauty Therapy industry
- to provide opportunities for staff in the Beauty Therapy industry to gain a Level 3 qualification
- to qualify candidates as Nail Technicians at Level 3 in the Beauty Therapy industry
- to sustain the interest of candidates wanting to work in the Beauty Therapy industry
- to encourage knowledge and understanding for the Beauty Therapy industry at Level 3
- to provide opportunities for candidates to focus on the development of the major Key skills and the wider Key skills in a Beauty Therapy context such as communicating with clients, working with others and problem solving
- to provide opportunities for candidates to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal qualities and attitudes essential for successful performance in employment as a Nail Technician.

The candidate will study the theory of all treatments as well as the anatomy of the nail. Contraindications and recognition of skin diseases and disorders are also a vital part of their training as well as the underpinning knowledge and skills required to successfully perform the treatments: Manicure & Pedicure and Nail Technology.

Case studies are also required to be completed for this award. The case studies form the internal assessment and should be assessed throughout the training by the tutor using the ITEC Case Study Guidance sheet. The case studies are then verified by an ITEC Practical Examiner at the end of the course during the visit for invigilating the practical examination. The case studies ensure that a variety of clients must be consulted and treated in all of the above areas and the outcomes of the treatments must be documented in order to gain experience of working with a variety of clients and conditions whilst candidates are still under supervision. Detailed rationales for the choice of treatment and outcomes must be shown, as well as after care and product advice.

All subsets of the units are mandatory and should be taught concurrently and examined concurrently. The examinations consist of the following:

- Unit 11 Manicure & Pedicure has a 50 Multiple Choice Question paper of 1 hour duration
- Unit 20 Nail Technology has a 50 Multiple Choice Question paper of 1 hour duration
- Unit 22 Professional Conduct & Business Awareness has a 50 Multiple Choice Question paper of 1 hour duration
- A Practical exam conducted by an ITEC Practical Examiner for units 11 and 20
- Internal Assessment of ALL case studies by the College Lecturer and External Verification by the ITEC Practical Examiner.

As indicated above all aspects of the award are examined externally by ITEC Examiners.

Recommended prior learning

It is recommended that candidates should have achieved a level of education equivalent to five GCSEs at grades A*-C prior to commencing the ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Nail Technology. However, exemptions may be made for adult returners with experience of the work place.

Opportunities for progression

Once candidates have achieved the ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Nail Technology they may progress on to other ITEC or equivalent (VTCT, City and Guilds, BTEC) awards at level 3, for example:

- Body Treatments
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Holistic Massage

This award qualifies graduates to operate their own clinic or home visiting practice. Graduates can also gain employment in Beauty Salons, Health Club, Health Farms, Spas and Liners.

Professional indemnity and public liability insurance can be obtained via several different industry associations who recognise the ITEC Diploma.

Relationship to National Occupational Standards

The ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Nail Technology complies with the National Occupational Standards for Beauty Therapy at Level 3 (see mapping at the end of the units). ITEC has ensured that best practice in the workplace has been reflected in the syllabus. ITEC has linked the qualification to the relative job role as well as ensuring that the syllabus reflects the required level of knowledge and ability for the Therapist.