

The introduction of construction training programme of Vas County Center for Vocational Education and Training Hefele Menyhért Vocational School Szombathely

Our school is the only one in county Vas that provides training programmes in the construction field for students, and it is the biggest one that provides woodworking vocational trainings. We have decades of experience in both fields.

As for the construction field, we educate students on the 4th and 5th level of the European Qualifications Framework. Students enrolled to a 3 year-long course can choose from studying carpentry, tiling, painting and decorating, paperhanging, bricklaying on full-time training, and we offer trainings in mortarless masonry, insulation and roof covering within the adult training programme. Students must take a vocational examination at the end of the trainings. During the full-time training, students study general subjects, too, besides the vocational subjects. From the 10th grades on, students have their practical training classes within the dual training programme that helps them prepare for their technical examination. At the end of the training, a portfolio that includes the works finished must be put together and be presented at the vocational examination.

On the 5th level of the European Qualifications Framework we train overground building technicians. After graduation, it takes one more year to achieve the technician qualification, so altogether it is a 5-year program.

After the sectoral training, picking a vocation follows. In case of carpentry, tiling, painting decorating, paperhanging and bricklaying, this happens at the end of the 9th grade. Technicians have to pick a vocation at the end of the 10th grade.

Training and outcome requirements for carpenters include being able to construct roof covers that protect buildings and assemble and dismantle scaffoldings, shutterings and struttings. Students should be able to reconstruct the wood structures of old buildings and prepare the prefabricated wood structures on the basis of the training place. By the end of the training,

students have to construct a reduced scale model of a complete roof structure of choice with thorough documentation. The work must be presented at the examination.

Tilers must acquire the following skills during the training: applying, repairing and dismantling the internal, external and partition walls, the hard and soft finishes of the ceiling and the floor; the paving and decoration finish of the building according to technical drawings; applying and repairing facade finishes, base finishes, stairs and step finishes and pavings.

Painting, decorating and paper-hanging are some of the most spectacular field within the building trades. Applicants must pass a skill assessment test, where we examine their colour perception skills. Painters, decorators and paper-hangers must acquire the following skills during the training: applying and renovating all kinds of coatings according to the technical descriptions and final designs.

Bricklaying is what the building industry is based on. Bricklayers have to be able to complete various tasks, e.g.: interpreting designs and descriptions, assembling different structures and measuring the amount of substances needed. They have to know all about the foundation work, excavation work and formwork, the construction of reinforced concrete structures and the construction processes and technologies. The way they apply insulations must always meet the strict protocols. If needed, they should be able to carry out professional dismantling and paving tasks, too. They use modern tools and devices during their work.



Our carpenter students in the Euroskill 2014

During plasterboard training, students can learn the making up technology, rules and applied materials of partition walls, shaft walls; suspended ceilings and set up converted left with

wooden or metal framework, fireproof covers of wooden or metal load bearing structures and engineering lines and cables.

Students who learn insulation techniques in our school should be aware of the different activities in the building industry, as well as its technologies and materials. They should be able to handle different tools, hand tools and smaller machines safely. They know the steps of the building process and the relevant regulations on industrial safety.

Roof tilers have to learn how to prepare, repair and maintain small or large roofing felts, finishes for the facade of buildings, as well as how to prepare concrete, ceramics or natural based coverings.

Overground building technicians should be able to carry out different technical tasks, including drawing final designs of buildings in the field of formwork either by themselves or by the supervision of an engineer, or rebuilding, reconstructing, renovating or repairing buildings. In 11th grade they start their technical training. In 13th grade they have their technician vocational examination and partly their school-leaving exam. The examinee has to prepare a portfolio before the exam, which is the documentation of scheduled work using drawing-designing programmes, results and other works of the student certifying by the instructors. Overground building technicians do their practice mainly in the training workshop of the school.

Technicians from 9th to 12th grade have 1 or 2 days of vocational training per week, while technicians of 13th grade have about 4 days of vocational training per week. On other days, students have general educational subjects.

In case of Vocational Education and Training students, 9th graders have about 2,5 days of vocational training, 10-11th graders have 4 days of vocational training per week. On other days students have general educational subjects.

We maintain good relationship with building and construction companies and suppliers that contribute to the improvement of the quality of the education in our school with their experience and seminars. Sometimes they give financial assistance to our school.

During their studies, our students visit factories in the relevant fields and participate in vocational field trips. From year to year we compete and visit the Porta Speciosa International Constructional Student Conference.

After achieving their qualifications, our students have a good chance of finding a job in their own trade.

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