

Profile: Mo Wilson - VS Training

I have been with VS Training Ltd since the company was formed in 2004, training staff and assessing and/or internally verifying NVQ levels 2, 3 and 4 and subsequently, Diplomas at levels 2, 3 and 5 in Health & Social Care. VS Training Ltd is an accredited centre for City & Guilds and the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health.

I train staff from all care environments, whose service users have differing care needs. These may be children's services, learning disability, elderly and physically and mentally disabled. I deliver induction training for various companies at our venue at Cobdown House, Ditton, Aylesford, Kent in the following topics:

- Medication;
- Equality & Diversity;
- the Mental Capacity Act 2005;
- Manual Handling;
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults;
- Infection control;
- Food hygiene;
- Dementia;
- Health & Safety;
- Personal Care
- First Aid.

Induction courses are spread over a two week period to allow for shadow shifts in between and are held approximately every 3-4 weeks throughout the year.

I currently deliver Manual Handling training to KCC trained trainers both for their 5-day initial course and annual 1-day updates. Also, I train KCC staff in manual handling risk assessment and the safe use of wheelchairs. As part of this contract, I visit KCC sites to observe the trainers delivering courses to their teams in order to standardise the training throughout their organisation. VS Training Ltd is the Information, Advice & Guidance contact for KCC trained trainers should they need advice in manual handling. I attend regular Review Group meetings with KCC where standardisation, any concerns or future plans are discussed.

I have delivered manual handling training to both clinical and non-clinical NHS staff including physiotherapists and have written bespoke courses to meet the requirements of the staff attending. These courses cover both inanimate loads and people moving. I train NHS clinical staff in Manual Handling of people as part of their induction into the NHS.

The qualifications I hold at present are:

- Level 4 NVQ in Leadership & Management of Care Services
- Advanced Certificate in Education
- Trained Trainer in Manual Handling & Risk Assessment
- Trained Trainer in Infection Control
- Trained Trainer in Adult Protection
- CIEH Advanced Certificate in Health & Safety
- A1 Award
- V1 Award
- Trained Trainer/Instructor in First Aid

As a member of The National Back Exchange, I am kept up-to-date with good practice and changes in legislation with regard to manual handling. Many of the members are NHS staff from a variety of disciplines and some are also independent trainers. Meetings and workshops are held regularly to share concerns and personal experiences with regard to inanimate loads, people-moving and the use of equipment and to learn and practice techniques.

Manufacturers are invited to these meetings on a regular basis to demonstrate and instruct the members on the use of manual handling equipment. This forum has been used to develop national standards for manual handling. At least one member of VS Training Ltd attends the meetings and cascades information to the rest of the team.

My aim, whatever the course, is to create a relaxed learning environment in a variety of ways to suit differing learning styles i.e. discussion, questions and answer sessions, group activities and feedback, practical elements where applicable, short appropriate dvd clips and some PowerPoint presentations. It is important to ensure attendees leave the course with the information they need to carry out their working role safely, confidently and effectively.