



Managed Learning Programme

FOR NEW ENTRANTS TO THE GAS INDUSTRY

Course Handbook

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Introduction to ECTA – Company Profile

Established in 2005, East Cheshire Training and Assessment (ECTA) is a National Trainer of operatives and operational staff within the Gas, Utilities and Facilities Management Industries, headquartered in Stockport, Greater Manchester.

ECTA offers an extensive range of training and auditing services including delivery of Domestic and Commercial Gas together with Managed Learning and Apprentice Programmes, Smart Meter Installation, Electrical and Renewable Energy courses, also supplying bespoke consultancy services to a varied client base, from both Private and Registered Social Housing Landlords to Facilities Management companies. As well as supplying inspection services to certification bodies such as NICEIC and ELECSA. The operational team's passion for training and training solutions has consistently driven the growth and strategic direction of the Organisation. The desire to better understand customer's requirements, constraints and technical parameters allows us to devise the optimal solution whilst maintaining a fast, responsive and agile service which is both effective and efficient.

Supported by two in-house Training & Assessment centres, which are approved to deliver Gas, Electric, Water and Renewable Energy courses by Logic Certification and BPEC, our trainers and assessors are industry professionals, and have the knowledge and experience to provide the highest level of service.

Through continued investment in people, knowledge and training we have been able to decant years of engineering knowledge and problem solving to develop our own, dynamic and highly skilled workforce. Nurturing new talent whilst striving to always deliver superior service levels ensures ECTA will be a market leader now and well into the future.



What is a Managed Learning Programme (MLP)?

A career as a Domestic Gas engineer offers fantastic opportunities for those looking for a practical job in an industry which is forecast to suffer massive skills shortages over the coming years. There are different types of jobs available, such as servicing gas appliances, design and installation of heating systems, and repairing central heating boilers. Salaries for qualified engineers range from around £23k per annum up to around £40k for an experienced engineer.

New legislation which came into force on 1st October 2017 means that ALL gas training courses for new entrants now need to be approved, and timescales and content have been standardised throughout the industry. All routes into the gas industry require a period of “off the job” training (which is usually at a training centre) and “on the job” training which must be carried out under the supervision of a Gas Safe registered engineer.

The Managed Learning Programme is a vocational approved training programme designed to be robust, structured, subject to quality management and accessible for audit purposes. Established in line with the new legislation, which allows candidates new to the gas industry to undertake a period of “off the job” training – 7 weeks for the standard Domestic Gas Engineer route – followed by a period (20 weeks) of “on the job” training under the supervision of a Gas Safe Registered engineer. Once you have successfully completed both parts of the MLP, you will be eligible to undertake ACS assessments, which are the qualifications required to get Gas Safe Registration. This is the shortest route now available for new entrants to the industry, and means you could be a qualified gas engineer in approximately 6 months.

Once candidates have completed the “off the job” programme of training, they will then attend “on the job” training and be required to complete a portfolio, which consists of

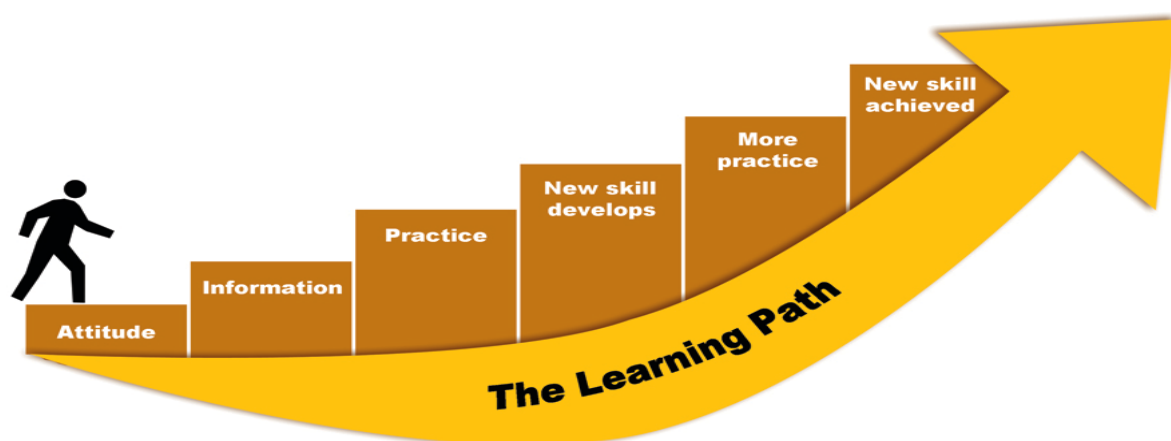
evidence of works to be undertaken in written and photographic format. Candidates will choose one of two pathways to achieve completion of the portfolio; this can be by providing their own mentor placement or through ECTA providing a mentor placement, through our network of employers.



So why do you need to complete a MLP?

All operatives working with gas in the UK must by law be competent to do so. Registration with the Gas Safe Register (GSR) is also a legal requirement. To apply for registration on the Gas Safe Register candidates must be able to demonstrate that they are capable of carrying out gas work competently.

The only recognised method to determine this is to undertake the 'National Accredited Certification Scheme for Individual Gas Fitting Operatives (ACS)' to prove competency. The pathway to being able to take ACS accreditation is through a Managed Learning Programme.



Training Journey Overview

ECTA's Managed Learning Programme has been established to provide a clear, concise and robust route into the gas industry. Below outlines a brief synopsis of the training journey;

Interview

Candidates attend a one to one Interview with an ECTA technically competent, qualified assessor to conduct pre-entry aptitude test in basic Maths and English, plus a practical exercise. At this meeting a learning style assessment will also be conducted to gain an understanding of any adjustments ECTA would have to make in order to enhance the candidates learning experience. Following these evaluations candidates will be given a guided tour of the facilities to gain further understanding of what practical elements will need to be completed.

If at the end of the Interview we are not satisfied with a candidate's suitability we will inform the applicant, as it is not in anyone's interest for ECTA to enrol applicants deemed unsuitable or lacking the necessary aptitude for the Managed Learning Programme.

'Off the Job' Training Topic's – Weeks 1 to 7

Week1

- Induction
- Health and Safety
- Combustion and its Controls

Week 2

- Chimney Systems
- Ventilation
- Pressure Flow
- Tightness Testing
- Purging

Week 3

- Domestic Pipework Installation
- Electrical Systems
- Controls and Components

Week 4

- Heating Design
- Heat Loss and Comfort Conditions

- Installation and Servicing of Domestic Central Heating and Hot Water Appliances

Week 5

- Installation and Servicing Domestic Cooking Appliances

Week 6

- Installation and Servicing Domestic Space Heating Appliances
- Installing Domestic Meters

Week 7

- Principles and Procedures Fault Diagnosis
- Recap, Consolidation, Portfolio Building

'On the Job' Training Topic's – Weeks 8 to 27

- On Site Mentored Placement putting Theory and Practical skills into use under supervision, Portfolio Building.

Final Assessment Week

- Summative Assessment at ECTA, Including Portfolio Sign Off



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the cost of the full MLP Course?

Total cost including certification fees is £6,200 +VAT

What will I receive at the end of the programme?

On successful completion of the Managed Learning Programme you will receive a 'Certificate of Training' which permits entry to our ACS courses.

What is a Managed Learning Programme?

This provides a planned approach to your training, enabling your progress to be monitored throughout the whole training journey

How long does it take to complete?

ECTA's Managed Learning Programme has been designed to be flexible and can be completed in just 6 months or up to a year if more convenient for the candidate.

Do I need your 'Certificate of Training' qualification?

This accreditation is a crucial part of the Managed Learning Programme, without it you cannot prove you have carried out gas training that will be recognised by the Gas Safe Register.

Where does the course take place?

At ECTA's Training Centre in Stockport.

Will I have enough time to finish the course?

ECTA's Managed Learning Programme has been designed to be versatile; we understand that not everyone learns at the same pace so we cater for this with our flexible approach to training. The group only moves as fast as the slowest individual, so no body gets left behind. Feedback is requested on a weekly basis and if it is recognised that someone is falling behind one to one training can be organised to bring candidates up to speed. Our only stipulation is that all programmes must be completed within 12 months of the initial start date.

What qualifications will I have at the end of the ACS part of the course?

ECTA's standard ACS package is recommended, this includes CCN1, CENWAT, HTR1 & CKR1. However, if you have a clear direction in which you wish to pursue your future career, please inform us before commencing your MLP and we'll bespoke the content of delivery to your specific needs.

Will I be registered with Gas Safe at the end of the course?

No, but you will be qualified for registration with Gas Safe; you must then apply for registration with Gas Safe. Only the candidate or their employer may apply for registration we cannot do this for you.

Do I need to register with the Gas Safe Register?

Yes, all persons undertaking gas work in the UK must by law be registered with the Gas Safe Register.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us directly (0161 480 5656) and we'll endeavour to answer any queries you may have.