

# Association of Hairdressers & Therapists

## Christmas special newsletter



**December  
2020**



Dear all members,

We hope you have survived what can be called an exceedingly difficult time; since the start of the academic year and before. Listening and talking to all professionals, whether in industry or education, they have all found it has been a stressful time, in very surreal circumstances.

I hope you have found the new AHT Facebook page, that we started back in April, to be of some assistance in finding clarity and, more importantly, support through all of the mixed messages which have been complicated by different legislation applied from the four nations governments and even regions.

There are currently 680 members on the Facebook page, with NHBF, Hairdressing, Barbering and Beauty Council, City and Guilds, Habia and more, all sharing information to assist every one of us. Please do join if you have not done so already, the group you need to join is:

### **AHT information - staying safe during Covid-19**

You can also find sector related information on the AHT 2021 competitions, membership to the AHT and its benefits, DfE surveys and much more on the website.

[www.aht-uk.com](http://www.aht-uk.com)

This end of year newsletter contains a summary of how next year's competitions are going to be held, important dates and various surveys you need to be involved in, so that 'your voice' can be heard on the huge review that is underway on Post-16 qualifications at Level 3 and below in England. The full government consultation response can be found on the DfE website.

Lorraine Nordmann and I have been invited to be part of the Habia Education Forum with the first meeting on 7 December 2020. This was held with DfE on Post-16 qualifications. Present on this team meeting were senior policy advisors from DfE to update us, as they are seeking our (and your) views on the proposals to reform post-16 technical qualifications.

ChongPhi Vong & Kate Haseler-Young and Chris Hooper are all representatives from the Department for Education (DfE).

It is vital that our views inform the developments over the coming months and future years. Furthermore, we all will be better informed and prepared about proposals and how the qualifications we teach are going to change. **Please take the time to answer the surveys as your opinions really do count.** Information can be found in this newsletter and on the AHT website. If you wish for either Lorraine or I to raise your views and concerns, please email us on our Habia email.

[sue.postlethwaite@habia.org](mailto:sue.postlethwaite@habia.org)  
[lorraine.nordmann@habia.org](mailto:lorraine.nordmann@habia.org)

All that remains to be said is to enjoy Christmas and have an enjoyable and well-earned break.

Kind regards,

Sue Postlethwaite  
Education Officer

# Summary of the Review of Post-16 qualifications at Level 3 and below

On Monday 7 December 2020, Habia held an initial review of Level 3 post-16 qualifications and below. The Level 3 is ahead of the Level 2 review and the call for DfE evidence has already been taken and they are at the second stage of the consultation.

The review, as I am sure you know, is a result of the government's drive to boost the quality of post-16 qualifications which was announced by Education Secretary Gavin Williamson.

Last year the government announced plans to remove funding from qualifications that overlap with T Levels and A levels, and only fund qualifications at Level 3 and below that are high quality and lead to good outcomes for students.

This is an ideal time for us to have this discussion with the DfE so we can share our views and ask all the questions we have. The second stage consultation for Level 3 has been published and the link is below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-stage-of-post-16-qualifications-overhaul-gets-under-way>

## Some background information:

This link shows, as many of you will already know, that the Education Secretary has confirmed that he is pressing ahead with these vital reforms, setting out detailed measures that will make sure all students, no matter where they live and whatever course they choose, can be confident that it will set them on the path to success. The new measures, were subject to a 12-week consultation process, to include:

- Putting employers at the heart of designing and developing all level 3 technical qualifications - this is already happening with apprenticeships, T Levels and new higher technical qualifications, but the government is going further so that students and employers can be sure they are gaining the skills they need to thrive
- Removing funding for qualifications that overlap with A levels and T Levels - simplifying choices for young people - while offering funding for high quality alternatives to A levels, that support students to progress onto specialist Higher Education courses, such as performing arts and sports
- Ensuring only qualifications that meet a high-quality bar and help students progress into work or further study are approved for funding
- Making more qualifications available to adults including new T Levels so more people can upskill or retrain

## Education Secretary Gavin Williamson has said:

Now, more than ever, we must redouble our efforts to support as many people as possible to access high quality education and training, so they can get ahead and so employers can tap into the talented workforce they need as we build back better from coronavirus.

The measures we have announced today will ensure that whether a student opts to study A levels, a T Level or any other qualification, they can be confident that it will be high quality and will set them on a clear path to a job, further education or training.

Analysis published by the Department for Education has highlighted a confusing landscape of over 12,000 courses on offer to young people at level 3 and below, with multiple qualifications in the same subject areas available - many of which are poor quality and offer little value to students or employers.

# Post-16 Qualifications continued...

Feedback, at the moment, after the first stage of the review has some good points such as qualifications will be of a high quality and lead to good outcomes for students is fine **but** there are also points that make people think has everything been thought through thoroughly enough?

For instance, these are some of the points fed to me by tutors:

- How do T-Levels map over into industry?
- Who are T-Levels for?
- Is there a need for something else besides T-Levels?
- Who is going to be responsible for finding work placement?
- Correct career advice , not just pushing less able students down H/B route
- Transition period, no end qualification, this could be a wasted year?
- Currently there are no options for African Caribbean in Hairdressing

All these questions and more were tabled and discussed. An example is that Kate Haseler-Young thought the question on Career advice was particularly important and headways were being made with secondary schools and other organisations, to see the right advice and information was given to young people.

Work placement will be a whole thing, to be worked at by everyone involved. The group felt this as there were not enough places to be found for apprentices and some who had places were now having to revert to full time courses due to the impact of Covid -19, as there has been a reduction in industry workplaces. So how would it be possible to find more placements in the industry?

It was seen there was a place for T-Levels but we need something else also. The most important thing is that they have skills to be competent when they go through the salon door, whichever route they take.

Diane Hey stated, they must be work competent not just threshold competent at the end of the T-Level. Short Apprenticeships with end of point assessment were being looked at. Again, please do add your views.

They are aware of these things and by answering the survey we can reinforce this by numbers voicing their concerns, items to be addressed and maybe answers to move forward positively. Use the links throughout the text above, you can also email your concerns to us, to voice at the next meeting in 2021.

## Help shape the National Occupational Standards (NOS)

Questionnaires open until 7 January 2021

Habia and Skills Active UK invite you to support the review of the National Occupational Standards (NOS) - Please see the different sectors below...this is another area you must all be involved with. Remember you are the ones training and educating our up and coming future skills experts.

- Hairdressing - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/93LR965>
- Barbering - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/95PTLMD>
- Nails – <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JSD6628>
- Beauty therapy – <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CQ6YNH9>
- Trichology – <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JPRF6N3>
- Aesthetics – <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/VRNR5Q3>
- Wellbeing and Holistic (Spa) - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JLSK5GT>

# Urgent Competition Information for 2021



**Due to Covid-19 there are changes to our regional AHT Competitions. Please see below...**

Entries to our regional photographic heats open on Monday 22 February 2021 until Monday 5 April 2021

There are **UNLIMITED** entries for each competition category but you must be a current member on Monday 22 February 2021 to be eligible to enter.

All entries will be judged by a panel of experts week beginning Monday 26 April 2021 and finalists will be notified on 29/30 April 2021.

All the competition categories and rules are on the website:

[www.aht-uk.com](http://www.aht-uk.com)

Or you can contact Denise Johnson National competition Director at:

[DenisejohnsonAHTcompetitions@outlook.com](mailto:DenisejohnsonAHTcompetitions@outlook.com)

## National Finals

These will take place on Monday 24 May 2021 and direct entry competitions will be held on Sunday 23 May 2021 (all depending on government guidelines at that time).





We do hope that from reading this page you have found support which has helped you deal with the problems and anxieties that COVID-19 has brought to our industry.

The AHT are a non-profit organisation who exists to support you. We work with City and Guilds, VTCT, Habia, MHfeds, The Hair and Barbering Council, World Skills and the Government. This combination provides a firm platform which gives us a strong voice and opportunities to raise our industries profile and contribute to moving our industry and its education, forward.

This is a great opportunity for you to join the AHT at a discounted rate of £20.00

### Your Membership includes:

- Free support on Hair, Beauty and Media issues that affect any of the skill areas in our industry, including a regular newsletter that keeps you informed of current updates within the industry.
- The Hairdressing and Barbering Council is giving a 5% discount off the joining fee.
- Joining this organisation will give us a stronger and united voice which is needed to persuade the government to recognise and listen to our industry professionals.
- Free membership to Habia, who are recognised by the government as the industry Standards Setting Body for Hairdressing, Beauty, Barbering, Nails, Spa and Aesthetics.
- 15% DISCOUNT on your first online order at Dennis Williams Wholesalers. When you sign up you will receive special discounts, offers and information on VAT free days!
- MHfeds will give you a 40% DISCOUNT off their training materials and videos, new materials are constantly being added. All this for only £30 per year.
- Reduced prices for specialists to come into your salon/college to train/up skill your staff
- 20% discount on print or e-books at Cengage, see [www.cengagebrain.co.uk](http://www.cengagebrain.co.uk)

### Events:

Hairdressing, Barbering, Beauty, and Nail competitions for trainees/ apprentices are held annually at both regional and national level. More information on the competitions can be found on [www.aht-uk.com](http://www.aht-uk.com)

Seminars that include Continual Professional Development Opportunities (CPD), to meet members needs. The last seminar had speakers from Ofsted, Awarding Organisations, SVQ and practical sessions on cutting, nails, long hair, aesthetics, make-up, and body painting, all requested by the members.

This year with Covid-19 affecting most people financially we have lowered the membership to £20.00 for 2020/21. Join today! The Association is open to professionals working in the industry within a salon or training centre/college. Find details on how to join at [www.aht-uk.com/membership](http://www.aht-uk.com/membership) - **once you join you will receive the discount codes.**

For more information please contact [jputtahttreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:jputtahttreasurer@gmail.com) or [suefp@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:suefp@hotmail.co.uk)

# Membership Application 2020-2021



## Why should you join the AHT?

- Your view will be represented on National Committees
- A national network of like-minded specialists for the exchange of good practice and support
- Seminars for skills updates, National Standards, Qualifications, Education and Training Initiatives, Manufacturers and Specialist Demonstrations
- Receive The Association's newsletter
- Various discounts for a range of industry related organisations
- Entry for your learners to the largest UK students' hairdressing competitions
- Annual General Meeting for your views to be heard and debated

Annual membership for **1st October 2020 – 30th September 2021**  
**has a discount of £5.00 and is only £20.00 \*one year only 2020-2021**

Please note: to be eligible for competitions, your membership should be current by **December 2020**

For more information please contact:

**National Treasurer:** Jonathan Putt

Email: [jputtahttreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:jputtahttreasurer@gmail.com)

### Membership Categories and Criteria

1. All those concerned in the delivery of training relating to Hairdressing and Therapy subjects
2. Professional trainers and assessors of hairdressing and therapy within colleges or training centres, who hold or are working towards a teaching/assessing qualification (specify dates of achievement / enrolment)
3. Ex-members of the AHT who have left as a result of redundancy, change of post, or retirement provided they do not enter any employment contrary to the interest of the Association
4. Holders of a recognised comparable teaching qualification
5. Honorary members shall be elected at the AGM or EGM, by simple majority on a proposition by either and Area or the NEC

Complete below and return with payment of **£20.00** made payable to **AHT** or **copy of standing order to:**

**Jonathan Putt, National Treasurer, 9 Tamar Close, Whitefield, Manchester, M45 8SJ.**

Members wishing to pay by standing order, please send an order to the above address or by email to:

[jputtahttreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:jputtahttreasurer@gmail.com)

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**Application/Renewal** - Yes, I can appreciate what the AHT can do for me and wish to join:

Name		Regional Area_
College		Telephone:_____
Home Address		Post code:_____
Teaching Qualification		Date of Achievement/enrolment:_____
<b>*Email</b>		
<b>*Alternative Email</b>		
<b>*Required field:</b> I agree for membership, updates & information to be emailed to me - ✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	