



**Study at college  
while still at school**

# SCHOOL-COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP

## COURSE GUIDE FOR S4-S6 PUPILS

## Glossary

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| <b>FA</b>   | Foundation Apprenticeship                    |
| <b>NC</b>   | National Certificate                         |
| <b>NPA</b>  | National Progression Award                   |
| <b>HNC</b>  | Higher National Certificate                  |
| <b>HND</b>  | Higher National Diploma                      |
| <b>MA</b>   | Modern Apprenticeship                        |
| <b>SCQF</b> | Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework |
| <b>SFW</b>  | Skills for Work                              |
| <b>SVQ</b>  | Scottish Vocational Qualification            |

| SCQF Levels | SQA Qualifications                              |                             | Qualifications of Higher Education Institutions   | Apprenticeships & SVQs  |
|-------------|---|-----------------------------|---|---|
| 12          |   |                             | Doctoral Degree   | Professional Apprenticeship   |
| 11          |   |                             | Masters Degree, Integrated Masters Degree, Post Graduate Diploma, Post Graduate Certificate | Graduate Apprenticeship<br>Professional Apprenticeship<br>SVQ       |
| 10          |   |                             | Honours Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate                                      | Graduate Apprenticeship<br>Professional Apprenticeship              |
| 9           |   |                             | Professional Development Award  | Bachelors / Ordinary Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate |
| 8           |   | Higher National Diploma     | Diploma Of Higher Education   | Higher Apprenticeship<br>Technical Apprenticeship<br>SVQ            |
| 7           | Advanced Higher, Awards, Scottish Baccalaureate | Higher National Certificate | Certificate Of Higher Education   | Modern Apprenticeship<br>SVQ  |
| 6           | Higher, Awards, Skills for Work Higher          |                             |   | Modern Apprenticeship<br>Foundation Apprenticeship<br>SVQ           |
| 5           | National 5, Awards, Skills for Work National 5  |                             |   | Modern Apprenticeship<br>SVQ  |
| 4           | National 4, Awards, Skills for Work National 4  | National Certificate        | National Progression Award  | SVQ   |
| 3           | National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3  |                             |   |   |
| 2           | National 2, Awards                              |                             |   |   |
| 1           | National 1, Awards                              |                             |   |   |

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Course details such as times, days and locations are on the Ayrshire College website:

[www1.ayrshire.ac.uk/schools](http://www1.ayrshire.ac.uk/schools)

Please note that the courses listed in this guide are subject to change.

# Welcome to Ayrshire College

Ayrshire College works closely with local authorities and secondary schools to deliver a wide range of vocational qualifications to school pupils that complements the Curriculum for Excellence.

Senior phase pupils (S4-S6) can study a College course while continuing at school.

Our aim is to ensure young people have access to work-relevant educational experience to enable them to make informed and ambitious choices about the career route that's right for them.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **Who can apply for these courses?**

The School-College courses are open to S4 to S6 pupils. Places are limited and there is a selection process that includes an application and interview (some courses require an aptitude test). Your guidance teacher will be able to assist you with this process.

You should:

- Be prepared to participate fully in the course
- Be prepared to abide by Ayrshire College policies and code of conduct
- Be interested in the course and have the entry requirements stated

## **When will I attend College?**

You will attend College alongside, and as an equally important part of, your school studies. The course begins in June, finishes for the summer holidays and starts again in August. All dates, start and finish times are listed on the College website.

## **What kind of support will I get when I'm at school and College?**

At College there will be support from your lecturer. A feedback and review process to keep

you on track will be supported by the School-College Partnership team. Where required, support will be available from the Inclusive Learning team to assist and mirror the support you receive at school. At school, you will get support from your guidance teacher and Skills Development Scotland advisor.

## **How do I travel to College?**

You will agree travel arrangements with your school, ensuring that you arrive on time for your College class. You will not have to pay for your transport between school and the College campus.

## **How will I learn at College?**

Most courses have practical activities within the learning, teaching and assessment. All of our courses will have some theory content as well.

## **How will I be assessed at College?**

In vocational training programmes, students are assessed on their skills and knowledge of the areas covered in the course. There will be known points throughout the year that you will be assessed. Assessments vary depending on the course you have chosen.



### **How will I know how I am doing on the course?**

Your lecturer will provide the School-College Partnership team and your school with regular formal progress reports throughout the year. You will also be able to track and question your progress by speaking to your lecturer.

### **How will the course be certificated?**

The course will appear on your SQA certificate, just like your school subjects.

### **Where can I find out more information?**

For further information speak to your guidance teacher, a Skills Development Scotland advisor, the School-College Partnership team or visit the Ayrshire College website:

[www1.ayrshire.ac.uk/schools](http://www1.ayrshire.ac.uk/schools)

### **What is a Foundation Apprenticeship?**

Foundation Apprenticeships are college courses designed for S5 and S6 pupils that combine school learning, college learning and work placement.

The duration of each course varies from 1 to 2 year programmes. A 1 year programme is open to S5 and S6 pupils, whereas you would start a 2 year programme in S5 and complete it at the end of S6.

A Foundation Apprenticeship counts as one of your school subjects and fits into your school timetable alongside your other National 5s/ Highers. It is the equivalent level of a Higher (Level 6).

During the course you will take part in a work placement, allowing you to spend time with local employers, gain exposure to the world of work, and understand employer expectations in your chosen industry.

A Foundation Apprenticeship also gives employers the chance to identify committed, skilled and motivated young people, that they can recruit to their company in the future.

### **Does the Foundation Apprenticeship give me an equivalent qualification to an SQA Higher to get into an HNC or degree programme?**

Yes - Foundation Apprenticeships are recognised by all Scottish colleges, for applications to HNC/D programmes. They are also recognised as equivalent to SQA Highers by all Scottish universities.

### **What are the benefits of a Foundation Apprenticeship?**

- Gain a college qualification, recognised by employers, while you are still at school
- Participate in work placement
- Opportunities to be seen by an employer
- Work on real projects with an employer and contribute to the business
- Experience to boost your application for college, university, Modern Apprenticeship, or a job
- Build skills that are specific to your future career
- Step into an exciting and growing industry that needs skilled people
- Receive student discounts from external companies and access to facilities such as the College gym

### **Where can I find out more information?**

Visit the Foundation Apprenticeship website:

[www.apprenticeship.scot/become-an-apprentice/foundation-apprenticeship](http://www.apprenticeship.scot/become-an-apprentice/foundation-apprenticeship)

## What do pupils think?

**“**I am grateful that I have got to come to College. I think I will be able to adjust better after I leave school. I feel that now that I have been to College I am a step ahead and can focus on my career goals.

Kira Douglas, Irvine Royal Academy **”**

**“**The Foundation Apprenticeship is the best option for me to get into the job I want to do. It's like a fast track route. I don't have to wait until I have left school to start gaining qualifications. It will save me time later.

I really enjoy the practical application of the course. We actually get to do the activities we talk about. I get to see how I can adapt an activity to meet what I want the child to learn.

Codi McNamee, **”**

**“**My work placement has been great, I really like it at EGGER. I enjoyed working on the machines in mechanical fitting, I got to help repair the forklifts and lorries in the garage, and I even ended up on top of the silos fixing anything electrical that needed repairs. It's been a hands on experience which I have liked.

Laura Montgomery, Cumnock Academy **”**

**“**I think this course will look great on an application. I want to be a Social Worker and I think this will help me get there. Alongside the course I am studying Higher English, Higher Maths, Chemistry (National 5), Higher Biology, and Higher Music.

This course is different from school. It's good to be surrounded by people who also want to do the same thing as you when they leave school.

Bonnie Speirs, Carrick Academy **”**

# SCIENCE



## Foundation Apprenticeship: Scientific Technologies (Laboratory Skills)

SCQF Level 6 - Duration: 1 Year - For S5/S6 pupils only

### What is the course about?

The science laboratory is a unique learning environment that enables and combines "learning through doing". Some of the world's most amazing discoveries have been made by people working in laboratories.

A Foundation Apprenticeship in Scientific Technologies offers you the opportunity to enhance your understanding of putting theory into practice, improve your reasoning skills, and develop practical skills in laboratory work.

If you can see yourself working in the sciences, particularly in a laboratory, this course is for you.

The course includes: a National Progression Award (NPA) in Applied Sciences and on this course you will be studying; Laboratory Safety, Mathematics for Science, Fundamental Chemistry and Experimental Procedures in Science.

You will also be covering three SVQ units in Laboratory and Associated Technical Activities (Industrial Science) and you will learn to prepare compounds and solutions for scientific or technical use, carry out simple scientific or

technical tests using manual equipment and follow Health and Safety procedures for scientific or technical activities.

You will also have a substantial work placement – one day per week

### What do I need?

For a place on this course, you'll need: a pass at National 5 in Chemistry (C or above), Maths and English.

### Next steps

There are a variety of possible progression routes at the end of this course (depending on other school qualifications):

- Modern Apprenticeship
- HNC at College
- University

## Foundation Apprenticeship: Food and Drink

SCQF Level 6 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

In this course you will learn about the principles of food science and food safety, from developing marketable food products for today's consumer to the care, legislation and processes involved in creating those products.

This Foundation Apprenticeship consists of a National Progression Award (NPA) in Food Manufacture and five units of an SVQ in Food and Drink Operations. The course gives you an opportunity to delve into the background of food and drink manufacturing and how it can be applied to a range of food products.

You will also achieve REHIS Food Hygiene and Health & Safety certificates, both of which you would be expected to have working in this industry.

Learning in the NPA covers: Food Manufacturing: Fundamentals of Food Science and Food Production and Food Manufacturing: Commercial and Social Drivers and Sustainability. You will also achieve the REHIS Food Hygiene: Elementary Certificate and the REHIS Elementary Health and Safety Certificate.

Learning in the SVQ covers: Developing Productive Working Relationships with

Colleagues, Interpreting and Communicating Information and Data in Food and Drink Operations, Contributing to Continuous Improvement of Food Safety in Manufacture, Developing a New Product in a Food Business and Promoting and Supporting Creative Thinking in a Food Business.

### What do I need?

For a place on this course, you'll need:

- To be keen to learn new skills.
- To be confident at working at SCQF Level 6
- A commitment to consistent and full attendance
- To have a career aspiration to work in the Food & Drink industry

### Next steps

On successful completion of this course you can look for a Modern Apprenticeship in Food and Drink Operations; progression into HNC/D at Ayrshire College; or study at degree level at university.

The qualification is recognised as equivalent to a Higher by most universities for most related courses, and further guidance on this will follow.

# HNC Applied Science

SCQF Level 7 - Duration: 1 Year

## **What is the course about?**

This course focuses on biology and chemistry theory, but with the underpinning practical skills required to be a successful and employable scientist - be prepared to spend plenty of time in the lab conducting experiments and processing your results!

Firstly, on the theory side, you'll look at fundamental chemistry, beginning with atomic structure and moving onto topics such as chemical formulae, organic chemistry and chemical equilibrium.

You'll study the human body and its physiological processes such as the nervous, cardiovascular, respiratory and digestive systems.

You'll look at cell biology, including cell membrane, proteins and cellular communication. You'll then explore the fascinating area of DNA and genetics, including key aspects of the cell cycle, genes, inheritance and applications of DNA technology.

In microbiology, you'll focus on the different types of micro-organisms, while in biochemistry you'll learn about the key aspects of biological molecules, enzymes and energy production within cells.

Finally, you'll look at biotechnology, including genetically modified organisms, production techniques in biotechnology products, applications such as genetically modified plants and animals, and ethical issues.

## **What do I need?**

- A real interest in science
- A minimum of one relevant Higher at Grade C or above, preferably Biology, Human Biology or Chemistry

## **Next steps**

You may progress to:

- HND Applied Science (SCQF 8) at Ayrshire College, HND Biomedical Science (SCQF Level 8) or HND Industrial Biotechnology (at Glasgow Kelvin College)
- Degree course at university, via our articulation arrangements, such as BSc Biomedical Science at UWS or Glasgow Caledonian University (direct entry to year 2)
- Start your career with employment, such as a technical level post in NHS



## START HERE

SCQF LEVEL 4  
NATIONAL 4

SCQF LEVEL 5  
NATIONAL 5

SCQF LEVEL 6  
HIGHER

SCQF LEVEL 7  
HNC

SCQF LEVEL 8  
HND

### SCIENCE PATHWAYS

- Available as a School-College course
- Full-time College course
- Possible progression

### GO ANYWHERE

- HNC Qualification
- Examples of Employment: Apprentice Technician

- HND Qualification
- Modern Apprenticeship
- Examples of Employment: Apprentice Technician

- University
- Examples of Employment: Hospital Laboratories, Paramedics, Microbiologist, Haematologist Industrial Laboratories



# SOCIAL SCIENCE

## Introduction to Criminology

SCQF Level 5/6 - Duration: 1 Year (Units only)

### What is the course about?

Criminology is the study of crime, including crime scenes, the causes and impact of crime, law enforcement, and the criminal justice system.

You will develop an understanding of the different types of physical evidence available at a crime scene, the importance of preserving evidence and how this evidence is utilised. The importance of crime scene protocol will be covered as well as developing an understanding of psychological evidence available at crime scenes and how that information can be used by offender profilers.

You will develop an understanding of the different types of crimes that are committed within the local community. In addition this course will introduce you to how members of the community perceive crime in their community, the role of the mass media in crime reporting and what measures are helping or hindering the community.

### What do I need?

- An interest in Criminology, the nature of crime and theories of its causes and solutions
- Three National 4 qualifications including English and one social subject. Students should also be working towards National 5's in English and one social subject whilst completing this course if they have not already achieved these.
- No formal Social Science qualifications are required but advantageous

### Next steps

There are a variety of possible progression routes at the end of this course:

- On successful completion of the course you may wish to advance to Criminology Level 6
- NC/HNC at Ayrshire College in Social Science

## START HERE

SCQF LEVEL 4  
NATIONAL 4

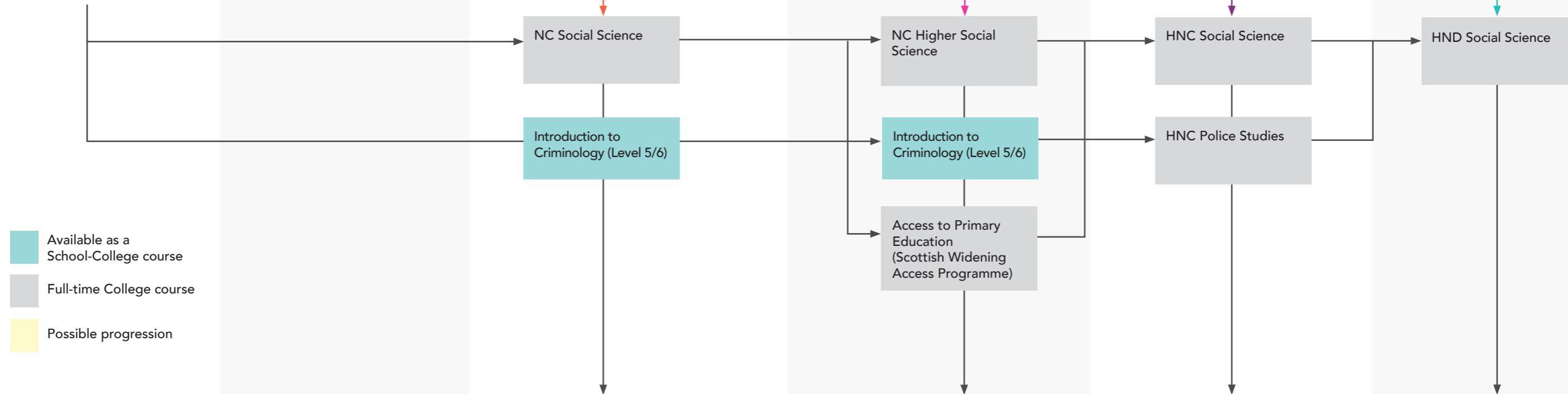
SCQF LEVEL 5  
NATIONAL 5

SCQF LEVEL 6  
HIGHER

SCQF LEVEL 7  
HNC

SCQF LEVEL 8  
HND

### SOCIAL SCIENCE PATHWAYS



## GO ANYWHERE

- Further College course
- Modern Apprenticeship

- SWAP students articulate to university
- HNC Qualification
- Examples of employment: Criminal Justice, Administration, Human Resources, Support Worker, Police Service, Market Research

- HND Qualification
- University to study: Social Science, Humanities, Teaching, Law/Criminal Justice, Journalism/Media, Languages, Social Work, Nursing, Environmental Management, Sustainability, Business, Politics
- Police Training
- Employment in a range of these areas

- University to study: Social Science, Humanities, Teaching, Law/Criminal Justice, Journalism/Media, Languages, Social Work, Nursing, Environmental Management, Sustainability, Business, Politics
- Police Training
- Employment in a range of these areas

# CONSTRUCTION, TRADES AND MOTOR VEHICLE



## Introduction to Construction Industry

SCQF Level 4 - Duration: 1 Year

### **What is the course about?**

This course is suitable for all young people interested in a career within the construction industry. This entrance level course will enable you to develop good basic hand skills whilst gaining an insight into what our industry has to offer. Taking this course could be the start of a career that may allow you to become a Modern Apprentice.

You will have the opportunity to gain skills in a variety of trades-specific areas such as bricklaying, carpentry & joinery, painting & decorating and plumbing. In addition, you will develop an awareness of health and safety and attitudes that enhance employability within the construction/engineering industry, or other sectors. You will take four City and Guilds Construction Units at SCQF Level 4 in: Bricklaying, Plastering, Painting & Decorating and Plumbing. (Please note that these units may be subject to change).

### **What do I need?**

There are no formal entrance requirements. You will be interviewed and you need to show that you want to learn new skills, have a real interest in the area and that you are committed to consistent and full attendance throughout the course. You need a positive attitude with a desire to succeed.

### **Next steps**

There are a variety of possible progression routes at the end of this course:

- A full-time construction course at SCQF Level 4 or 5
- National Progression Award in construction within a chosen trade
- Modern Apprenticeship

## Skills for Work: Automotive

SCQF Level 4 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

If you want to know about working in the automotive industry, what jobs are available, and the skills and knowledge required, then this course may be for you. We want people who enjoy solving problems and prefer doing hands-on practical tasks.

The course provides a broad introduction to the automotive industry. You will learn how to carry out basic vehicle checks, how to remove and replace components and mechanisms, and gain an understanding of how to use tools and equipment. You will also have an awareness of health & safety legislation.

The overall purpose of the course is to make sure that you develop the practical skills, knowledge and understanding needed within this industry, as well as developing the skills employers are looking for. For example, team working, following instructions and good customer service. You will be studying the following units: Automotive Skills: The Garage, The Technician, The Car and The Vehicle Modification Project.

### What do I need?

There are no formal entrance requirements. You will be interviewed and you need to show that you want to learn new skills, have a real interest in the area and that you are committed to consistent and full attendance throughout the course.

### Next steps

Successful completion of this course may provide you with opportunities to progress to:

- SVQs and Modern Apprenticeships in Automotive areas
- Full-time National Certificate courses in Automotive
- Full-time Institute of the Motor Industry courses at Ayrshire College
- Training/employment

## Advanced Woodwork

SCQF Level 5 - Duration: 1 Year

### Who is the course for?

This course is suitable for pupils who want to further develop their woodwork skills. Pupils need to be over the age of 16 to commence this course due to the machine work involved.

### What is the course about?

This course will give you the opportunity to construct furniture items. You will develop an understanding of the relevant health and safety considerations. You'll learn how to think critically and evaluate your work. And you will develop employability skills for woodworking and furniture manufacture.

The course will provide you with the skills and knowledge of the woodworking industry so that you can consider this area for employment or future study. You will learn wood machining, and best practice for working in a workshop. You will make a chair and a small box or cabinet.

You need to be over the age of 16 to commence this course due to the machine work involved.

### What do I need?

You need to have completed National 5 Practical Woodwork with a grade of B or above.

You will be interviewed and you need to show that you want to learn new skills, have a real interest in the area and that you are committed to consistent and full attendance throughout the course. You need a positive attitude with a desire to succeed.

### Next steps

This course may provide progression opportunities to:

- Employment in woodworking sector/ carpentry and joinery
- A relevant full-time college course
- Apprenticeship or trainee position as a cabinet maker

## Skills for Work: Construction Craft

SCQF Level 5 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

This course is suitable for young people interested in a career within the Construction Industry. If you have already achieved the Construction Crafts Level 4 course or have other relevant experience and qualifications then this is a great follow-on course. You will really start to develop good hand skills, and learn more about the following trades; joinery, brickwork and painting & decorating.

You will further develop skills and attitudes that enhance employability, such as communication, problem solving, working with others, not just in the construction industry, but in employment generally.

### What do I need?

Skills for Work Construction Crafts Level 4 or other relevant experience. You will be interviewed on an individual basis, and you need to demonstrate a desire to learn new skills with a commitment to attend and give your best.

### Next steps

You have a choice of possible progression routes at the end of this course. For example, a full-time course at College working towards a National Progression Award in Construction or a Modern Apprenticeship.

## Foundation Apprenticeship: Civil Engineering

SCQF Level 6 - Duration: 2 Years - For S5 pupils only

### What is the course about?

This course lets you find out what a career in civil engineering would be like and if it's right for you. You'll learn the key steps involved in a major construction project including; producing construction drawings by hand and using computer-aided design. How to choose and test the right civil engineering materials, carry out land surveys and what's involved in preparing a building site for the work to begin. You will also learn how to construct a substructure (foundations), skeleton frame of a building, structural steelworks, concrete frame and walls.

You'll also look at health and safety in the construction industry, mechanics and maths relevant to construction and engineering.

A Foundation Apprenticeship in Civil Engineering includes:

- A National Certificate in Civil Engineering (at SCQF Level 6)
- At least one unit from the SVQ3 in Civil Engineering (at SCQF Level 6)

Your work placement will take place over two weeks during the summer holidays.

### What do I need?

You should have or be working towards National 5 qualifications in Mathematics during S5. Your guidance teacher should think you are capable of working at SCQF Level 6, the same level as a Higher qualification.

### Next steps

If you achieve the Foundation Apprenticeship, you will have a solid basis for progression to a Modern Apprenticeship or a Higher National Certificate in a range of construction or civil engineering careers specialisms like:

- Construction Management
- Architectural Technology
- Quantity Surveying
- Building Surveying

## START HERE

CIVIL ENGINEERING  
PROFESSIONS  
PATHWAYS

SCQF LEVEL 6  
HIGHER

SCQF LEVEL 7  
HNC



Foundation  
Apprenticeship  
Civil Engineering

HNC Architectural  
Technology

Available as a  
School-College course

Full-time College course

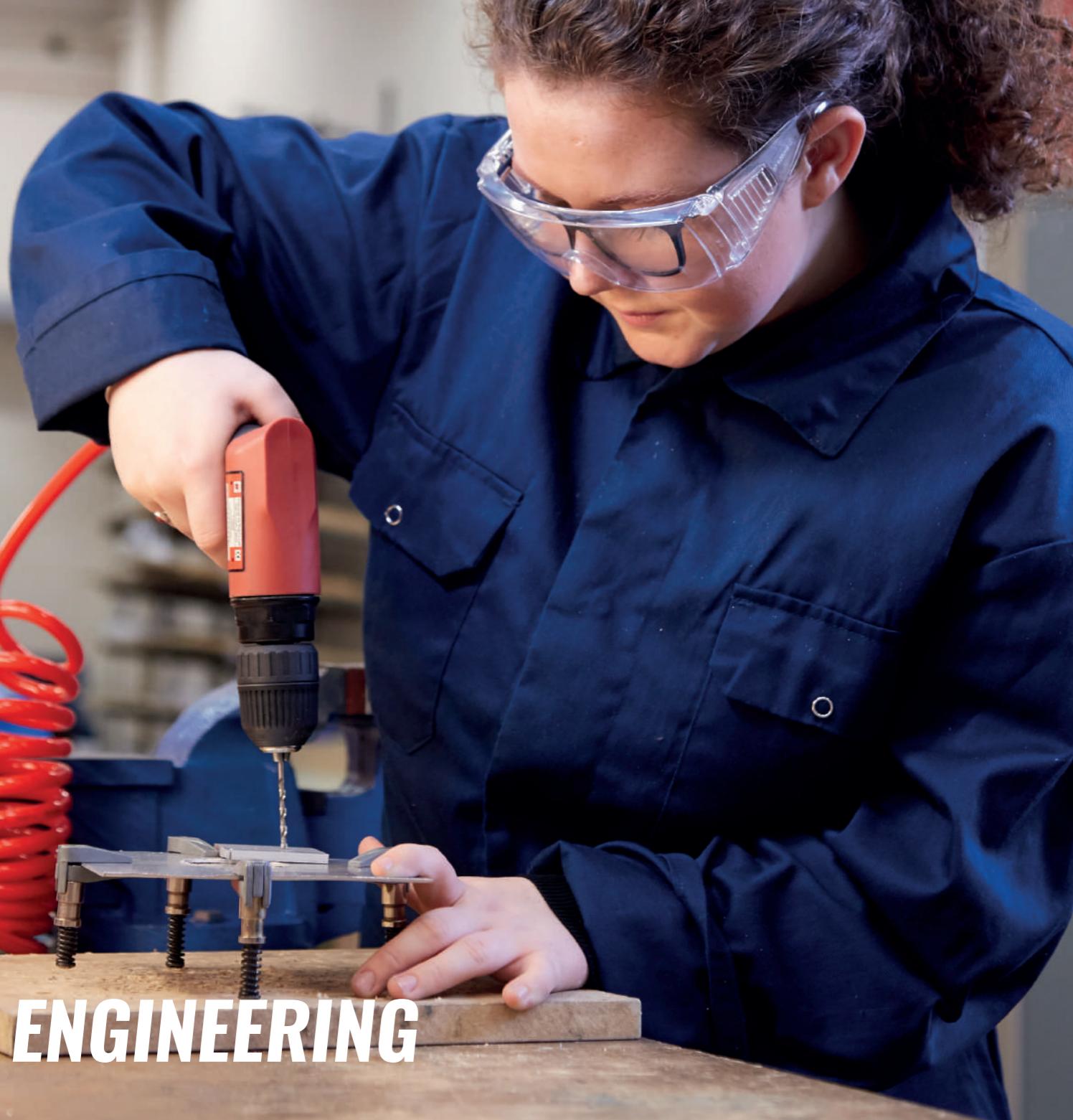
Possible progression

## GO ANYWHERE

- HNC Qualification
- Modern Apprenticeship
- Examples of employment:  
Civil Engineering Technician,  
Construction Technician,  
Quantity Surveying,  
Building Surveying,  
Construction Management,  
Architectural Technology,  
Land Surveying,  
Health and Safety

- HND Qualification
- University
- Examples of employment:  
Senior Level Technician in Civil Engineering or Construction,  
Quantity Surveying,  
Building Surveying,  
Construction Management,  
Architectural Technology, Health and Safety, Land Surveying





## Skills for Work: Engineering

SCQF Level 5 - Duration: 1 Year

### **What is the course about?**

Are you interested in engineering? Are you good at and do you enjoy problem solving? Do you wish to gain practical experience within the engineering area? Then this course may be for you!

You will start to develop the practical skills, knowledge and understanding and employability skills needed in the engineering sector. This course focuses on the broad areas of mechanical/fabrication, electrical/electronics, engineering maintenance and design and manufacture.

This will allow you to gain transferrable skills which can be applied to any of the above engineering areas. The overall purpose of the course is to make sure that you develop the practical skills, knowledge and understanding needed within this industry as well as developing the skills employers are looking. For example, team working, following instructions and working safely.

### **What do I need?**

There are no formal entrance requirements but if you want to take engineering further you should be working at National 5 Level in Maths. A Physics qualification would also be desirable. At your interview you need to demonstrate a desire to learn new skills and a commitment to consistent and full attendance; this will increase the chances of successful completion of the qualification.

### **Next steps**

Successful completion of this course may provide you with opportunities to progress to a full-time engineering course at Ayrshire College.

# Foundation Apprenticeship: Engineering

SCQF Level 6 - Duration: 2 Years

## Who is the course for?

The programme is designed to provide participants with theory, practice and related work experience. The FA in Engineering is aimed at pupils in S5 and S6 and will take 2 years to complete. It also contributes directly to achievement of the Modern Apprenticeship in Engineering by attainment of the core units of the MA qualification.

## What is the course about?

This course gives you the opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge to enter into a career in engineering and the advanced manufacturing sector and other engineering-related industries.

The course on the Ayr Campus will focus on aeronautical engineering.

The course on the Kilmarnock Campus will focus on machining, manufacturing engineering and welding.

The course on the Kilwinning Campus will focus on electrical and electronic engineering.

### Year 1

In S5 you will work towards the Performing Engineering Operations (PEO) course and some units related to National Certificate (NC) Engineering.

Other activities in S5 will include introducing you to the employer context in which engineering roles exist, and how engineering skills are utilised in the workplace; this will involve industrial visits to employers and talks from industry professionals.

### Year 2

In S6 you will complete any outstanding units from the Performing Engineering Operations (PEO) and National Certificate programme. The majority of work-related experience will be gained in S6 through a work placement and/or an industry challenge. The work-based competence units will be delivered and assessed in the workplace.

## What do I need?

You should have National 5 Mathematics at the start of S5. A Physics qualification would be desirable. You will be interviewed on an individual basis and need to demonstrate a desire to learn new skills and a commitment to consistent and full attendance.

## Next steps

On successful completion of this course you could progress to an HNC in Engineering or into employment or a Modern Apprenticeship.



## SVQ Performing Engineering Operations

SCQF Level 4 - Duration: 1 Year

### **What is the course about?**

This course is for anyone who has an interest in engineering, enjoys practical hands-on work in a workshop environment, can problem solve and wishes to gain relevant practical experience within this industry to possibly gain an apprenticeship. You will develop a portfolio which can be used to show employers during interviews. You need to be able to work safely, and be very responsible about health & safety.

This course provides a basic introduction to practical engineering. You will learn vocational skills in engineering including how to make components using hand tools and fitting techniques, and how to use semi-automatic MIG or MAG welding equipment. We'll show you the importance of adhering to statutory regulations and organisational safety requirements.

Finally you will learn to work efficiently and effectively in an engineering environment and how to use and communicate technical information.

### **What do I need?**

There are no formal entrance requirements but if you want to take engineering further you should be studying Maths. Physics is helpful too. At your interview you will need to demonstrate a desire to learn new skills and a commitment to consistent and full attendance.

### **Next steps**

Successful completion of this course may provide you with opportunities to progress to a full time engineering college course. If you want to study engineering, the PEO is a great addition to your National Qualifications evidencing your practical experience.

## SVQ Performing Engineering Operations (Infill only)

SCQF Level 5 - Duration: 1 Year

### **What is the course about?**

This course is for anyone who has an interest in engineering, enjoys practical hands-on work in a workshop environment, can problem solve, and wishes to gain relevant practical experience within this industry to possibly gain an apprenticeship. You will develop a portfolio which can be used to show employers during interviews. You need to be able to work safely and be very responsible about health & safety.

This course provides a basic requirement for a Modern Apprenticeship. You will learn vocational skills in engineering, including how to use computer software packages, how to assemble and test electronic circuits, and form an electrical cable enclosure and support system. Using a CAD system, you will produce mechanical engineering drawings. You will wire and test electrical equipment and circuits and learn how to work efficiently, effectively and safely in an engineering environment.

### **What do I need?**

There are no formal entrance requirements but if you want to take engineering further you should be working at National 5 Level in Maths. A Physics qualification would be desirable. At your interview you need to demonstrate a desire to learn new skills and a commitment to consistent and full attendance.

### **Next steps**

Successful completion of this course may provide you with opportunities to progress to a full-time engineering course at Ayrshire College and there may also be opportunities for Modern Apprenticeships. If you want to study engineering, the PEO is a great addition to your National Qualifications because it shows that you have practical experience.

## START HERE

SCQF LEVEL 4  
NATIONAL 4

ENGINEERING  
PATHWAYS

SCQF LEVEL 5  
NATIONAL 5

SCQF LEVEL 6  
HIGHER

SCQF LEVEL 7  
HNC

SCQF LEVEL 8  
HND

- Available as a School-College course
- Full-time College course
- Possible progression

## GO ANYWHERE

- Further College course
- Level 5 PEO course, or a Level 6 NC if you have the qualifications to do so. You may be able to gain semi-skilled employment

- Further College course
- Foundation Apprenticeship or an NC
- Modern Apprenticeship within the engineering sector

- Further College course
- Modern Apprenticeship within the engineering sector

- HND Qualification
- University
- Engineering Academy
- Examples of employment: Fabricator/Welder/Electrical or Mechanical Technician/CNC or Conventional Machinist/CAD Technician or Aerospace-related industry

- University
- Examples of employment: Fabricator/Welder/Electrical or Mechanical Technician/CNC or Conventional Machinist/CAD Technician or Aerospace-related industry

# BUSINESS AND COMPUTING



## NPA Software Development

SCQF Level 4 - Duration: 1 Year

### **What is the course about?**

This course will interest you if you enjoy working with computers, creating digital content or generally enjoy solving problems.

On this course you will learn all about the basic programming concepts and how to write short programs using a software development language and environment. After the basics are covered, you will develop further programming skills and eventually the knowledge and understanding required to devise a solution to a problem in software development. By the end of this course you will have developed practical skills in software development through the use of a high level language.

The course includes the following units:  
Computing: Programming in a High Level Language: Fundamentals, Software Development and Problem Solving.

### **What do I need?**

You need to have a basic level of skills in Microsoft Word and understand the general operation/navigation of a Windows-based PC. You must possess an interest in at least one of the following: coding, programming games, creating software and apps or webpage creation. It would be good if you have played different games and consoles/platforms but not essential as we will discuss a variety of examples throughout. Some previous experience of coding using platforms like Scratch and AppInventor would be good though not essential.

### **Next steps**

Successful completion of this course may allow you to progress to:

- NC Computing\*

\*Partly depending on your other qualifications

# NPA Computer Games Development

SCQF Level 5 - Duration: 1 Year

## What is the course about?

This course will interest you if you enjoy gaming and want to start making your own. You should have a keen interest in a variety of genres and have an eye for detail and analysis. If you're interested in discussing and investigating new emerging technologies this is the course for you.

On this course you will design your own narrative for a computer game, design and create your own characters, objects and levels. Learn how to create and capture sounds and graphics, design how the user interacts with your game and undertake an activity to promote your game.

This course will also help you to develop core skills valued by employers, particularly, communication, problem solving, working with others and time management. These transferrable skills are necessary for working in a range of other related jobs.

The National Progression Award (NPA) in Computer Games Development will prepare you for further study in Computer Games Development, Digital Media Studies, Computing Science and IT subjects

## What do I need?

You need to have a basic level of skills in Microsoft Word and understand the general operation/navigation of a Windows-based PC. You should be interested in at least one of the following: art, programming, audio or design. It would be good if you have played different games and consoles/platforms but not essential as we will discuss a variety of examples throughout. Some previous experience of coding using platforms like Scratch and App Inventor would be advantageous though not essential.

## Next steps

Successful completion of this course may allow you to progress to:

- NC Computing\*
- NC Games and Software Development\*

\*Partly depending on your other qualifications

# NPA Cyber Security

SCQF Level 5 - Duration: 1 Year

## What is the course about?

Cyber security is the technologies, processes and controls that are designed to protect systems, networks and data from cyber-attacks. It is one of the fastest evolving areas within business and government today, as online systems and networks are the foundations of the digitally-enabled economy.

Employment in Cyber Security is expected to continuously grow as people, companies and economies rely more on digital technology.

On this course you will learn about data security; this includes understanding the legal and ethical obligations around storing and sharing personal and business data, explaining the causes and effects of data security breaches and protecting data against security breaches.

You'll be doing digital forensics; this involves explaining the digital forensics process, applying relevant techniques in acquiring data and examining digital evidence.

You will also learn about ethical hacking; this means understanding what current tools and techniques are used by ethical and malicious hackers to compromise computer systems. You'll find out about current legislation

relating to computer crime and hacking, and how to perform a routine penetration test on a computer system within a controlled environment.

## What do I need?

For a place on this course, you'll need:

- A keen interest in Computing in general and the cyber world in particular
- To have, or be working towards, National 4 or 5 qualifications, including Maths and English

## Next steps

Successful completion of the course may allow you to progress to:

- NC Computing\*
- NC Games and Software Development\*

\*Partly depending on your other qualifications

## NPA Software Development

SCQF Level 6 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

This course will interest you if you enjoy working with computers, creating digital content or generally enjoy solving problems.

The principal aim of the qualification is to provide you with programming skills and prepare you for employment as entry-level computer programmers.

As part of this qualification you will develop knowledge and skills relating to software development. You will develop computational thinking skills including problem solving, transferable skills including core skills, and employment skills and develop an appreciation of the contemporary IT sector.

You will study the following units: Computing: Applications Development, Authoring a Website and Software Design and Development.

### What do I need?

You need to have a basic level of skills in Microsoft Word and understand the general operation/navigation of a Windows-based PC. You must possess an interest in at least one of the following: art, programming, audio or design. It would be good if you have played different games and consoles/platforms but not essential as we will discuss a variety of examples throughout. You should have completed the NPA in Software Development at SCQF Level 4 or be able to demonstrate a similar skill level in coding.

### Next steps

Successful completion of this course may allow you to progress to:

- NC Computing\*
- NC Games and Software Development\*

\*Partly depending on your other qualifications

## Foundation Apprenticeship: Business Skills

SCQF Level 6 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

This course lets you find out what a career in business would really be like - and if it's right for you.

It includes: A National Progression Award (NPA) in Business Skills (SCQF level 6), a Contemporary Business Issues unit and four units of an SVQ in Business and Administration (SCQF level 6).

NPA in Business Skills will cover the following topics: Understanding Business, Management of People and Finance, Web Apps: Word Processing, Web Apps: Spreadsheets, Contemporary Business Issues and a work placement.

You'll complete the units of your SVQ in Business and Administration mainly in the workplace, as part of your placement. You'll learn how to: plan, manage and improve your own performance in a business environment, communicate in a business environment, support other people to work in a business environment and design and produce documents in a business environment.

Your Foundation Apprenticeship will also help you to develop core skills valued by employers, particularly: communication, problem solving,

working with others, time management. These transferrable skills are necessary for working in a range of other related jobs.

### What do I need?

For a place on this course, you'll need:

- National 5 English
- An ability to work at SCQF level 6
- A keen interest in working in the Business Skills sector

### Next steps

- HNC at Ayrshire College
- University
- Modern Apprenticeship

## Foundation Apprenticeship: Computer Hardware and Systems Support

SCQF Level 6 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

Do you see yourself working with technology? Computers? Hardware and systems?

This course is designed for people like you who are interested in the more physical side of computing, have a desire to figure out how things work and want to learn more about computing hardware.

The Foundation Apprenticeship is designed to prepare you for employment in an IT/ Computing-related post at technician or professional level by developing your knowledge and skills in key areas such as, computer networks, network hardware, operating system security, network security, server installations and server performance and maintenance.

### What do I need?

You should have or be working towards National 5 qualifications during S5, preferably including Computing. Your guidance teacher should also think you are capable of working at SCQF Level 6, the same level as a Higher qualification.

### Next steps

You can progress to a Modern Apprenticeship in IT and Telecommunications (SCQF Level 6), or an HNC/HND Ayrshire College course in computing\*. There is also the possibility of exploring options for a related Graduate Level Apprenticeship in ICT/Digital.

\*Partly depending on your other qualifications

## HNC Cyber Security

SCQF Level 7 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

We live in a digital age where the demand for ICT and digital technology is growing at an incredible pace. With good computing and IT systems now central to every business, organisations are set to become even more driven by technology and data. In addition, modern organisations hold large amounts of data – about their customers and about themselves. But they face many threats to the security of this information, and they have many legal obligations to take care of it. This course will give you many perspectives about data breaches and how to protect against them.

You will learn the skills you need to design, implement and support IT systems in a wide range of industries. It focuses on the key areas of software development, databases, interface design, troubleshooting and cyber security.

### What do I need?

For entry to this course you'll need:

- A real interest in Computing Science
- A minimum of one Higher, but preferably two
- An interview with us

### Next steps

You may progress to:

- HND Cyber Security (SCQF Level 8)
- Relevant degree course at university
- Start your career with employment in the computing industry

## START HERE

**SCQF LEVEL 4**  
NATIONAL 4

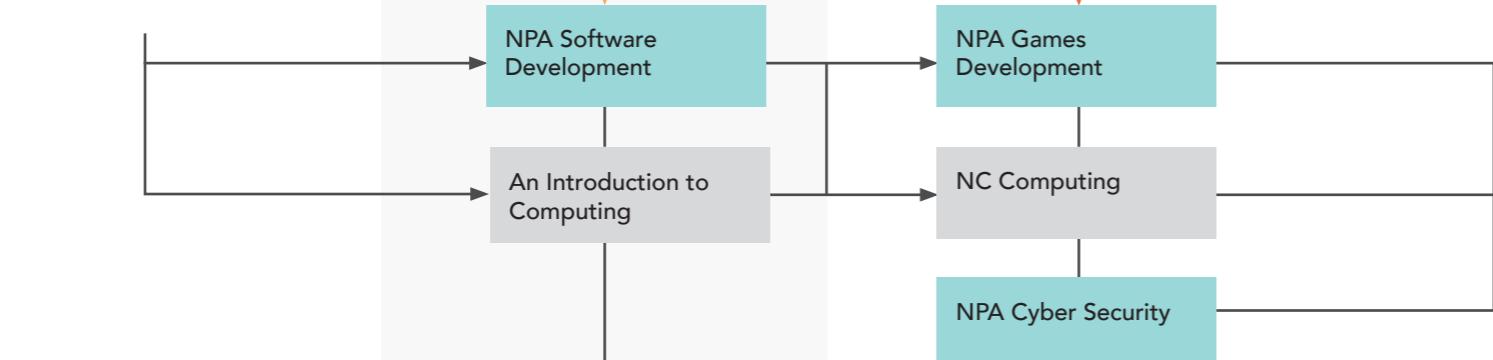
**SCQF LEVEL 5**  
NATIONAL 5

**SCQF LEVEL 6**  
HIGHER

**SCQF LEVEL 7**  
HNC

**SCQF LEVEL 8**  
HND

### COMPUTING PATHWAYS



Available as a  
School-College course

Full-time College course

Possible progression

### GO ANYWHERE

- Further College course
- Modern Apprenticeship in Software Development and Technical Support

- Further College course
- Foundation Apprenticeship
- Modern Apprenticeship in Software Development and Technical support

- HNC Qualification
- Modern Apprenticeship
- Examples of employment: Programmer, Analyst, Technical Support

- HND Qualification
- University
- Examples of employment: Programmer, Analyst, Technical support, Information Systems Manager

- University
- Examples of employment: Programmer, Analyst, Technical support, Information Systems Manager



**CREATIVE**

## NPA Digital Media plus Film-Making

SCQF Level 5 - Duration: 1 Year

### **What is the course about?**

This course is for wannabe Film/TV writers, radio producers, boom operators, directors, key grips, camera operators, gaffers, editors or even assistant editors! Anyone with a view to making a career in the media, with the primary focus on film, TV and radio.

This course is a great mix of theory to focus your knowledge and practical projects to hone your technical and team working skills. You will be building media knowledge and your ability to critically analyse media. You'll look at video and audio production, challenging your technical and critical ability, through practical projects. You will learn to develop skills and knowledge that can be built upon to drive you on through further work, study and practice, building your confidence, potential and desire to work in the highly competitive world of media production.

### **What do I need?**

Energy, creativity, an innate ability to press buttons, but more importantly a desire to do so...and 4 National 4s or equivalent. English is a desirable qualification, particularly if you are looking to progress onto one of our other full-time media courses.

A place on the course is subject to an interview process where you'll get the opportunity to show us exactly why you should be on the course and learning all about media production. You'll be working primarily in groups and so a strong commitment and excellent attendance are essential.

### **Next steps**

This course would be a perfect lead into our Level 6 Film and Broadcasting course that further develops your creative skills and practice. From there you can potentially move onto our HNC Media Analysis and Production course and on into employment or Higher Education.

## START HERE

SCQF LEVEL 4  
NATIONAL 4

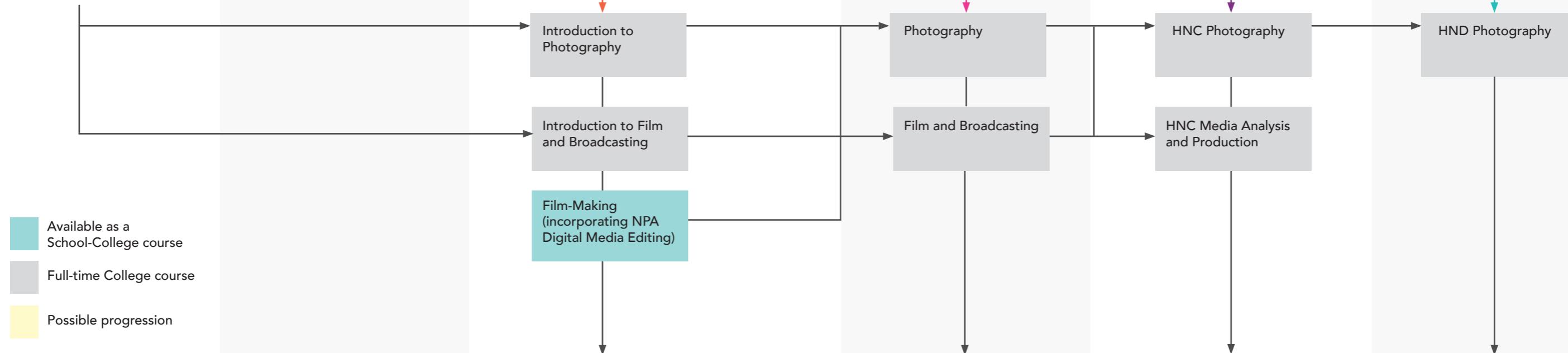
SCQF LEVEL 5  
NATIONAL 5

SCQF LEVEL 6  
HIGHER

SCQF LEVEL 7  
HNC

SCQF LEVEL 8  
HND

### MEDIA PRODUCTIONS PATHWAYS



## GO ANYWHERE

- Further College course
- Examples of Employment: Runner, Broadcast Journalist, Editorial Assistant, TV/Radio/Film Producer, Video Content Producer, Public Relations Officer, Advertising Account Executive, Photographer

- HNC Qualification
- Examples of Employment: Runner, Broadcast Journalist, Editorial Assistant, TV/Radio/Film Producer, Video Content Producer, Public Relations Officer, Advertising Account Executive, Photographer

- HND Qualification
- University - any relevant media or film degree programme
- Examples of Employment: Runner, Broadcast Journalist, Editorial Assistant, TV/Radio/Film Producer, Video Content Producer, Public Relations Officer, Advertising Account Executive, Photographer

- University - Any relevant media or film degree programme
- Examples of Employment: Runner, Broadcast Journalist, Editorial Assistant, TV/Radio/Film Producer, Video Content Producer, Public Relations Officer, Advertising Account Executive, Photographer

# Portfolio Work (including Life Drawing and Printmaking)

SCQF Level 6 - Duration: 1 Year

## What is the course about?

This course will interest you if you are applying to art school and would like to supplement your portfolio with life drawing, printmaking and sketchbook development skills.

The Printmaking unit will introduce you to printmaking skills by allowing you to experiment with different methods. You will produce a portfolio of experimental prints, and plan, produce and present finished prints. This unit will be delivered along with a Design for Print unit, where you will develop skills and techniques which will allow you to investigate the commercial print process. You will research, develop, produce and present a design for print to a given brief.

The Life Drawing unit will focus on drawing the human form and take you from the fundamentals of drawing through a variety of linear and tonal exercises to experimenting with media and reacting to shifting poses and movement. You will accumulate a large body of experimental and resolved work, through which you will flex your creative muscle and become confident in drawing the human body.

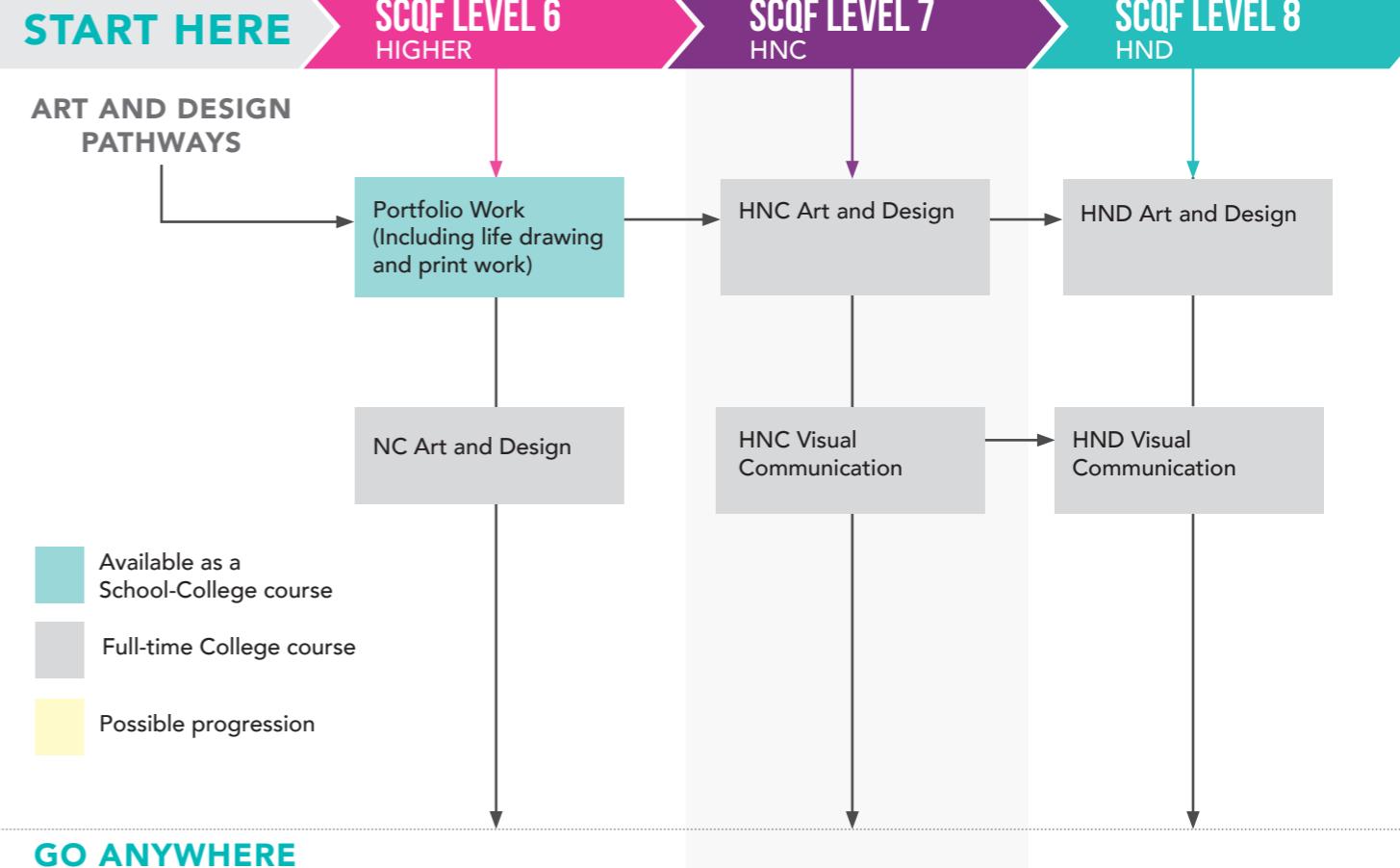
Sketchbooks are a vital component of the creative process, enabling students to visualise emerging and evolving ideas. In the Sketchbook unit, you will have the opportunity to expand on themes and concepts arising in your portfolio and, through practical workshops and demonstrations, you will develop a substantial body of sketchbook work.

## What do I need?

You should already have achieved a Higher in Art and should be intending to apply to art school or to study art in college.

## Next steps

Successful completion of this course may allow you to progress onto our Level 6 or HNC Art & Design full-time course, as well as supporting any application you make to Art School.

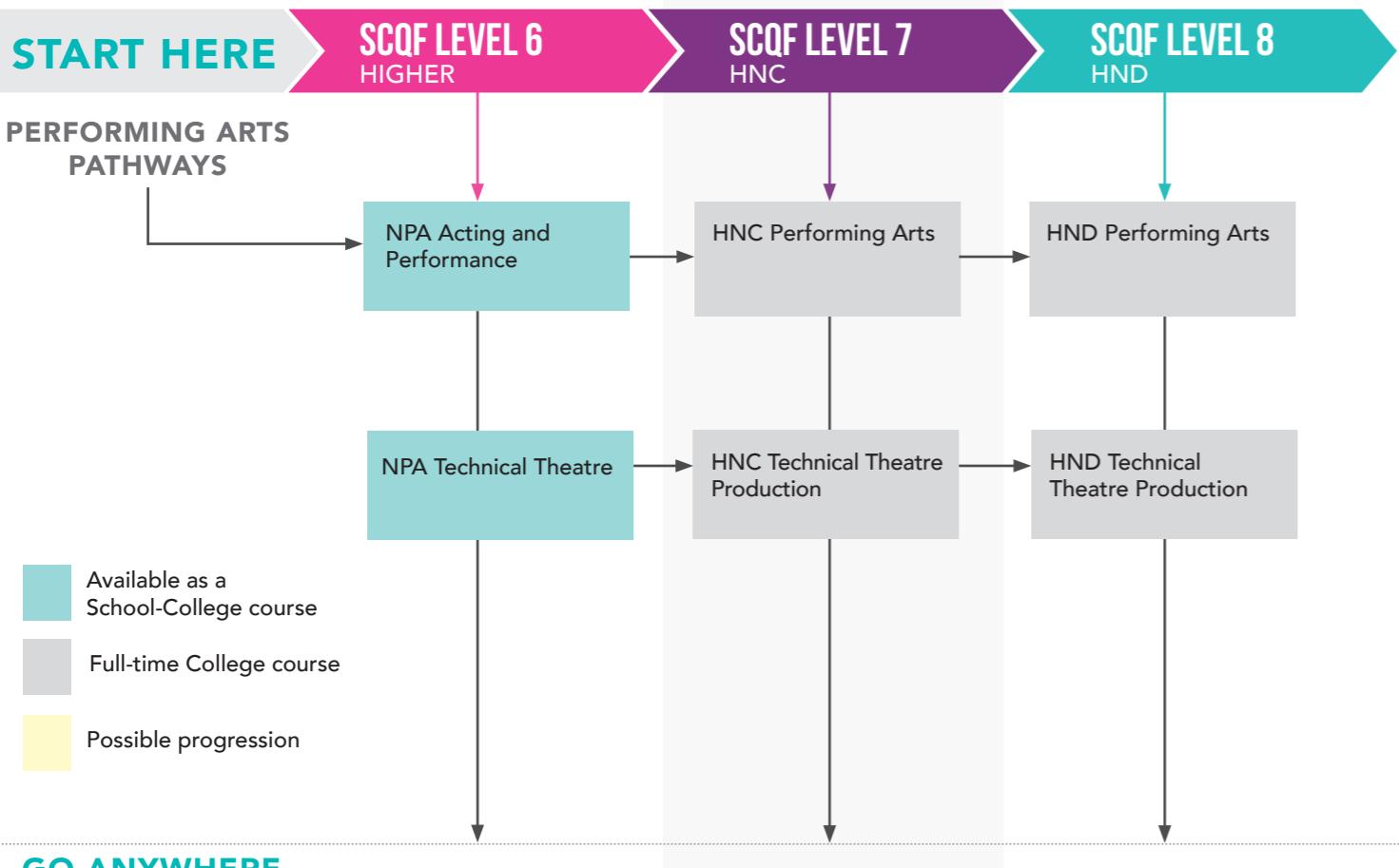


## GO ANYWHERE

- HNC Qualification
- Examples of employment: Practising Artist, Community Arts, Youth Arts Worker, Jewellery Designer, Art Therapist, Fine Art Photographer, Teacher

- HND Qualification
- University
- Modern Apprenticeship
- Examples of Employment: Practising Artist, Community Arts, Youth Arts Worker, Jewellery Designer, Art Therapist, Fine Art Photographer, Teacher, Animator, Illustrator, Printmaker

- University
- Examples of Employment: Practising Artist, Community Arts, Youth Arts Worker, Jewellery Designer, Art Therapist, Fine Art Photographer, Teacher, Animator, Illustrator, Printmaker



## GO ANYWHERE

- HNC Qualification
  - University to study: Performing Arts, Technical Theatre
  - Examples of employment: Actor, Trainee or Apprenticeships,
- 
- HND Qualification
  - University to study: Performing Arts, Technical Theatre
  - Modern Apprenticeship
  - Examples of Employment: Actor, Stage Manager, Production Manager, Artistic Director, Set Designer, Lighting Technician, Sound Technician, Broadcast Engineer
- 
- University to study: Performing Arts, Technical Theatre
  - Examples of Employment: Actor, Stage Manager, Production Manager, Artistic Director, Set Designer, Lighting Technician, Sound Technician, Broadcast Engineer

## NPA Acting and Performance

**SCQF Level 6 - Duration: 1 Year**

### What is the course about?

This course offers different things to different people. It is the course for you if you are either already involved in youth theatre or always wanted the opportunity to perform. It is the course for you if you are interested in a career in the performing arts and want to get started on the progression pathway. It is also the course for you if you are keen to build your confidence and communication skills to prepare you for your next steps after leaving school.

You will spend most of your time on this course preparing for and working towards a performance in front of a live audience. This means working creatively with text and developing skills in voice, movement, acting and stagecraft. You will learn to work cooperatively in teams, to respond to direction and, in so doing, also develop self-awareness and a professional attitude.

### What do I need?

An interest in the performing arts and a willingness to commit to rehearsals and final performance is crucial. A National 5 in English is a desirable qualification.

A place on the course is subject to an interview and audition – you will be given a short piece of approximately two/three minutes to prepare in advance.

### Next steps

On successful completion of this course you may progress to:

- HNC Acting and Performance

## NPA Technical Theatre

SCQF Level 6 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

This course will interest you if you are interested in lighting, sound, prop making, stage management or model set construction.

The National Progression Award (NPA) in Technical Theatre in Practice is designed to provide students with a range of design skills for use in technical theatre. Students will use design skills as well as specialising in specific areas such as lighting, sound, prop making or model set construction.

The units you will be studying are: Technical Theatre in Context, Theatrical Design, Theatre Stage Lighting Operations and Theatre Stage Sound Operations.

### What do I need?

You will need to prepare for an interview for the course, and should possess strong technical abilities as well as the ability to be self-motivated and work as a team member. Pupils who have a pass in STEM subjects like Woodwork, Physics, ICT as well as Art, Music and English would do well. You should be committed to consistent and full attendance throughout the course.

### Next steps

Successful completion of this NPA may provide opportunities for you to be considered for entry to other courses via an interview or audition for HNC Technical Theatre or NC Sound Production.

## NPA Sound Production

SCQF Level 6 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

This course will interest you if you are interested in music and/or sound production, and want to learn how to use industry standard software, such as Pro Tools, Ableton and Native Instruments, to create and manipulate tracks.

This National Progression Award (NPA) is designed to equip you with the knowledge, understanding and skills you will need to succeed within the creative industries sector or to progress to further study. It is designed to bridge the gap between entry level education and professional career development. The NPA will allow you to develop a skill-set for sound, which has a thorough grounding in audio recording practice and also allows individual and personalised skills development.

The units you will be studying are: Sound Engineering and Production, Sound: Understanding the Signal Path, Sound Reinforcement and Music Remixing.

### What do I need?

There are no formal entrance requirements; however you will be interviewed to determine whether this is the right course for you. It's useful (not vital) to own and play an instrument. You should be committed to consistent and full attendance throughout the course.

### Next steps

Successful completion of this NPA may provide opportunities for you to be considered for entry to other courses, e.g. HNC Sound Production or where appropriate the full National Certificate Sound Production SCQF Level 6. You may also be able to be considered for HNC Technical Theatre.

## START HERE

SCQF LEVEL 4  
NATIONAL 4

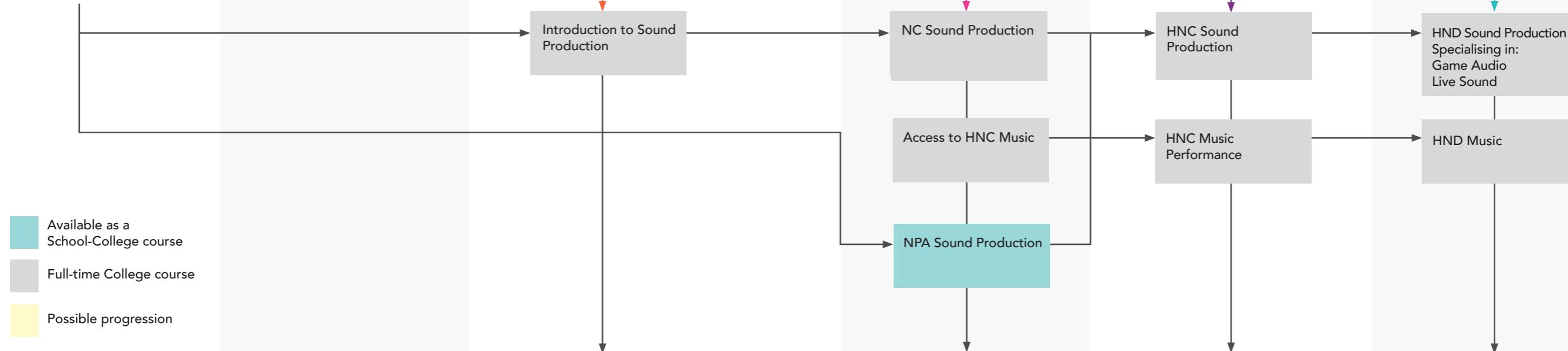
SCQF LEVEL 5  
NATIONAL 5

SCQF LEVEL 6  
HIGHER

SCQF LEVEL 7  
HNC

SCQF LEVEL 8  
HND

### MUSIC AND SOUND PRODUCTION PATHWAYS



## GO ANYWHERE

- Further College course
- NC

- HNC Qualification Music or Sound Production
- University to study: Music Performance, Sound Production, Music Technology, Music Education, Music Therapy, Music for Games
- Examples of Employment Area: Performance, Music Production, Broadcast, Event Organiser, Education, Gaming Audio

- HND Qualification
- University to study: Music Performance, Sound Production, Music Technology, Music Education, Music Therapy, Music for Games
- Examples of Employment: Performance, Music Production, Broadcast, Event Organiser, Education, Gaming Audio

- University to study: Music Performance, Sound Production, Music Technology, Music Education, Music Therapy, Music for Games
- Examples of Employment: Performance, Music Production, Broadcast, Event Organiser, Education, Gaming Audio

# HAIR AND BEAUTY



## Steps to Work Award: Hair and Beauty

SCQF Level 4 - Duration: 1 Year

### ***What is the course about?***

The aim of this course is to give you the experience of a salon environment and the opportunity to learn about the different roles and responsibilities in beauty therapy and hairdressing. You will gain practical experience in general salon duties including assisting with customer care.

You will be learning about Cosmetology: Beauty Practical Skills, which includes facials and nail finishes. You will also learn about Cosmetology: Hairdressing Practical Skills including shampooing, conditioning and drying hair.

Throughout the course, emphasis is on personal development and the development of employability skills and attitudes valued by employers.

This course will interest you if you enjoy using your creative ideas in a practical way. You should also like working with other people and discussing how best to produce the looks you want to achieve. You should be prepared to participate as a model for fellow students which will require you to remove your own make-up before class.

### ***What do I need?***

There are no formal entrance requirements; however you will be interviewed to determine whether this is the right course for you. To get the best out of this course, you should enjoy working in a creative environment and have a real interest in the beauty and hair industry. You should also relish the challenge of getting to know new people and you must be able to commit to consistent, full attendance throughout the course.

### ***Next steps***

On successful completion of this course you will have the opportunity to apply for:

- A Level 4 or 5 Beauty or Hairdressing course
- SVQ 2 course in Nails

# NPA Beauty Skills with Hairdressing

SCQF Level 4 - Duration: 1 Year

## **What is the course about?**

The aim of this course is to give you the experience of a salon environment and the opportunity to learn about the different roles and responsibilities in beauty therapy and hairdressing. You will gain practical experience in general salon duties including assisting with customer care.

Your course will cover the following subjects: Beauty Skills, Make-Up Artistry, Creative Nail Finishes to Hand and Feet and Hairdressing Practical Skills.

Throughout the course, emphasis is on the development of employability skills and attitudes valued by employers.

This course will interest you if you enjoy using your creative ideas in a practical way. You should also like working with other people and discussing how best to produce the looks you want to achieve. You should be prepared to participate as a model for fellow students which will require you to have your hair washed and blow-dried, make up removed and applied and also have your fingernails and toenails painted.

## **What do I need?**

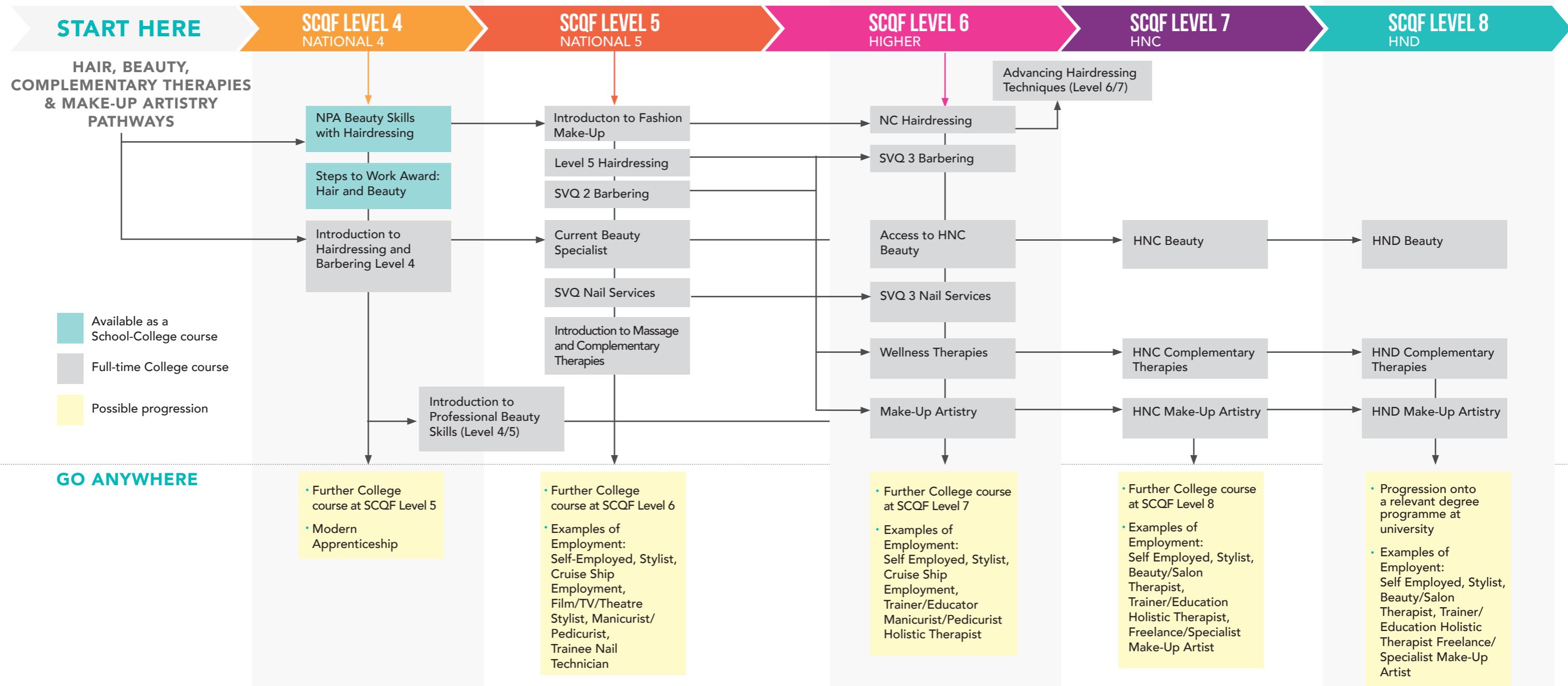
There are no formal entrance requirements; however you will be interviewed to determine whether this is the right course for you. To get the best out of this course you should enjoy working in a creative environment and have a real interest in the beauty and hair industry. You should also relish the challenge of getting to know new people and you must be able to commit to consistent, full attendance throughout the course.

## **Next steps**

On successful completion of this course you will have the opportunity to apply for:

- A Level 4 or 5 Beauty or Hairdressing course
- An SVQ 2 course in Nails





# HOSPITALITY



## NPA Professional Cookery

SCQF Level 4 - Duration: 1 Year

### **Who is the course for?**

If you are interested in cookery (or think you might be) and want to learn from the professionals, then this is the course for you.

### **What is the course about?**

This course will help you develop skills in cookery and teach you about working in an industrial kitchen.

You'll increase your knowledge of food products, you will learn a variety of food preparation techniques and cookery processes ranging from home baking to preparing healthy dishes. This course also includes cake decoration where you will learn, for example, coating, piping, and modeling.

You are required to wear appropriate clothing to meet current food safety laws when in the kitchen. You will need to bring these with you for every class or you will not be allowed to participate in the class. These will be provided to you, but you will need to wash these ready for the next class.

### **What do I need?**

There are no formal entrance requirements, but to get the best out of this course you should enjoy working in a practical environment and have a real interest in the hospitality industry. You should also enjoy the challenge of getting to know new people. You need to be committed to attending all the classes.

### **Next steps**

On successful completion of this course you will have the opportunity to apply for:

- Introduction to Professional Cookery and Hospitality Level 4

# NPA Bakery

## SCQF Level 4 - Duration: 1 Year

### **What is the course about?**

This course develops practical bakery skills in craft baking, bread making, cake decoration and pastry making. If you are interested in pursuing a career in the bakery or catering industries, but don't have any experience, then this would be an ideal way for you to start.

You will be working in either a professional kitchen using industry standard equipment, a restaurant or in a classroom (if required).

You will study the following SQA Course Units: Craft Baking: An Introduction, Bread Making: An Introduction, Cake Decoration: An Introduction and Pastry.

You are required to wear appropriate clothing to meet current food safety laws when in the kitchen. You will need to bring this with you for every class or you will not be allowed to participate in the class. These will be provided to you, but you will need to wash these ready for the next class.

### **What do I need?**

There are no formal entrance requirements, but to get the best out of this course you should have literacy and numeracy skills at Level 4, enjoy working in a practical environment and have a real interest in the hospitality industry. You should also enjoy the challenge of getting to know new people. You need to be committed to attending all the classes.

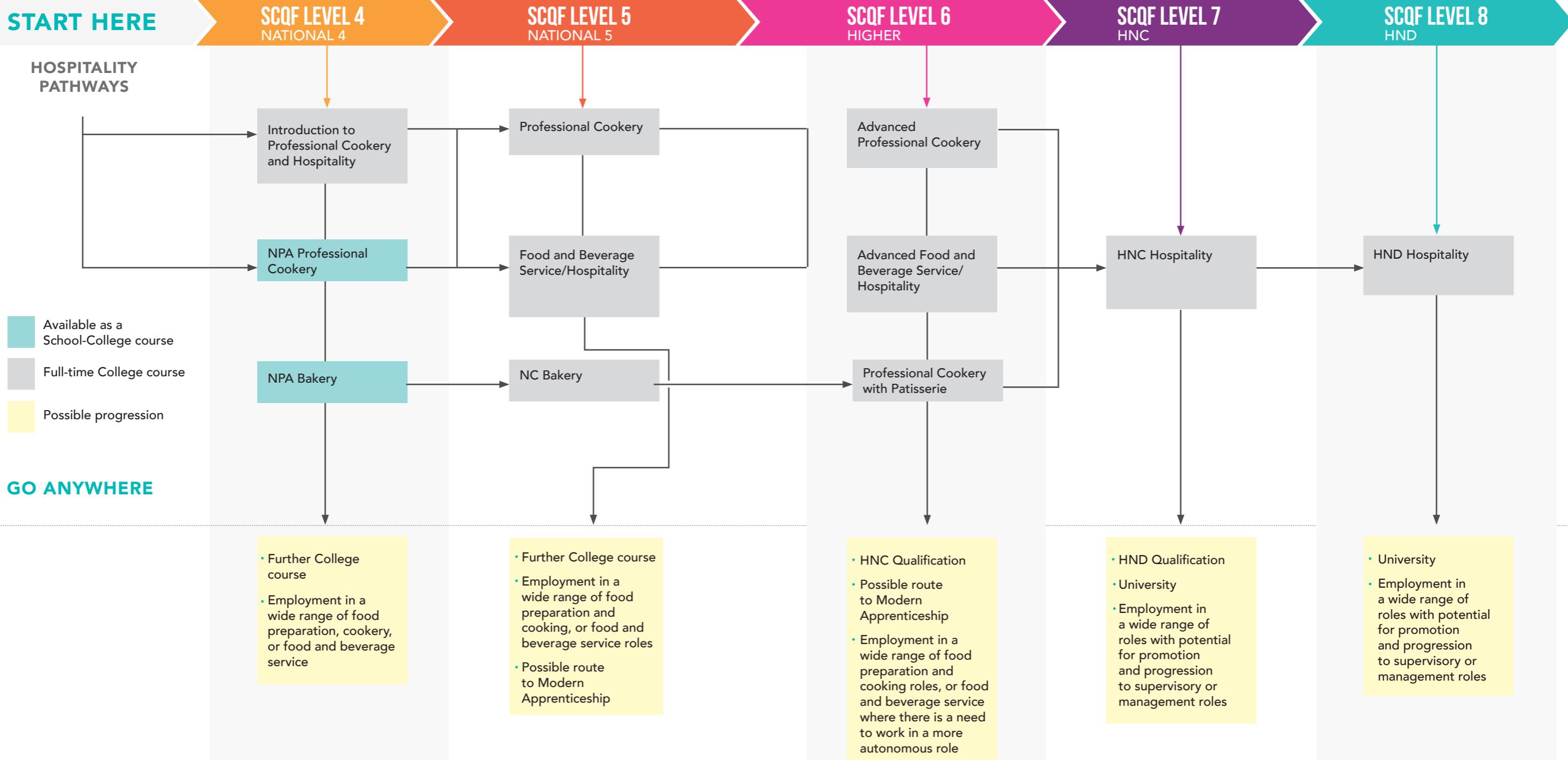
### **Next steps**

On successful completion of this course you will have the opportunity to apply for:

- NC Bakery Level 5
- Introduction to Professional Cookery and Hospitality



## START HERE





# EARLY EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE

## Skills for Work: Early Education and Childcare

SCQF Level 4 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

This is an introductory qualification that will help you to understand some of the demands and responsibilities of working in the early learning and childcare sector. This is a great course if you enjoy the practical skills required to understand and care for young children, but there is an element of theory-based learning too.

You will cover basic issues in each area and begin to develop relevant skills such as team working skills, helping to plan play experiences and develop transferable employability skills, including an understanding of the workplace and the employee's responsibilities (e.g. time-keeping, appearance), self-evaluation skills, job seeking skills and problem solving skills. You'll learn the importance of having a positive attitude to learning and change, being adaptable and how to set goals, reflect and learn from experience.

You will study units in Child Development, Working in Early Learning and Childcare, Play in Early Learning and Childcare and Maintenance of a Safe Environment.

### What do I need?

There are no formal entry requirements but you need to be able to work at Level 4. You will be interviewed and you need to show that you want to learn new skills, have a real interest in the area, and that you are committed to consistent and full attendance throughout the course.

### Next steps

Successful completion of this course will provide a good foundation for progression into SCQF Level 5 programmes in Early Learning & Childcare, Health Care and Social Care.

# Skills for Work: Early Education and Childcare

SCQF Level 5 - Duration: 1 Year

## What is the course about?

The course is designed as an introduction to Early Learning and Childcare and gives you an understanding of the demands and responsibilities of working in the sector. It also provides suitable progression if you have studied the Level 4 Early Learning and Childcare course.

You will develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes needed for working within the sector, including: an understanding of the workplace and your responsibilities (e.g. time-keeping, appearance), self-evaluation skills, a positive attitude to learning, flexible approaches to solving problems, confidence to set goals, reflect and learn from experience and skills to become effective job-seekers and employees.

You will study four units and these are: Development and Wellbeing of Children and Young People, Play in Early Learning and Childcare, Working in Early Learning and Childcare and Care and Feeding of Children.

To achieve this qualification, you must successfully achieve all the units listed above.

## What do I need?

Ideally you should be working towards National 5. There will be an interview and you need to show that you want to learn new skills, have a real interest in the area and that you are committed to consistent and full attendance throughout the course.

## Next steps

This course may provide you with opportunities to progress to:

- Early Learning and Childcare (SCQF Level 6)



# Foundation Apprenticeship: Social Services (Children and Young People)

SCQF Level 6 - Duration: 2 Years (1 Year Course Available)

## What is the course about?

This course will help you gain the knowledge and understanding you'll need to work successfully in early learning and childcare. It will also develop your knowledge, practical skills and qualities for working with children and young people.

This course lets you find out what a career in social services would really be like - and if it's right for you. It includes:

The National Progression Award (NPA) in Social Services: (Children and Young People)  
The NPA will give you the knowledge you need for the SVQ, along with the practical skills required for delivering early learning and childcare opportunities for children. You will learn about safeguarding, play, communication, development and wellbeing of children & young people.

You'll spend part of your week at College and have the opportunity to get involved in stay, play and learn sessions with local early learning and childcare services. In year two you will go out on work experience so that your occupational

competencies can be assessed. You'll achieve the Scottish Vocational Qualification (SVQ) Social Services (Children and Young People) as you complete your work placement. You'll learn about effective communication, health & safety of yourself and individuals, support the safeguarding of children, the development of children and young people, and children's learning through play.

## What do I need?

For a place on this course, you'll need to have, or be working towards, at least 4 National 5 qualifications including English or Literacy. Working in a social services setting means you also need to be able to interact and communicate respectfully with children and staff, work with others and problem solve.

## Next steps

Successful completion of this Foundation Apprenticeship includes Scottish Social Services Council registration eligibility for the support worker in day care of children services. Most jobs in day care of children services are at practitioner level and certification for these roles is at SVQ Level 3, but some employers use SVQ Level 2 as entry to SVQ Level 3.

Once you've achieved this Foundation Apprenticeship, you'll have an industry recognised qualification and extensive work experience which will really help in your future career. It will support your progress whether you plan to study at College on the HNC Childhood Practice, enrol on a Modern Apprenticeship or go straight into work.



## START HERE

**SCQF LEVEL 4**  
NATIONAL 4

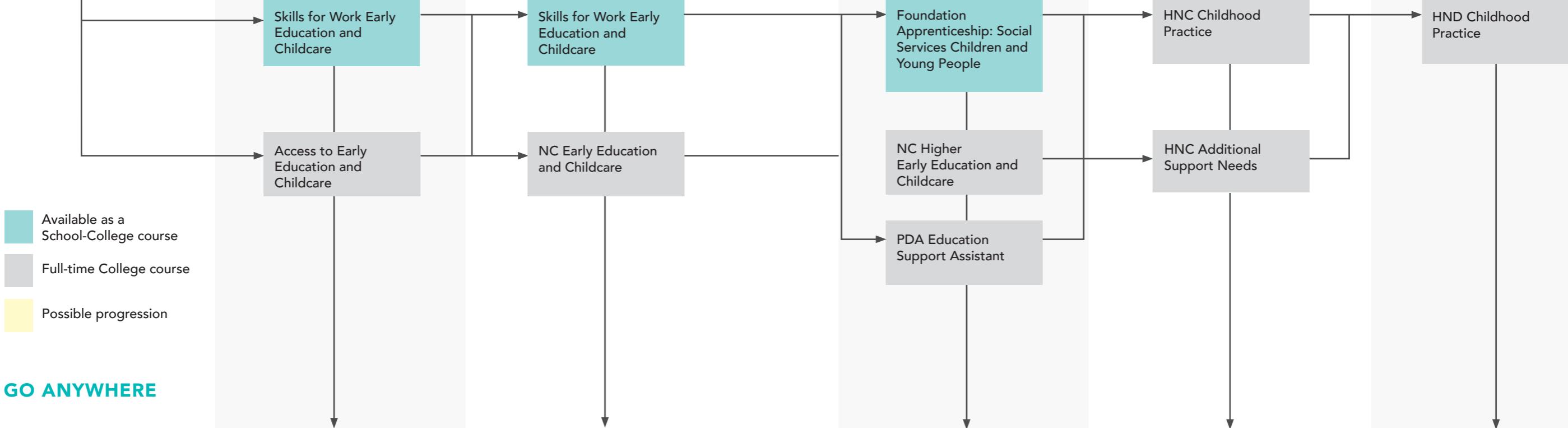
**SCQF LEVEL 5**  
NATIONAL 5

**SCQF LEVEL 6**  
HIGHER

**SCQF LEVEL 7**  
HNC

**SCQF LEVEL 8**  
HND

### EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE PATHWAYS



## GO ANYWHERE

- Further College course
- Examples of employment: Support Assistant roles within a range of Early Learning & Childcare and Health & Social Care settings

- Further College course
- Examples of employment: Support Assistant roles within a range of Early Learning & Childcare and Health & Social Care settings

- Modern Apprenticeship
- Examples of employment: Education Support Assistant, Early Years Support Worker

- University
- Examples of employment: Learning Support Assistant, Early Years Practitioner, Youth Worker, Senior Early Years Practitioner, Childminder

- University
- Examples of employment: Early Years Practitioner, Senior Early Years Practitioner, Early Years Manager, Depute Head of Centre, Head of Centre, Youth Worker



# HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

## Mental Health & Wellbeing Award

SCQF Level 5 - Duration: 1 Year

### ***What is the course about?***

This is a great course where you will learn new skills, and it's especially relevant for anyone considering a career within Health and Social Care.

This course will improve your understanding of mental health and answer questions many young people have about this subject.

It aims to reduce stigma surrounding mental health, arm young people with healthy coping strategies, promote knowledge of the impact of mental health on behaviour, and dispel myths surrounding mental health. It will also promote understanding of positive and negative impacts on mental health, helping you to make the right choices. You'll also explore the uses and impact of social media and the internet, and learn how to be more resilient.

### ***What do I need?***

There are no set pre-entry requirements for this award.

### ***Next steps***

Successful completion of this course may provide you with opportunities to progress to:

- Access to Health & Social Care
- National 5 Health & Social Care
- SVQ Level 2 Social Services and Healthcare

# Foundation Apprenticeship: Social Services & Healthcare

SCQF Level 6 - Duration: 1 Year

## What is the course about?

This course is suitable for anyone who is planning to work in any aspect of social services/care or healthcare. Most of the placements will be in social care settings but the components of the course are an excellent introduction to the wide range of careers in these sectors. So it is relevant to you if you are interested in working in social care, nursing, social work, medicine and all the related professions.

In this course you will achieve a National Progression Award (NPA) by working on the following units; Social Services in Scotland, Safeguarding People, Communication in Care Relationships, Safe Practice & Wellbeing and Human Development and Social Influences.

During your work placement you will also be working toward achieving SVQ units in: Supporting Effective Communication, Supporting Health & Safety of You and Individuals, Developing Your Own Knowledge & Practice and Supporting the Safeguarding of Individuals.

## What do I need?

You will need to have a good level of literacy so you should have National 5 English. You will need to demonstrate from your school record that you have the ability to study at SCQF Level 6. It is essential that you have an interest in working in the relevant sectors. We will ask for your school to make a recommendation and we will interview applicants.

## Next steps

On successful completion of this course you may progress to:

- A Modern Apprenticeship in Social Care
- Relevant college courses in Social Services and Healthcare sectors
- The course is recognised by most universities as equivalent to a Higher for a whole range of courses in Social Service & Healthcare sectors (you should check with individual requirements of Universities. Your school's SDS Careers Adviser will be able to answer any queries you may have)

These are sectors that have well publicised staff shortages. Prospects are very good for anyone who successfully achieves their Foundation Apprenticeship.





# SPORT AND FITNESS

## Skills for Work Uniformed and Emergency Services

SCQF Level 4 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

The course will be of interest to you if you want to work in the Army, Navy, Air Force or Emergency services. The course will also be great for someone looking for a career that involves physical activity, team work, sport, community development and fitness.

It is designed to introduce and develop the key skills needed to work with the Army, Merchant Navy, Royal Air Force, Royal Navy and Royal Marines and the Ambulance Service, Coastguard, Fire and Rescue and Police. You will develop a high level of physical fitness through various activities and this is a really important part of this course. The course will have a lot of practical activities and will develop physical health, team work, sports coaching and community development.

The units you will study are: Uniformed and Emergency Services: An Introduction, Health, Safety, Fitness and Wellbeing, Engaging with the Community and Working in Teams

### What do I need?

No formal entry requirements. You will be interviewed and will need to demonstrate a commitment to team working and willingness to engage in physical activity/sport, an ability to work in the community and have a real interest in the area and be committed to consistent and full attendance throughout the course.

### Next steps

There are a variety of possible progression routes at the end of this course:

- Successful completion of this course will provide a good foundation for those who want to study at SCQF Level 5 in Health, Sport and Fitness and Social Science
- A career in the uniformed or emergency services

## NPA Sport and Fitness: Team Sports (Football)

SCQF Level 5 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

This course is for you if you have an interest in, or wish to develop, valuable skills in the areas of football coaching and playing football.

The NPA in Sport and Fitness provides the basic knowledge and skills in the theoretical and practical elements of football. As the course is focused on football there will be a high volume of practical sessions both playing and coaching. The sessions will be led by fully qualified football coaches and delivered in partnership with Ayr United Football Academy and Kilmarnock Football Club.

You will be completing the following units: Sport and Fitness: Coaching Development, Sports Officiating and Organising – Recreational: Association Football, Sports Activity Participation and Performance: Association Football.

### What do I need?

A place on the course will be subject to a practical interview where you will need to demonstrate an appropriate attitude, a desire to learn new skills, and show a commitment to consistent attendance. We expect you will have a strong interest in football and will be currently involved in either playing or coaching.

### Next steps

This Course may provide you with an opportunity for progression to a range of relevant Sport and Fitness courses at Ayrshire College.

## NPA Exercise and Fitness Leadership

SCQF Level 6 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

If you are thinking about a career or further study in sport, exercise, health or fitness this course would be of great benefit. The course is practical, you can also develop your personal leadership qualities.

The NPA in Exercise and Fitness: Leadership will develop your knowledge and skills in the theoretical and practical elements of exercise and fitness training. You must note that there is a strong practical component to this course and participation is linked to the assessments.

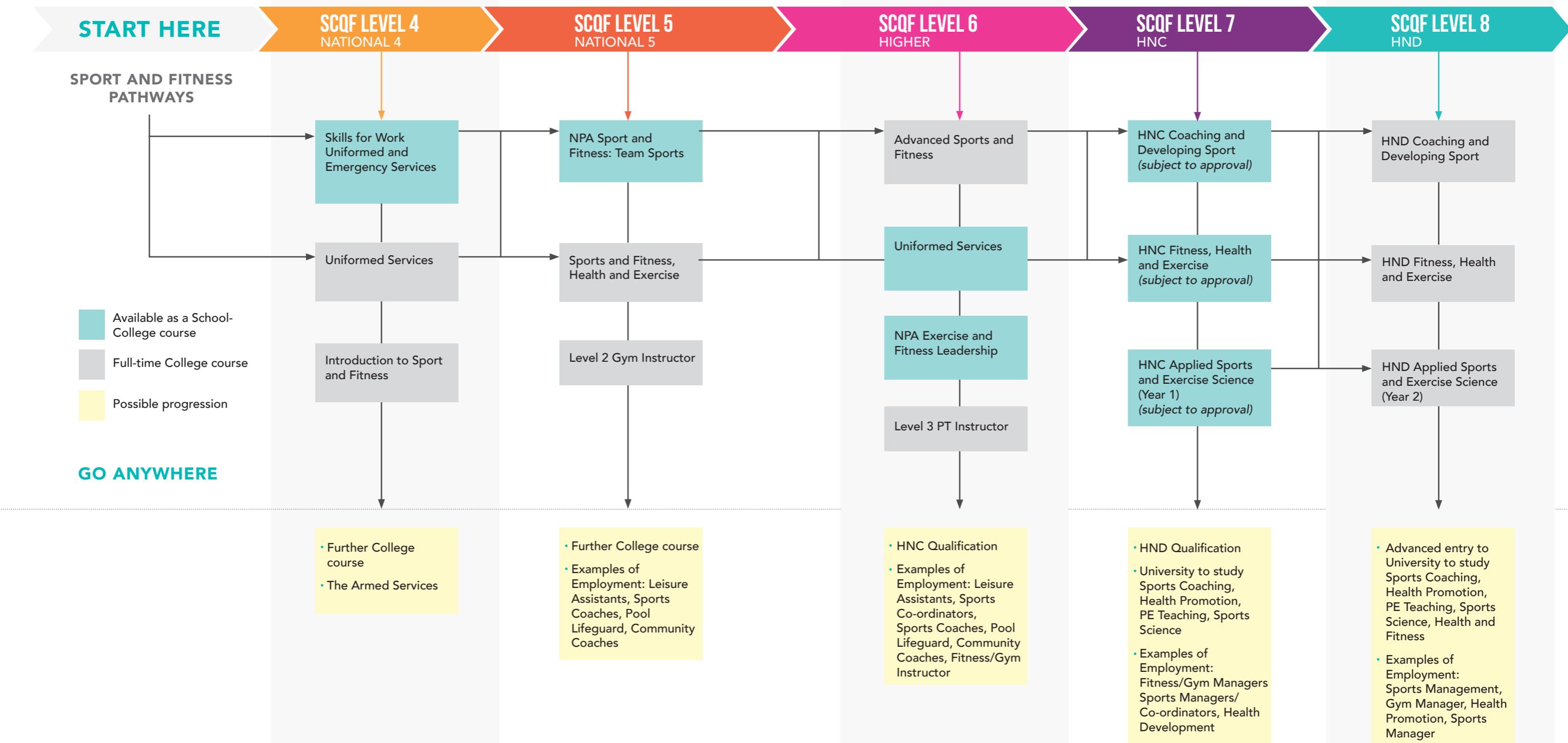
To gain the award you must pass three of the following five SQA units: Exercise and Fitness: Cardiovascular Training, Fixed Weight Training, Free Weight Training, Circuit Training and Exercise to Music.

### What do I need?

It should be acknowledged that as the course is at Level 6 pupils will need to commit to their attendance and studies to pass this exciting programme. Interviews may be carried out prior to entry to ensure applicants are suitably motivated, and have a positive attitude toward the course.

### Next steps

The award is designed to articulate with Ayrshire College's current HNC/D Fitness, Health and Exercise and Applied Sport and Exercise Science HND provision. Pupils who pass this course would be able to articulate onto these courses and follow this particular pathway. The course would also be useful to those wishing to attend university to study a sport/fitness-related degree and those seeking employment within the health/fitness/exercise industry.



# WIDENING ACCESS



## Transition to College Supported Learning Course: Hospitality

Supported Learning Course - SCQF Level 3 - Duration: 1 Year

### ***What is the course about?***

This course is for those of you who are happy to work at National 3 Level and are interested in cooking. It is delivered at our Ayr campus by staff from Supported Education and a member of College support staff to offer further assistance within the kitchen.

The main aim of the course is to introduce you to college life in preparation for transition to full or part-time education within the College.

You will learn to develop independent living skills. We do this by teaching you about ingredients and how to use them in a range of dishes. You will know how to identify ingredients, learn about locally produced and seasonal ingredients, use ingredients to prepare interesting dishes and select suitable garnishes and/or decorations for the dishes.

You will be studying a course called Understanding and Using Ingredients.

### ***What do I need?***

This course is suitable for you if you have an interest in cooking and are used to working at National 3 Level.

### ***Next steps***

If you successfully complete this course you can apply for the following options:

- Full-time courses: Connect to Careers, Routes to Careers and Routes to Employment
- Part-time course option: Towards Independence

## Transition to College Supported Learning Course: Fit For Life

Supported Learning Course - SCQF Level 3 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

This course is delivered at our Kilmarnock campus by staff from Supported Education and is supplemented by familiar school Pupil Support staff that will support you. The units delivered are at SCQF Level 3; however the units have been selected to allow the lecturer to assess the correct level for you and can be adjusted to suit you.

The main aim of the course is to introduce you to college life, attending and studying in preparation for transition to full-time education within the College.

You will experience a range of physical activities that will provide contexts for reinforcing and extending these basic skills. You will also learn how to respond to and meet the physical demands of performance in a safe and effective way.

You will be studying a unit called Physical Education: Performance Skills. You will be learning how to select and apply a range of basic movement and performance skills in familiar contexts, demonstrating basic control,

fluency and safety. You will demonstrate basic body and spatial awareness with occasional identifiable patterns and rhythms. You will learn to make appropriate decisions and routine adaptations to composition or tactics.

### What do I need?

You should be working at National 3 or 4 Level.

### Next steps

You may progress to:

- Connect to Careers (SCQF Level 3)
- Routes to Careers (SCQF Level 4)
- Introductory Vocational College Courses at SCQF Level 3 or 4 as appropriate

## Transition to College Supported Learning Course: Creating Media Content

Supported Learning Course - SCQF Level 3 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

This course is delivered at our Kilmarnock campus by staff from Supported Education and is supplemented by familiar school Pupil Support Staff that will support you. The units delivered are at SCQF Level 3; however the units have been selected to allow the lecturer to assess the correct level for you and can be adjusted to suit you.

The main aim of the course is to introduce you to college life, attending and studying in preparation for transition to full-time education within the College.

You will have the opportunity to develop the skills needed to plan and create simple media content and to show awareness of production processes. You will develop a basic knowledge of the key aspects of media literacy central to creating simple media content.

You will be studying a course called, Creating Media Content. You will learn how to plan and develop ideas in response to a negotiated brief. You will use production skills appropriate to the media content and context. You will learn how

to show awareness of the production process and apply knowledge of relevant key aspects of media literacy.

### What do I need?

You should be working at National 3 Level.

### Next steps

Once you have completed this course successfully, you may apply for one of these courses:

- Connect to Careers (SCQF Level 3)
- Routes to Careers (SCQF Level 4)
- Introductory Vocational College Courses at SCQF Level 3 or 4 as appropriate

## Transition to College Supported Learning Course: Digital Skills

Supported Learning Course - SCQF Level 3 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

This course is delivered at our Kilwinning campus by staff from Supported Education and is supplemented by familiar school Pupil Support Staff that will support you.

The units delivered are at SCQF Level 3; however the units have been selected to allow the lecturer to assess the correct level for you and can be adjusted to suit you.

The main aim of the course is to introduce you to college life, attending and studying in preparation for transition to full-time education within the College.

You will undertake a project with a focus on improving your ICT Skills. You will be introduced to how ICT and its most common software apps are used in a modern business. You will then undertake a class project requiring you to use these IT skills.

You will be studying the following unit: IT Solutions for Administrators

You will be learning how to use spreadsheets, databases and word processing.

### What do I need?

You should be working at National 3 or 4 Level.

### Next steps

You may progress to:

- Connect to Careers (SCQF Level 3)
- Routes to Careers (SCQF Level 4)
- Introductory Vocational College Courses at SCQF Level 3 or 4 as appropriate

## Transition to College Supported Learning Course: Current Affairs

Supported Learning Course - SCQF Level 3 - Duration: 1 Year

### What is the course about?

This course is delivered at our Kilwinning campus by staff from Supported Education and is supplemented by familiar school Pupil Support staff that will support you.

The units delivered are at SCQF Level 3; however the units have been selected to allow the lecturer to assess the correct level for you and can be adjusted to suit you.

The main aim of the course is to introduce you to college life, attending and studying in preparation for transition to full-time education within the College.

You will look at a range of different current affairs issues over the course of the year, e.g. impact of social media, cyber bullying, internet safety, climate change, and single-use plastics. You will select and complete an individual and a team project on issues of your choice.

You will be studying for the unit; Personal Development: Self in Community. You will learn how to develop interpersonal skills within a group project, carry out a project and review your own interpersonal skills.

### What do I need?

You should be working at least at National 3 Level.

### Next steps

You may progress to:

- Connect to Careers (SCQF Level 3)
- Routes to Careers (SCQF Level 4)
- Introductory Vocational College Courses at SCQF Level 3 or 4 as appropriate



## ESOL - English for Speakers of Other Languages National 5

SCQF Level 4/5 - Duration: 1 Year

### **What is the course about?**

The main purpose of the course is for pupils whose first language is not English to develop the skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking in order to better understand and use English in everyday life, work-related and study-related contexts.

As you develop your language skills, you will be able to process information more easily, apply knowledge of language in practical and relevant contexts, and gain confidence to undertake new and more challenging tasks in a variety of situations.

You will learn to develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in English. You will be able to understand detailed written and spoken texts in English, produce detailed written English and interact with others showing understanding of and using detailed spoken English in the context of everyday life and familiar contexts of work and study. You will also be able to apply your knowledge and understanding of language in spoken and written English.

### **What do I need?**

You will need to sit an ESOL Initial Assessment for levelling.

If you have passed ESOL National 4 (or equivalent) you may be exempt from the initial assessment.

### **Next steps**

You may progress to:

- ESOL Higher (if you studied National 5)
- Further study, employment or training

## **MESSAGE TO PARENTS**

The College's School-College Partnership team is dedicated to ensure that school pupils develop the relevant skills they need for the world of work. We aim to inform them as early as possible about the choices available to them to prepare themselves for the next stage of their life.

Although pupils study a specific qualification, they will also be developing essential skills such as confidence, communication, teamwork, and problem solving. These skills are essential to the jobs they are interested in and the wider world of work.

Lecturers will follow a planned teaching schedule, which you will be kept informed of through regular communication between the lecturer, School-College Partnership team and the young person's school. You will also receive regular progress reports throughout the year.

Attendance at College is vital to ensure the pupil can successfully complete the course and is taken during every College class. Weekly attendance reports are sent to schools, and monthly attendance meetings take place between the College and each school.

For more information, please visit:  
[www1.ayrshire.ac.uk/schools](http://www1.ayrshire.ac.uk/schools)

Alternatively, contact:

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### **KIRSTY TAYLOR**

Schools Team Leader  
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**or call: 01294 555302**



## What do employers think?

“ GE Caledonian believes in being a part of the community and helping to develop the young workforce. Being involved in the Foundation Apprenticeship programme gives us the opportunity to get to know the FA's and be a part of moulding the future engineers in our industry. It also offers a pipeline of talent into our Modern Apprenticeship programme that we know have the skills and knowledge we are looking for.

Aidan McIntyre, Apprentice Co-ordinator, from GE Caledonian

“ These placements provide the opportunity for young people to develop practical skills and knowledge within the workplace, ready to take the next step into their chosen career. As the employer, the placements also provide the first opportunity for us to engage with potential applicants for our Modern Apprenticeship programme here at EGGER (UK) Limited.

Katrina McEwan, Human Resources Adviser at EGGER ”

“ The Foundation Apprenticeship work placements gives us an ideal chance to give young up and coming talent the opportunity to experience life at a manufacturing company. This can hopefully give some insight on what to expect when the training ends and working life begins. These are big choices of direction that have long lasting consequences. If we can help students make a more informed choice on the correct path for them to follow then we have contributed something positive to the outcome.

Kevin Priestley, Managing Director at NPI Solutions ”



“ This year we have taken on two Foundation Apprentices who are studying Business Skills. They are working with our Marketing team one day a week for a whole year. Because of the amount of time they are spending with us, we can really involve them in all our work and provide an insight into the world of business. They are having a fantastic experience, and I know it will help them decide if business is the career they want to get into. #StartHereGoAnywhere ”

Shelagh McLachlan, Head of Marketing and Front of House, Ayrshire College ”



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