

Set Yourself Up For A **BIG FUTURE**

Foundation Apprenticeships in Dumfries and Galloway

- **S5/6 subject choice***
*school and college options in a variety of subjects
- **Gain a recognised qualification**
- **Equivalent to a Scottish Higher, but without an exam!**
- **Gain valuable work experience while still at school**
- **Gain the skills and experience employers need**
- **Boost confidence and strengthen CV**
- **Support applications for work, study and apprenticeships**



Foundation Apprenticeships

in Dumfries and Galloway

What is a Foundation Apprenticeship?

Foundation Apprenticeships (FAs) are SCQF level 6 work-based qualifications and are offered by schools and colleges in a variety of different subject areas. A Foundation Apprenticeship involves a combination of classroom learning, online learning, a work placement, unit assessments and an e-portfolio.

Foundation Apprenticeships 2024/25:

Foundation Apprenticeship are available as an S5/6 subject choice in all secondary schools in Dumfries and Galloway*. The following Foundation Apprenticeships are available in 2024/25:



Creative and
Digital Media
(Hybrid)



Creative and
Digital Media
(Online)



Food and Drink
Technologies



Business Skills

*Additional options available from Dumfries and Galloway College, so please check for details.

About Foundation Apprenticeships:

A Foundation Apprenticeship is the same level of learning as a Higher (SCQF Level 6) and can be chosen alongside other subjects in S5/6. It can be completed over one or two years and involves classroom learning, online learning, work-based learning, unit assessments and an e-portfolio.

- A one-year Foundation Apprenticeship (S5 or S6) needs to be chosen in two columns, this allows students to complete the National Progression Award (NPA) which is the taught element, and the work-based learning element is undertaken in the same year.
- A two-year Foundation Apprenticeship (S5 only) is chosen in the same column in S5 and then again in S6. Students will complete the NPA in year one and the work-based learning will be completed in the second year.

A framework document is available with more detailed information about each of the Foundation Apprenticeships, but they generally include:

Classroom Learning

Foundation Apprenticeships are usually delivered via a hybrid model of online teaching and classroom learning in schools, colleges and/or other local venues. To make them accessible to students throughout Dumfries and Galloway, some Foundation Apprenticeships can also be completed online (with the exception of the work placement). Classroom learning can include input from teachers, employers and industry specialists.

Work-based Learning

The work experience element of the course is organised by the Principal Teacher of Foundation Apprenticeships and, where possible, students are matched with an employer that is most suited to their area of interest. Students will have a workplace mentor and will be required to attend their work placement every week at a time and place agreed with their employer. This generally takes place one day a week from September to April.

E-Portfolio

There is no final exam at the end of the course, but students are assessed on a unit-by-unit basis and only achieve the qualification by obtaining a pass in each unit assessment. Students complete an e-portfolio detailing their work, experiences and learning throughout the year. Regular meetings are held with a workplace assessor to review progress and to identify areas where further work

or evidence is required to complete the course.

What Next?

Foundation Apprenticeships are a great way to gain practical work experience, develop transferable skills and to boost academic qualifications while still at school.

Foundation Apprenticeships are widely recognised as equivalent to an SQA Higher*, so can be useful to anyone wishing to apply to study at college or university and to those who want to apply for a Modern Apprenticeship or a Graduate Apprenticeship. Having relevant work experience also makes Foundation Apprenticeship students more attractive to employers.

*Please check with individual colleges, universities, training providers and employers for the most up to date information about their requirements.

How to Apply

Students who wish to study for a Foundation Apprenticeship with Dumfries and Galloway Council can select the relevant Foundation Apprenticeship on their options form when choosing their subjects for S5 and/or S6 at school*. Students will then be sent an application form and are usually invited to a short interview before being offered a place.

*If applying for a Foundation Apprenticeship at Dumfries and Galloway College, please check directly with the college about what is on offer and how to apply.

Employers

Employers who would like to find out more about Foundation Apprenticeships, or who would like to offer their support, are encouraged to email Sarah McKnight: sarah.mcknight@dumgal.gov.uk

More Information

To find out more information about Foundation Apprenticeships...

- Speak to Teachers, Careers Advisors, DYW Co-ordinators and Depute Heads in school
- Contact Sarah McKnight, FA lead at Dumfries and Galloway Council, sarah.mcknight@dumgal.gov.uk
- Scan the QR code below or visit: www.apprenticeships.scot/become-an-apprentice/foundation-apprenticeships/
- Visit www.dywdg.co.uk
- Visit www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/what-we-do-apprenticeships/foundation-apprenticeships
- Visit www.dumgal.ac.uk



Ask us about
Foundation
Apprenticeships
in Dumfries and Galloway