**Level 4/National 4 Courses**

**Automotive Skills (Level 4)**

**(Tuesday & Thursday Afternoon in Ardrossan):**

The course provides a broad introduction to the automotive industry and will introduce you to basic vocational skills, knowledge and understanding. Practical experiences of carrying out basic vehicle checks are included as well as the specific skills involved in removal and replacement of components and mechanisms.

The overall purpose of the course is to make sure that you develop 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.

Course Units:

* nbsp;Automotive Skills: The Garage
* nbsp;Automotive Skills: The Technician
* nbsp;Automotive Skills: The Car
* nbsp;Automotive Skills: The Vehicle Modification Project

**Beauty Skills with Hairdressing (Level 4)**

**(Monday and Wednesday Afternoon in Kilwinning):**

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 of general salon duties including assisting with customer care. Beauty specific skills include facials, make-up, nail finishes. There is the opportunity to become involved in competitions to further develop your skills to competition level.

Hairdressing specific skills include shampooing, conditioning and drying hair.

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

SQA Course Units:

* Beauty Skills: An Introduction
* Cosmetology: Make-up Artistry
* Creative Nail Finishes to Hand and Feet
* Hairdressing Practical Skills

**Construction (Level 4)**

**(Tuesday & Thursday Afternoon in Ardrossan):**

The course gives you 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 awareness of health and safety and attitudes that enhance employability within the construction / engineering industry, or other sectors.

You will study four City and Guilds Construction Units at SCQF Level 4 which may include:

* Bricklaying
* Carpentry & Joinery
* Painting & Decorating
* Plumbing

**Nail Bar (Level 4)**

**Barista Level 4 (School Based Course)**

Barista is a vocational course in its third successful year at Largs Academy.  In partnership with Ayrshire College and the Princes Trust Achieve programme our ‘Beanstock’ pupils work together to achieve a recognised Level 2 ‘City and Guilds’ Barista qualification as well as working towards SVQ modules in Hospitality and Customer Care.  The course provides pupils with enhanced employability skills through: money handling, stock taking, customer service, working as a team and meeting deadlines, all whilst learning the Barista trade.

**Level 5/National 5 Courses**

**Cyber Security (National Progression Award Level 5)**

**(Monday and Wednesday Afternoon in Kilwinning):**

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.

**Introduction to Criminology (Level 5)**

**(Tuesday & Thursday Afternoon in Kilwinning):**

This course is aimed at learners who wish to formalise their knowledge of the fascinating discipline of Criminology. This course offers you the opportunity to develop your knowledge and skills while you learn about the various areas that Criminologists explore.

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 with 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.

**Early Education and Childcare (National 5)**

**(Tuesday & Thursday Afternoon in Largs Campus & Kilwinning):**

National 5 Skills for Work: Early Education and Childcare is an introductory qualification that develops 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
* positive attitude to learning
* flexible approaches to solving problems
* adaptability and positive attitude to change
* confidence to set goals, reflect and learn from experience
* skills to become effective job-seekers and employees

You will study four Units and these are:-

* Child Development and Health
* Play in Early Education and Childcare
* Working in Early Education and Childcare
* Care and Feeding of Children

**Engineering (National 5)**

**(Tuesday & Thursday Afternoon in Irvine):**

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/Electronic
* Engineering Maintenance
* 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.

**Foundation Apprenticeships (SCQF 6 – Equivalent to an ‘A’ Pass at Higher)**

**Who is it for?**

In S5 or S6, you can do a Foundation Apprenticeship as one of your senior subject choices. You'll get the chance to learn in a real workplace and develop the new skills your future employers need, giving you a competitive edge while you're still at school.

**How does it work?**

1. You’ll get time out of the classroom and complete an extended work placement with one of Scotland's top employers.
2. Your Foundation Apprenticeship course will combine hands-on learning with essential knowledge, which you'll get the chance to test out on your work placement.
3. It fits alongside your other subjects in your senior timetable.

**What are the benefits?**

1. It’s the same level of learning as a Higher (SCQF6). The difference is that you are assessed as you go along, so there’s no final exam.
2. The time you spend on your placement will give you technical workplace knowledge, plus confidence, communication and teamwork skills.
3. You can use your Foundation Apprenticeship to get into a Modern Apprenticeship, Graduate Apprenticeship, or straight to work. It also counts as one of your entry qualifications into all colleges and universities across Scotland.

**Foundation Apprenticeship: Engineering (SCQF Level 6)**

**(2 Yr Course, Tuesday & Thursday Afternoon in Irvine)**

This course lets you find out what a career in engineering would really be like – and if it’s right for you. You’ll do a mixture of theory, practical skills and work-related experience. By the end, you’ll be well on your way to achieving a Modern Apprenticeship in Engineering.

It includes:

* A National Certificate in an engineering discipline
* Five units from the SVQ2 in Performing Engineering Operations (PEO)

**Year 1**

In S5 you’ll work towards your identified (PEO) Level 2 units (SCQF level 5) and some units from an Engineering related National Certificate (NC) at SCQF level 6. You’ll also look at engineering roles in the workplace and the skills you’ll need, so you’ll have the chance to go on visits to employers and hear from industry professionals.

**Year 2**

You’ll complete your PEO units and the rest of the units you need for your chosen NC programme. You’ll have the chance for work-related experience, either through a work placement and/or an industry challenge.

**Foundation Apprenticeship: Science Lab Skills (SCQF Level 6)**

**(1yr Course, college all day Tuesday, placement all day Thursday)**

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.  This course lets you find out what a career in scientific technologies would really be like -

and if it’s right for you. It Includes:

* A National Progression Award (NPA) in Applied Sciences at SCQF level 6
* Three SVQ units of an SCQF level 6 in Laboratory and Associated Technical Activities (Industrial Science)
* Substantial work placement

Example of course units include:

**NPA**

* Laboratory safety
* Mathematics for science
* Fundamental Chemistry
* Experimental Procedures in Science

**SVQ**

* Prepare compounds and solutions for scientific or technical use
* Carry out simple scientific or technical tests using manual equipment
* Follow Health and Safety procedures for scientific or technical activities

**Foundation Apprenticeship: Business Skills (SCQF Level 6)**

**(1yr Course, college all day Tuesday, placement all day Thursday)**

You can choose a Foundation Apprenticeship in Business Skills as one of your school subject choices. The course takes 1 year to complete, in S5 or S6. You’ll spend part of your week at college and also go out on work experience. And don’t worry about getting to and from college/employer – all your transport will be organised and paid for too. This course lets you find out what a career in business would really be like - and if it’s right for you.

The course content includes:

* A National Progression Award (NPA) in Business Skills (SCQF level 6)
* A Contemporary Business Issues unit
* Four units of an SVQ in Business and Administration (SCQF level 6)
* Understanding Business
* Management of People and Finance
* PC Passport: Working with IT Software – Word Processing and Presenting Information
* PC Passport: Working with IT Software – Spreadsheet and Database
* Contemporary Business Issues
* 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
* Design and produce documents in a business environment

**Foundation Apprenticeship: Social Services, Children and Young People (SCQF Level 6)**

**(2yr Course, Tuesday and Thursday Afternoon in Irvine):**

The NPA Social Services will enable you to complete a qualification designed to provide the underpinning knowledge for the SVQ in Social Services (Children and Young People) and the practical skills that are needed to deliver early learning and childcare opportunities for children.

**NPA units**:

* Safeguarding Children & Young People
* Play for Children & Young People
* Communication with Children & Young People
* Development of Children & Young People
* Promoting Wellbeing of Children & Young People

**SVQ 2 units:**

You will have the opportunity to undertake 6 units to achieve the full SVQ level 2 Social Services (Children and Young People). You must complete these 4 mandatory Units:

* Support Effective communication
* Support the Health & Safety of yourself and individuals
* Develop your own knowledge and practice
* Support the safeguarding of children
* In addition you will do two optional units. These will be decided on once you are out on placement in year 2.

**Work Experience:**

In addition to formal college tuition, time will be devoted to work related experience including for example, work placements, work shadowing, industry visits, an industry challenge and work related training. In year 1 you need to do this for at least 10 days (or equivalent hours) and the College will help you find a placement that you can fit in around your school and College classes. In year 2 you will be out on placement for at least 10 hours a week. When you do this is flexible, to fit around your other studies. Ideally you will undertake two placements during the course in the following settings; nursery, out of school care, crèche and or play group.

**SCQF Level 7 Courses**

**NPA Psychology**

**(Monday and Wednesday Afternoon in Kilwinning):**

This course is aimed at learners who wish to develop an understanding of human behaviour, the various theories of how the mind works, and the therapies offered to try and resolve issues. This course offers learners the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of psychological approaches to explaining the mind, while providing the opportunity to develop relevant skills for further study and employment.

You will examine four schools of thought in Psychology, explaining how each developed since the nineteenth century, as well as the key features that differentiate one from another. You will also develop evaluation skills as you analyse each school. You will also analyse psychological theories as they are related to specific topics in psychology, such as memory, stress, psychopathology, sleep and dreams, attraction, and prejudice. You will look at conflicting theories around psychological topics as well as research that supports and refutes their explanations. As part of the course you will also conduct research into a psychological topic producing a research report.

**HNC Construction Management for Girls: (1yr Course, college all day Tues and Thurs in Ayr Campus)**

If you’d like to work in a supervisory or management role within the construction industry, this course can help you on your way. Construction Managers (or Site Managers/Agents) are responsible for the safe completion of construction projects, on time and within budget. It’s a specialist, highly demanding role, so you’ll need to have excellent organisational and planning skills, as well as being good at motivating people.

This course will give you the skills and knowledge you’ll need to work successfully in a management role in the construction industry. It’s mainly theory based, with a small amount of practical work.

Here’s just some of what you’ll be doing:

* You’ll look at substructure, from site investigations through to ground improvements and building foundations.
* You’ll focus on construction technology and the techniques to build to specification for domestic and commercial construction, including walls, floors and roofs.
* You’ll develop skills in basic construction planning and programming, producing Network Flow Charts and Gantt Charts for master programmes for construction works within a project’s contract duration.
* You’ll also learn how to safely manage a site, and the various regulations that must be considered and adhered to.
* You’ll learn about administrative processes required to support a successful construction project, such as day to day site paperwork, as well as contracts and tendering procedures.
* You’ll develop skills in CAD (Computer Aided Draughting), creating 2D drawings, from location plans to sectional details of components within a construction context.
* You’ll look at common building services in commercial, industrial and high rise buildings. This includes installation techniques for hot and cold water supply, electricity, HVAC, fire prevention and lift installations.
* You’ll carry out practical tasks, such as testing materials and conducting a levelling survey between two known benchmarks.

**HNC Applied Sciences:**

**(1yr Course, college all day Tues and Thurs in Kilwinning)**

The life sciences industry in Scotland is thriving, offering exciting opportunities to collaborate, bring new concepts to life and life-changing products to market. A key part of this is biomedical science, which focuses on how the human body works, and how to treat or cure it from disease. Biomedical scientists usually work in a laboratory, carrying out tests related to screening, analysis or diagnosis. This ranges from common blood tests and tissue samples, to specialist procedures to detect cancer.

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! 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 at the fascinating area of DNA and genetics, including key aspects of the cell cycle, genes, inheritance and applications of DNA technology.

**HNC Computing with Cyber Security**

**(1yr Course, college all day Tues and Thurs in Kilwinning)**

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.

This award is designed to raise awareness of cyber security and fill the current skills gap in this field. It will encourage you to improve your cyber hygiene and enable you to identify security weakness safely, legally and ethically. It will also help you to contribute more safely to virtual communities. Ethics and the law are fundamental aspects of this award. Ethical considerations are included in every component Unit, and legislative considerations are included in all appropriate Units. The aim of the award is to produce knowledgeable and skilled individuals who are aware of the potential misuses of, and unauthorised access to, computer systems but who use these competences for legal and ethical purposes.