

SUBJECT NAME: SKILLS FOR WORK: CONSTRUCTION CRAFTS

AWARD RECEIVED NATIONAL 4

The National 4 Skills for Work: Construction Crafts is an introductory qualification which allows you to develop the skills, knowledge and attitudes, needed for work in the construction industry.

The Course provides you with an insight into several important construction trades and covers a variety of skills in trades-specific units, helping you to make informed choices regarding a possible career in the construction industry.

You will also develop skills and attitudes that enhance employability, not just for the construction industry, but employment generally.

ENTRY LEVEL – What do I need to do it?

The National 4 Construction Crafts course will allow you to develop your knowledge and abilities within the practical technologies, building on the craft skills you have developed in S1 core technologies and the S2-3 elective courses in Graphics, Design & Manufacture and/or Practical & Vocational Skills. Ideally you will have completed one of the S2-3 elective courses, however, those students who have not followed an elective course in S2-3, but are keen to explore and develop their practical skills in are welcome to join the course.

COURSE CONTENT – What will I learn?

The National 4 Construction Crafts Course has been designed to provide you with a basis for progression into further education and/or for moving directly into training in employment within the construction sector. The purpose of the Course is to ensure that you start to develop the general skills, practical skills, knowledge and understanding and employability skills needed within the construction industry. The course consists of five mandatory units which you must compete, alongside several optional units, from which you must complete three. The mandatory units are:

Employability skills

Throughout the course you are required to develop and demonstrate work practices and attitudes that enhance your employability. You will have opportunities to review the skills you have developed. You will also develop skills in measurement and interpretation of drawings.

Half brick walling

Here you are required to set out and build short sections of half-brick thick wall in accordance with given drawings and to prescribed tolerances.

Decorative painting

This unit will teach you to carry out work with decorative finishes involving the use of brushes and rollers as well as stencilling.

Site carpentry and bench joinery

In this unit you are required to carry out small-scale tasks in both first-fix and second-fix joinery. You will learn skills in measurement, cutting and fixing of timbers and sheet materials.

Plumbing

In the final mandatory unit you are required to cut, assemble and join plastic pipework in accordance with given drawings using proprietary bends and tee-pieces.

Optional units will include three from the following:

Practical Copper piping, Brickwork techniques, Carpentry and Joinery techniques and ***Roof tiling***

TEACHING METHODS – What will I do?

The course is by its nature highly practical, exploratory and experiential and you will spend the majority of your time working in either the construction workshop developing your practical skills through a number of tasks. The brickwork and roofing units however require you to work outside and for these lessons you should be prepared

Other teaching methods may include:

- Class discussion
- Written logbook tasks
- Group work

ASSESSMENT

At National 4 level, you will be expected to complete and submit one or more assessment tasks for each of the units of work, this will be supported by a log of your activities. This log will also include tool and material identification tasks alongside reflective evaluations that form part of each unit and the overall employability award.

There is no externally assessed component to the National 4 Construction Crafts course and you will be given the opportunity to complete all mandatory units along with at least three of the optional units throughout the year.

HOMEWORK

There is no formal homework associated with this course, however, due to the practical nature of the course, it is expected that students who are absent from workshop periods attend catch-up sessions that the department will arrange to allow you to complete this work should you require it.

PROGRESSION IN THE SENIOR PHASE

Success at National 4 Practical Craft Skills would normally provide a gateway to college or employment within the construction industry. Students may also consider moving sideways to the National 4 Construction Crafts course.

COURSE COSTS

The Skills for Work: Construction Crafts course has a cost of £20 associated with it contributing towards the cost of resistant materials consumed within the course.