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Schools Senior Phase Programmes – S4

GREENOCK CAMPUS 2025-26



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West College Scotland

Schools Vocational Programmes

Would you love to try something new at college? Ready to get hands-on with your learning? Welcome to our Senior Phase Programme - unlocking a world of possibilities at West College Scotland!

Explore a range of exciting subjects with endless possible routes to further study and career choices which you may not have had the opportunity to study at school. From vocational subjects to Foundation Apprenticeships, our courses are designed to give you a whole new learning experience outside of the school classroom, giving you a taste of college life while gaining a new, industry recognised qualification.

You will learn in our modern college campuses where we have award-winning salons, state-of-the-art workshop facilities, sector leading laboratories and more!

Our highly experienced teaching staff will help you to not only master the skills relevant to the course area you choose but also to develop transferrable skills to help you in the future as you enter the world of work and give you the opportunity to progress to further or higher education, so that you can achieve your ambitions, whatever your goals.

What are you waiting for?
Start your future at West!

**Check out
our Socials:**



INTRODUCTION TO AUTOMOTIVE REFINISHING

Course Outline

Passionate about cars and the motor industry, this course is for you! Drive your ambition and get your hands dirty, with a practical approach to learning and assessment, including visual questioning techniques to stimulate your learning experience.

Learn in our state-of-the-art motor vehicle workshops and also make a portfolio to show what you've learned. You can do this on a phone, tablet, or laptop. You'll also get access to online course materials so you can study whenever and wherever you want so it would be helpful to have access to a laptop or smartphone and Wi-Fi.

The Motor Vehicle industry is exciting! It's always changing and growing sustainably, making it a great place to build a future. Did you know it already employs over 800,000 people in the UK?

This course will help you to progress to further studies or in the future, to study full time at college with our award-winning Motor Vehicle department.

Entry Level Recommended

There are no other formal entry requirements for this qualification. However, selection will consider each applicant's existing qualifications, experience, and interest in working in the sector.

Course Content

Get set to master an exciting range of skills to progress in the thriving motor industry. From essential units in Health and Safety to covering tools, equipment and consumable materials for vehicle maintenance, you'll gain the basic knowledge to kick start your automotive career. You'll also cover engaging topics in the workshop such as vehicle paint preparation, paint spraying and masking techniques and primer preparation.

Progression

This course is an excellent starting point if you are considering full time college, including a progression route with West to study the IMI Certificate in Transport Maintenance.

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 3

Day

Wednesday

Time

1:30pm - 4:00pm

At West we are proud to have strong links with industry and have consistently linked many of our students to roles with local employers. Past students of the department have progressed to roles within Arnold Clark, Audi, Gormac UK, L&A Motors as well as many local garages.

COMPUTER GAMES DEVELOPMENT

Course Outline

Do you have a passion for computer games? Do you want to learn how to design and make a game? The course introduces you to the development process behind computer games. You will have the opportunity to gain a valuable insight into some of the technologies and skills required within the computer games industry.

Scotland is one of the world's most important games development clusters. It's home to world leading and successful studios, as well as employing over 2,300 creative staff in 162 studios. The games industry is currently booming and previous students from West have gone on to work for companies such as Rockstar and Cloud Imperium.

Entry Level Recommended

There are no formal entry requirements, but a keen interest in computing is expected.

Course Content

You will gain two units in

Games Design: What makes a game engaging or immersive?

You will be guided through the design process analysing existing titles to consider why they have become so popular. You will move onto develop your own creative skills working on design projects and game pitches

Level Design: You will gain hands on experience in 3D level design and construction features in unreal (or similar) technologies with state of the art equipment.

Introduction to computer programming for games: This is where the magic happens. Learn how to code your own computer games using programming software.

Progression

On completion you could progress to further study at college but in the future, you could be working at one of the leading studios in Scotland as a Games Designer or Programmer. Turn your passion for gaming into an exciting career!

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 4

Day

Wednesday

Time

9:30-3:30pm

SKILLS FOR WORK EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE LEVEL 4

Course Outline

The course is suitable for those looking to gain knowledge of early learning and childcare – a huge growth area in Scotland! It looks at how children develop physically, socially, emotionally, intellectually, as well as in their language development.

Imagine yourself creating magical moments for children, providing fun activities while keeping them safe and healthy. Get ready to learn about child development, adapt to each child's needs, and understand the vital roles in childcare.

If you want to make a positive impact in the lives of children and start exploring the exciting world of early education and childcare, this course is for you!

Entry Level Recommended

This course is available to S4 pupils with an interest in early learning and childcare who are working towards other level 4 / 5 qualifications.

Course Content

Gain skills in Child Development and Play in Early Learning and Childcare – You will learn all about how children grow and develop and how play experiences can support their development.

- Working in Early Learning and Childcare
- Care of Children

Progression

If you continue into S5, you will be able to apply for the Skills for Work Level 5 Early Education and Childcare course. This will further develop your knowledge of childcare. Alternatively, you can apply for a full-time Level 5 course Entry to Early Education and Childcare.

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Waterfront Campus

Level

SCQF Level 4

Day

Wednesday

Time

9:30am-3:30pm

INTRODUCTION TO PHARMACY

Course Outline

With a long-established reputation for excellence in science, join our award-winning team of students and highly experienced staff at West, learning in sector leading laboratory facilities to help create the science workforce of the future.

The course aims to provide you with experience of the following key areas of pharmacy services:

- **Understanding Disease States & Promoting Public Health**
- **Preparation & Use of Medicines**
- **Medical Terms**

You will study structure & function of the human body and link this knowledge to a range of public health issues including coronary heart disease and diabetes.

Get hands-on as you develop practical skills in aseptic preparation of medicines and good dispensing practice. You will be assessed by both written tests and practical skills.

Entry Level Recommended

You should be studying science subjects at Nat 5 and have a keen interest in a career working in the pharmacy sector.

Course Content

Working in our labs you'll learn how to make pharmaceutical preparations such as creams and mouth washes whilst developing transferable skills in good laboratory practice. Other practical work covers a range of topics including infection control, dissections, and health promotion activities. Learning about the roles of different health professionals will let you carry out research to give advice on suitable medications to treat a variety of conditions. Working in a team for some parts of this course and independently for others will also allow you to develop important employability skills.

On successful completion of this programme, you'll gain the following SQA units:

- **Health Sector: Improving Health & Wellbeing (SCQF Level 5: 1.0 credits)**
- **Applying Practical Skills (SCQF Level 5: 1.0 credits)**

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 5

Day

Wednesday

Time

1.30pm – 4.00pm

Progression

In combination with relevant school qualifications this course could lead to the full time Access to Pharmacy Services programme (SCQF Level 5).

Science career pathways offer an extensive range of roles such as pharmacy technician, research scientist, forensic scientist, biochemist, and food technologist to name just a few.



MEDICAL LABORATORY SKILLS

Course Outline

You will be able to study practical laboratory science, gaining experience in a wide range of techniques as well as becoming familiar with laboratory equipment and health and safety.

Practical work will enable you to enhance your problem solving and analytical skills as well as develop your practical science skills.

During your time in college, you will also gain an insight into a wide range of careers available in science including Anatomy, Biochemistry, Biomedical Science, Chemistry, Food Science, Forensics, Microbiology or Zoology to name just a few. You will also develop relevant employability skills such as time management, self-evaluation and working co-operatively with others.

Entry Level Recommended

You should be studying another science subject at National 5 (or above) and have a keen interest in practical lab work.

Course Content

Working in our labs you'll carry out a wide range of activities related to medicine. This includes working with micro-organisms and learning about infection control, practicing dissection techniques to learn about human anatomy, and developing your microscopy skills to learn about pathology.

On successful completion of this programme, you'll gain the following SQA units:

- ▶ **Applying Practical Skills (SCQF Level 5, 1.0 credits)**
- ▶ **Health Sector: Improving Health & Wellbeing (SCQF Level 5, 1.0 credits)**

Progression

Completion of this programme, in combination with school qualifications, could allow you to progress to an NC in Applied Science (Level 5) or Access to Pharmacy Services (Level 5) or Access to HN Science (Level 6). The career pathways are endless and ultimately you could work as a doctor, dentist, biomedical scientist, pharmacist, laboratory technician, research scientist and more.

Key Facts

Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 5

Day

Wednesday

Time

1:30pm - 4:00pm



WATCH NOW ▶

CONSTRUCTION - SELECTION OF NAT 4 UNITS

Course Outline

Scotland's construction sector is so important to the nation's economy with jobs in the industry ever in demand, employing nearly a quarter of a million people in Scotland and contributing billions to its economy. The construction industry also plays a key role in achieving the Scottish Government's ambitious housing, energy, and climate change targets.

This course is an ideal starting point for you to explore each of the main trade areas. This is a very practical course where you will work in a variety of workshops. You will cover trade areas as well as underpinning theoretical work. Alongside learning new skills, you will also work towards developing core skills such as communications, numeracy, working with others and problem solving all of which are invaluable when entering the world of work.

Entry Level Recommended

There are no formal entry requirements for this course.

Course Content

In this course, you'll have the opportunity to cover four exciting units including roof tiling, where you'll get the basics of installing and repairing roofs with precision and skill. You'll also explore bench carpentry and joinery, delving into the craftsmanship of creating and assembling wooden structures. Then, get ready to unleash your creativity with decorative painting, and decorative finishing. You'll acquire a range of practical skills and unleash your creative potential in the field of construction.

Progression

On completion of this course, you can progress onto senior phase Construction Crafts. Graduates from West have gone on to a range of trade roles including plumbers, electricians, joiners, painting and decorators and more.

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 4

Day

Wednesday

Time

9:30am-3:30pm

ENGINEERING

Course Outline

Scotland's engineering and advanced manufacturing sector contributes £9 billion a year to the nation's economy. Careers in Engineering are on the rise and these jobs represent an exciting opportunity for young people in Scotland.

This course is a great qualification to introduce you to the Engineering sector. It will equip you with an invaluable set of transferable engineering skills that will allow you to access a host of industries from mechanical to maintenance and electrical to fabrication, giving you all the basics to get started in the ever-growing engineering sector.

Entry Level Recommended

There are no formal entry requirements.

Course Content

The course is comprised of three units at National 4 level, and they are designed to substantially improve your practical and theoretical skills:

- ◆ **Plumbing**
- ◆ **Mechanical Engineering**
- ◆ **Electrical/Electronic Engineering**

Progression

You can progress onto the National 5 Engineering course, or Foundation Apprenticeship Engineering. Longer term you could be working in a diverse range of sectors in the engineering industry including design, mechanical, maintenance, electrical, electronics, fabrication and manufacture.

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 4

Day

Wednesday

Time

9:30am-3:30pm

ROCK SCHOOL LIVE PERFORMANCE

Course Outline

This course will provide you with the opportunity to improve your skills as a musician by providing you with individual instrumental tuition and perform in a band as part of live performance.

Entry Level Recommended

A basic ability on one of the following instruments is required – Guitar, Bass Guitar, Drums, Keyboards, Vocals.

Course Content

The course will consist of two main elements – instrumental tuition and live performance.

For instrumental tuition, you will study your specialist instrument at a particular grade (1-8) with world renowned awarding bodies RSL and Trinity. At the end of the year, you will have the opportunity to sit the exam and become qualified on your instrument at a grade that suits your current ability.

For live performance, you will work in our state-of-the-art rehearsal facilities with other musicians in your class as a band, learning how to prepare for a professional live performance, culminating in a live music performance at a local venue. In previous years, our students have performed their end of year showcases in venues such as The Beacon Arts Centre.

Progression

This course can lead to progression on to NC Music or NPA Music in S5, which in turn can then lead to a course in higher education such as HNC/HND Music, and year one of university courses.

Interview

The interview will consist of an informal audition with one of our instrument tutors. You should prepare 2 pieces to perform on your instrument.

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Waterfront Campus

Level

SCQF 4

Day

Wednesday

Time

9:30am-3:30pm

SOUND PRODUCTION

Course Outline

Get started in the exciting world of sound production! In this course, you'll be introduced to the essential skills needed for a career as a recording studio engineer or a live sound engineer. These are two of the most dynamic roles in the industry, where you'll cover everything from multi-track recording to live event sound management.

You'll get hands-on experience within our state-of-the-art studios with industry-standard software like Pro Tools and Reason, mastering the art of multi-track recording and mixing. Plus, you'll discover the ins and outs of setting up a killer PA system and running live sound at electrifying events. Get ready to unleash your creativity and make some serious noise in the world of sound engineering!

Entry Level Recommended

No formal entry requirements.

Course Content

The three SQA units (three credits) that will make up this course are as follows:

- Multi-track recording and mixing
- Digital Audio Workstations -
- Pro Tools and Reason
- Setting up a PA system
- Operating Live Sound

Progression

Successful students will have the opportunity to progress to SCQF Level 5/6 qualifications, such as NC Sound Production.

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 4

Day

Wednesday

Time

9:30am-3:30pm

TELEVISION PRODUCTION

Check out our Instagram:



@inverclydetv



Course Outline

Step into the exciting world of TV! In this course, you won't just learn the basics—you'll dive right in as part of a dynamic production team. Together, in small groups, you'll craft captivating content for the local TV channel, Inverclyde TV. But here's the best part: your interests are the key to our creativity! Whether you're passionate about film, food, music, politics, sport, or anything else, we'll blend your interests with TV production to create a diverse range of compelling content. So, get ready to unleash your creativity, collaborate with your classmates, and bring your ideas to life on the screen!

Entry Level Recommended

No formal entry requirements

Course Content

- Basic video camera operating
- Basic video editing
- Sound recording for camera
- Lighting for camera
- Production skills

Progression

Opportunity to progress onto NPA Television Production (SCQF Level 5) or NC Media. Possible progression to NC Television Production and Photography course at SCQF Level 6 depending on other qualifications.

Future career opportunities are endless, you could become a content creator, a film director, podcaster, producer, or a visual effects artist to name just a few... let your imagination run wild and unleash your potential in this dynamic and ever-evolving field!

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 4

Day

Wednesday

Time

9:30am-3:30pm



INTRODUCTION TO THE HAIR, MAKE-UP AND BEAUTY INDUSTRY

Check out our Instagram:



@hairandmakeup
greenockcampus



Course Outline

Get ready to get glam at West! Our exciting curriculum offers the perfect introduction to this fast-paced creative industry with a blend of practical hands-on experience and in-depth theory, ensuring you develop both the skills, and the understanding needed to excel in the beauty world.

You will learn and develop various practical skills, incorporating underpinning knowledge, employability skills, health & safety, customer care & product selection.

We are a Dermalogica Centre of Excellence, and you will be learning in sector leading facilities from our highly experience lecturing team. So, whether you're dreaming of becoming the next big makeup artist, a beauty consultant at a leading brand, or training to be a talented salon stylist we'll give you the tools and confidence to shine bright in the hair & beauty industry!

Entry Level Recommended

Recommended SCQF level 3. Enjoy working as part of a team and have a creative flair. In line with the guidelines for successful completion - you must adhere to all

requirements which includes working on each other and being prepared to participate in skin care, remove make up to have make up reapplied.

Course Content

Get ready to master practical skills in both hairdressing and beauty! Learn the basics of hair styling, shampooing, blow-drying, and using heated equipment to create stunning looks. On the beauty side, we'll cover the essential skills in skincare, from cleansing and toning to moisturising. Plus, you'll get hands-on experience with nail care, mastering techniques like filing, polishing, and even nail art.

Progression

On successful completion of the course, you may progress to college to study Begin Hairdressing, Begin Beauty, NC Media Hair & Make-up or join our Pre-apprenticeship academy for Hairdressing & Barbering

In the future you could work in a range of exciting careers from being on-set at film and television productions to working with leading makeup brands and salons. Our past alumni have gone on to work for a wide

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 4

Day

Wednesday

Time

9:30am-3:30pm

range of famous brands, in bridal hair and makeup, as fashion influencers and working on commercial productions across the world with Netflix, BBC, Sky and more.

For more on what our alumni have achieved:
<https://www.westcollegescotland.ac.uk/business/creative-connection/>

INTRODUCTION TO PROFESSIONAL COOKERY

Course Outline

The hospitality industry recruits a vast number of skilled and unskilled workers each year and the workforce continue to be heavily reliant upon young people aged 16-19 years. This course is designed for those with an interest in working full or part time in this vibrant, fast paced and exciting industry. From a café, coffee shop, licenced restaurant or hotel, this combination of industry required certificates and skills added to your CV will help you find employment.

On this course you will develop knowledge an understanding of personal hygiene, food safety and health and safety requirements when working in a professional kitchen along with organisational and time management skills required to follow recipes and produce dishes. You will also learn how to professionally use and care for knives within professional kitchens.

Entry Level Recommended

No entry requirements, however, a keen interest in cooking is desired.

Course Content

Get started with the basics of food preparation techniques and ensure your dishes are not only delicious but also safely prepared with a unit covering food hygiene for the hospitality industry, where you'll learn the ins and outs of maintaining impeccable cleanliness in the kitchen. Our unit covering an introduction to cookery processes will uncover the secrets behind cooking techniques that elevate your dishes to gourmet status!

Progression

Choose from college courses like NPA Bakery or NC Professional Cookery to further your studies. Ultimately you could pursue a fast-paced career in the culinary world, becoming a chef! Many of our graduates have gone on to work for leading restaurants and hotels around the world with one of our past students even becoming a MasterChef: The Professionals finalist!

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 3-5

Day

Wednesday

Time

9:30am-3:30pm

SPORT

Check out our Instagram:



@sportwcs



Course Outline

Kickstart an exciting career in the sport & fitness industry at West! Our highly qualified lecturing team possess a wide range of extensive industry experience working with a broad and varied range of athletes, sporting activities and client groups.

This course is designed to introduce you to the subject areas of Health and Fitness and Sports Coaching, offering you an alternative to conventional classroom learning. However, we don't just cover the physical side of things. You will also enhance your personal skills such as planning, organisation, and communication.

Entry Level Recommended

You will have an interest in Sport and Fitness. S4 candidates currently working towards or have achieved SCQF level 5 subjects.

Course Content

Get ready for an action-packed course that'll take your sports and fitness skills to the next level! With units like Sports Officiating in Basketball and Sporting Activity Participation in both Basketball and Badminton, you'll also explore Exercise and Fitness at an introductory level and gain essential awareness of First Aid. Throughout the course, you'll engage in practical sessions to enhance your skills and track your progress. You'll participate in a variety of individual and team sports, improving your leadership abilities along the way.

Progression

You can progress to further studies at college on a range of Sport and Fitness courses.

Graduates from our department have gone on to work in a range of exciting roles in the sport and fitness industries from personal trainers to sports analysts, working with leading organisations across the West of Scotland and beyond.

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 5

Day

Wednesday

Time

9:30am-3:30pm

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I get there?

If transport is required, this is organised through your school and will take you back to the nearest point to your home at the end of the day.

How are the vocational course options different from the subjects that I take at school?

The main difference is that with vocational course options there is a strong focus on building skills for life and skills for work. The vocational courses lead to awards such as Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs), City and Guilds (C&G) and Higher National Certificates HNC.

How will the courses be certified?

When you receive your certificate from the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) and City and Guilds, the results of your vocational courses will appear alongside the awards for courses you have completed in school.

So what are the benefits?

Whether your next step is into the workplace, starting on your apprenticeship journey, or progressing to further study at college or university, this qualification will help you make that next big move. As well as your qualification, you'll gain essential skills like communication, teamwork, and problem-solving—tools that will set you apart and help you excel in the dynamic world of work. You'll also get the chance to experience learning outside the school classroom, getting a taste for college life and a different style of learning from our award-winning lecturing team..

Who do I contact if I have a problem while at College?

The School Liaison Section is based in room 106 within the College and your lecturer will show you where this is on your first day.

Sandra Gardiner

School Liaison Coordinator

t: 01475 724 433

m: 07590 230 404

Sharron Rodger

Schools Relationship Manager

t: 07720974200

e: sharron.rodger@wcs.ac.uk

It sounds great - how do I apply?

Places are limited, so you should speak as soon as possible to your guidance teacher, who will show you how to apply. You should also read the option details for your choice of course and discuss these with your parent/carer. All courses will only run subject to numbers.





t 0300 600 60 60
w www.westcollegescotland.ac.uk

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