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Schools Senior Phase Programmes - S4

PAISLEY CAMPUS 2026-27



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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:



IMI AWARD INTRODUCTION TO AUTOMOTIVE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

Course Outline

Passionate about cars and the motor vehicle industry, this is the course 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 state-of-the-art workshops and gain an industry recognised qualification.

Entry Level Recommended

There are no formal entry level requirements for this qualification, However, selection will consider each applicants existing experience and interest in working in the sector.

Course Content

Get set to master a diverse range of fundamental skills to progress in the thriving motor industry. From essential units in Health and Safety to covering the range of tools and equipment in the vehicle maintenance industry you will gain the basic knowledge to kick start your automotive career. You will also cover engaging topics in the workshop such as exhaust system components & maintenance and wheel and tyre construction & maintenance.

The assessment of this qualification is made up of 2 components: IMI Combined written and practical assessments and IMI Online test.

Progression

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

Key Facts

Location

Paisley Campus

Level

SCQF Level 3

Day

Friday morning

Time

9:30am - 12:00pm





SKILLS FOR WORK EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE

Course Outline

Get started in the wonderful world of early education and childcare with our Skills for Work programme! At National 4 Level, this course will equip you with the knowledge and experience needed to thrive in various childcare settings.

Picture yourself creating magical moments for children and young people—providing engaging play activities while ensuring their health, safety, and wellbeing are always top priority. From interactive playtime to nurturing their individual needs, this course will empower you to become a caring and competent childcare practitioner.

Get ready to learn about child development, discover how to tailor your approach to meet each child's unique requirements, and delve into the essential roles and responsibilities of childcare professionals.

So, if you're passionate about making a positive impact in the lives of children and want to explore the exciting world of early education and childcare, this course is for you!

Entry Level Recommended

Working towards National 4s, including English at Nat 4. An informal interview with college staff will be required before a place is offered on the course.

Course Content

Covering mandatory units of Child Development Play in Early Learning, dive into the world of play-based learning where every moment is an opportunity for growth and discovery.

Learn the basics of creating safe, nurturing environments where children can thrive ensuring their health and wellbeing are always at the forefront.

Please note no placements are offered on this course and all demonstrations and interactions are simulated to create a realistic environment. However, there will be visits to local nurseries as part of your course.

Key Facts

Location

Paisley Campus

Level

SCQF Level 4

Day

Friday Morning

Time

9.30am-12.00pm

Progression

You can continue your learning with Skills for Work National 5 Early Education and Childcare. In the future you can work in a range of roles including Early Years Practitioner in a nursery or childcare setting.

Interview

A Personal statement and informal interview are required, and entry levels require to be met.





CONSTRUCTION

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 on it 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 get started in the basics of construction. This could cover carpentry and joinery, brickwork or painting and decorating. 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. Following successful completion of the course you will also be eligible to apply for a range of full-time college courses such as Pre-Apprenticeships L5 in Carpentry and Joinery, Painting and Decorating, Roofing and Bricklaying as well as Electrical Installation, Insulation and Sustainable Heating and more.

Graduates from West have gone on to a range of trade roles including plumbers, electricians, joiners, painting and decorators and more.

Key Facts

Location

Paisley Campus

Level

SCQF Level 4

Day

Friday Morning

Time

9.30am-12.00pm

Interview

A personal Statement is required and entry levels require to be met



PLUMBING

Course Outline

Working in the plumbing industry offers a wide range of roles from fitting and repairing water and heating systems to air conditioning, gas, and renewable energies. This course gets you started with the basics based around the practical activities in the plumbing industry. You will be learning about key plumbing tools and hand skills necessary for any plumber or plumbing apprentice. The course focuses on cutting, fitting, connecting, and assembling copper pipework.

A perfect introduction to the industry aimed at individuals wishing to progress into further training or employment.

Entry Level Recommended

No formal entry requirements but a keen interest in plumbing and renewable technologies.

Course Content

Get hands-on fabricating practical copper pipework arrangements. You'll get to grips with the use of plumbing tools and materials needed to excel on site and get your hands dirty with a live college project, providing practical experience for the world of work. Great for your CV!

Progression

You can progress onto Pre-Apprenticeship Plumbing and Renewable Technologies or pursue an apprenticeship within the industry.

Key Facts



Location

Paisley Campus

Level

SCQF Level 4

Day

Friday Morning

Time

9.30am-12.00pm



INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING (ENGINEERING UNITS)

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.

In this Introduction to Engineering course, you will study a series of units in mechanical and electrical engineering. These units will give you knowledge in engineering and its technologies used within a practical workshop environment. The course will have both a practical and a theoretical element. For the practical element you will be required to manufacture, assemble and wire artefacts to an agreed standard. For the theoretical element you will be required to answer written questions.

Entry Level Recommended

S4 students working towards Nat 4/5 preferably in either maths, technology or science subjects.

Course Content

The course is comprised of units designed to substantially improve your practical skills by manufacturing a number of different items from a series of engineering drawings to within a given tolerance.

- ▶ **Engineering Skills: Mechanical and Fabrication**
- ▶ **Engineering Skills: Electrical and Electronic**
- ▶ **Engineering Skills: Maintenance**

Progression

You can progress onto Skills for Work Engineering course upon completion. This will expand upon the knowledge gained and cover the subjects in more depth. Longer term (S6) you would be progressing to the Foundation Apprenticeship. This course has great success of student employment in a diverse range of sectors in the engineering industry including design, mechanical, maintenance, electrical, electronics, fabrication and manufacture.

Key Facts



Location

Paisley Campus

Level

SCQF Level 4/5

Day

Friday Morning

Time

9.30am-12.00pm

Interview

A personal Statement is required and entry levels require to be met

CREATIVE BEAUTY SKILLS WITH HAIR STYLING

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 experienced 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 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 being prepared to model for, and work on each other on occasion.

Course Content

Get ready to master practical skills in hairdressing, make-up 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, as well as basic make-up techniques taking you into face-painting and stenciling.

Progression

On successful completion of the course you may progress to college to study Begin Hairdressing, Beauty & Make-up, Transition to Beauty, Transition to Hairdressing, Fast Track to Fashion Hairdressing, & Make-up Level 5, Transition to Pre-app 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

Check out our Instagram:



@wcspaisley_hairandmua



Key Facts



Location

Paisley Campus

Level

SCQF Level 4

Day

Friday Morning

Time

9.30am-12.00pm

leading makeup brands and salons. Our past alumni have gone on to work for a wide 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 and 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

Paisley Campus

Level

SCQF Level 3-4

Day

Friday Morning

Time

9.30am-12.00pm



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.

Kelly Ewing

School Liaison Coordinator

t: 0141 581 2139

m: 07809 507 410

e: kelly.ewing@wcs.ac.uk

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.



www.westcollegescotland.ac.uk



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