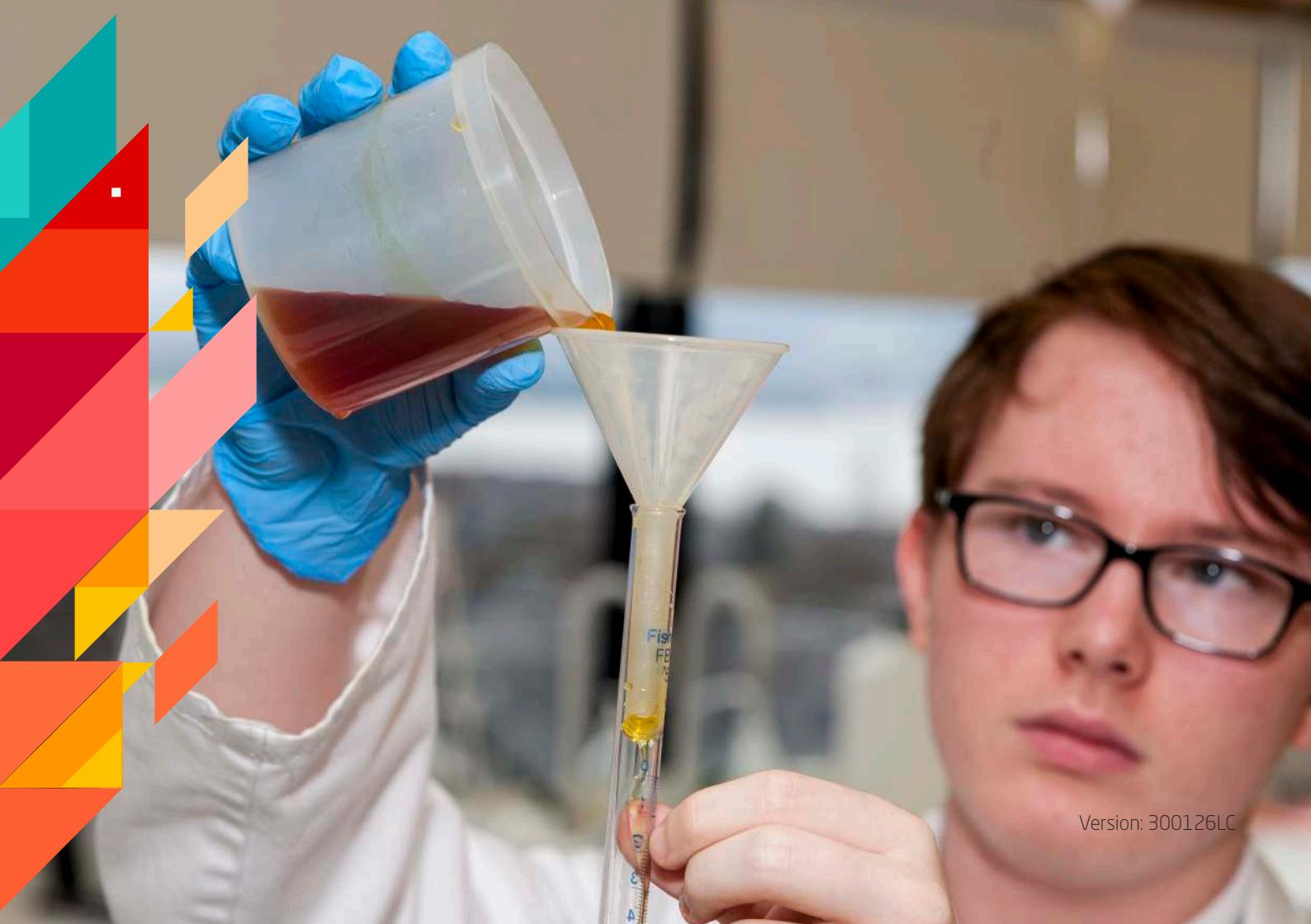


WATCH NOW ➔

Schools Senior Phase Programmes - S5 & S6

GREENOCK CAMPUS 2026-27



Version: 300126LC

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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:



West College Scotland

Foundation Apprenticeships

Learn the skills you need for the future, while you're still at school

What is a Foundation Apprenticeship?

A Foundation Apprenticeship is an SCQF Level 6 qualification. You can sit a Foundation Apprenticeship over two years, starting in 5th year or a shorter duration course starting in 5th or 6th year alongside your Highers and National 5s.

The difference is, you spend time away from school, at college and with an employer. So you get real, practical work experience.

- Get a qualification that employers recognise and the skills you need to start a career in that industry
- Open up your options after school
- You get to work on real projects with an employer. Some of Scotland's biggest, best known organisations are involved, including Barclays, Network Rail and the NHS
- It's a chance to try a career out - so you can decide if it's right for you

Where could a Foundation Apprenticeship take you?

Straight to Work

An FA gives you skills employers want – like timekeeping, problem solving, communication and teamwork.

You'll have connections with employers, work experience and qualifications recognised by industry.

All this looks great on your CV.

A Modern Apprenticeship

In the same subject: You could complete your MA quicker because you'll have completed some elements of the MA during the FA.

In another subject: You'll already have the experience of learning on the job. That looks good to employers who are recruiting MAs.

A Graduate Level Apprenticeship

You'll have the experience of learning through work – so you're ready to do it at a higher level.

With a GLA, you can take your studies further, even up to Master's Degree level. All while you have a job.

College or University

Foundation Apprenticeships are recognised by most Scottish universities and colleges.



IMI AWARD INTRODUCTION TO MOTOR VEHICLE INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGIES

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 gain an industry recognised qualification which will allow you to progress to the IMI Diploma for the Introduction to Motor Vehicle Industry and Technologies or to full time college course with our award-winning Motor Vehicle department.

Entry Level Recommended

There are no 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 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 careers in transportation, you'll gain the basic knowledge to kick start your automotive career. You'll also cover engaging topics in the workshop such as maintenance and repair, use of hand tools, workshop cleaning and maintenance and communication in the motor vehicle environment.

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

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 Campus

Level

SCQF Level 3

Day

Tuesday and Thursday

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.

ACCOUNTANCY FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIP Infill

Course Outline

Take your first step towards becoming a sought-after professional in the world of finance. The Foundation Apprenticeship in Accountancy is ideally for pupils in S6 and takes 1 year to complete. The aim of the Foundation Apprenticeship Accounting course is to help you understand and use financial and management information. You will learn how to record and analyse financial accounting and bookkeeping.

The Foundation Apprenticeship in Accountancy includes the professional qualification of Association of Accounting Technicians, a Level 2 Certificate in Bookkeeping. This qualification allows for easy transition onto the MA or the GA in Accountancy.

Previous successful learners have gone on to employment with organisations such as KPMG and Morgan Stanley, or continued to study progressing onto HNC Accounting or Finance Degree programmes.

Entry Level Recommended

Achieved National 5 Maths or Application of Maths and English at grade A or B. National 5 Business Studies will be advantageous. Working at Higher level. There may be an element of independent online learning required.

Course Content

- **Preparing Management Accounting Information**
- **Analysing Accounting Information**
- **Preparing Financial Accounting Information**
- **Recording Transactions in the Ledger OR Professional Ethics for Accountants**
- **AAT Exams: Introduction to Bookkeeping and Principles of Book-keeping**
- **Work Based Challenge Unit - previous partners have included Johnston Carmichael Accountants, River Clyde Homes and NHS**

Key Facts



Location

Paisley campus - independent travel required and will be reimbursed.

Level

SCQF Level 6

Day

Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday

Time

1.30pm – 4.00pm

Progression

After successfully completing this course, you can progress to further study at college, completing an HNC/D Accounting or a range of university accounting and finance degree programmes, you could pursue a Modern Apprenticeship in Accounting or move into the world of work.

An application and personal statement will be required.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND BIG DATA

Course Outline

This course would give students an excellent introduction into the fascinating world of AI and Big Data which is transforming the way we work and learn.

AI topics include the basics of computer vision, machine translation, and chatbots. Students learn how chatbots work, gain tips for writing better prompts, and explore ways to apply chatbots for personal use and productivity.

Data Science topics include data analytics, data modelling and programming. These will help students to better understand how Data Science and machine learning is shaping the future of business, healthcare, education and more.

Entry Level Recommended

No formal entry requirements, just a keen interest in computing, AI and data.

Course Content

Students would gain the newest computing-related National Progression Award from SQA, the NPA in Computing Technologies at Level 5. Furthermore, there is the chance to gain Cisco certificates in AI and Data Science.

Progression

Progression would be to level 7 computing courses such as HNC Cybersecurity.

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Campus

Level

SCQF Level 5

Day

Tuesday/Thursday

Time

1.30pm – 4.00pm

NPA COMPUTER GAMES DEVELOPMENT

Course Outline

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.

Get ready to level up your skills in Computer Games Development! This course is your ticket into the exciting world of games design, programming, and multimedia creation. From crafting immersive game worlds to bringing characters to life through captivating graphics and audio, you'll be at the forefront of the gaming industry's creative process.

Computer Games Development is an intensive course that calls for self-motivation and lots of enthusiasm! Get ready to unleash your creativity and master the art and science of game development.

Entry Level Recommended

You should preferably have or be working towards a National 5 in Mathematics and/or Computer Science and some experience of computer programming.

Course Content

You'll get hands-on designing game worlds, crafting stunning graphics and immersive soundscapes, and coding your very own masterpiece. From brainstorming game concepts to bringing them to life through pixel-perfect graphics and mesmerizing audio, every step of the journey will be an adventure waiting to unfold!

Unleash your imagination as you design, create graphics & sound media assets, and code your way to gaming greatness. Are you ready to level up and bring your dream game to life?

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 5

Day

Tuesday/Thursday

Time

1.30pm - 4.00pm

Progression

On completion you could progress to NQ Computing with Games Development or HNC Computer Games Development. Ultimately 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!

A Personal statement is required, and entry levels require to be met.



SKILLS FOR WORK EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE

Course Outline

Delve into the fascinating world of child development and children's health! Learn how to nurture young minds, mastering the art of caring for and feeding children, and discovering the power of play in their development.

So, if you're ready to start a journey filled with learning and laughter, choose childcare!

Entry Level Recommended

Achieved National 4s Working towards National 5s, including English at National 5. An informal interview with college staff will be required before a place is offered on the course.

Course Content

Covering the essential units of Development and Wellbeing of Children and Young People; Play in Early Learning and Childcare, Working in Early Learning and Childcare and Care and Feeding of Children and Young People. The level 5 will give you all the important skills and knowledge to get started on your childcare journey.

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

Progression

You can progress to a range of exciting college courses such as NC Childhood Practice, NC Child Health and Social Care or NC Social Care. In the future you could be working in a childcare or social care setting on a variety of exciting career paths include as an Early Years Practitioner or Social Worker.

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Waterfront Campus

Level

SCQF Level 5

Day

Tuesday/Thursday

Time

1.30pm - 4.00pm

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



HIGHER CHILDCARE AND DEVELOPMENT

Course Outline

Considering a career in Primary Teaching or Childhood Practice? This SQA Assessed course enables you to understand child development from pre-birth to 16 and the roles and responsibilities of those who contribute to the development of children and young people.

You will gain understanding of the skills and knowledge that help you to contribute to the development of children in personal and professional contexts which will in turn support applications to further study in Education, Childhood Practice or Nursing.

Develop awareness of initiatives and/or strategies used to inform current childhood practice and the current services available for children and young people. Increase your understanding of child development and the factors that influence it from pre-birth to 16 as well as the theories of development and the way these are applied to working with children and young people.

Understand the role and responsibilities of professionals and others in contributing to the development of children and young people and develop invaluable skills of investigating, analysing, evaluating and presenting information.

Entry Level Recommended

Must be working towards or have Higher English.

Course Content

You will cover key aspects of child development and the associated theories as well as gain understanding of the services available for children and young people. The course also involves an SQA assessed external project and final exam

Progression

On completion of this Higher students will be guaranteed an interview to study HNC Childhood Practice or may also use this course to support an application for a primary school teaching qualification.

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Waterfront Campus

Level

SCQF Level 6

Day

Tuesday and Thursday

Time

1:30-4:00pm

HIGHER PSYCHOLOGY

Course Outline

The study of psychology provides an insight into some of the ways that thoughts and emotions can affect how we feel and behave. The course covers a range of topics and approaches within psychology and will help develop an understanding of the psychological study of the human mind and behaviour in a range of contexts, enhancing your ability to use evidence to explain behaviour.

It will use appropriate psychological concepts, theories, research methods and evidence to investigate and analyse internal and external influences on human behaviour in a range of contexts so you will be expected to be able to remember, explain and analyse a range of theories and research.

Entry Level Recommended

Achieved Higher English

Course Content

Covering key topics such as memory, sleep & dreams and conformity & obedience, this higher offers an understanding of psychology as the scientific study of the mind and behaviour. Psychology is a research-based subject, and it provides the opportunity to conduct practical research, including working with human participants in accordance with ethical standards to carry out an independent research assignment.

Progression

You can progress to further study at college to continue on a Level 6 Social Sciences & Criminology or HNC Social Sciences. You may also consider university routes. Longer term, the learnings could support you in a range of careers from clinical psychologist, counsellor, social worker, teaching, nursing or business – the possibilities are endless!

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Waterfront Campus

Level

SCQF Level 6

Day

Tuesday/Thursday

Time

1.30pm – 4.00pm

NPA CRIMINOLOGY

Course Outline

This course introduces pupils to a range of criminology units covering how different societies define crime, enforce their laws and treat offenders. There are sociological and psychological interpretations of criminal behaviour.

Entry Level Recommended

NPA 5 Criminology or two National 5s in Social Science subjects (e.g. English, Modern Studies, Politics, Sociology, History)

Course Content

Three separate SQA units comprise the NPA. These criminology units are:

- **Crime Control Strategies**
(looking at the range of crimes and how they are heard in different courts in Scotland, and considering the effectiveness of different penal systems around the world)
- **the Nature and Extent of Crime**
(looking at how 'crime' is a movable concept depending on the country you are in and the times you are living in, but how figures are also dependant on crime being reported)
- **Forensic Psychology**
(looking at the role of psychologists alongside the Police, Courts and Prison services in profiling, understanding and treating offenders including extra-ordinary criminals)

Progression

Full-time Level 6 study or, alongside two suitable Highers, Level 7 HNC in Social Science with Criminology

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Waterfront Campus

Level

SCQF Level 6

Day

Tuesday/Thursday

Time

1.30pm – 4.00pm



NPA CONSTRUCTION SKILLS

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.

If you are interested in pursuing a trade as a career but not sure where to start, this is an ideal course for you! Allowing you to explore each of the main trade areas and get hands-on with your learning, this is a very practical course where you can work in variety of workshops producing products and models that are accepted as being completed to industry standards.

Entry Level Recommended

There are no formal entry requirements for this course.

Course Content

Covering the basics of the Construction Trades. You will also gain personal development skills and employability and behavioural skills which are necessary for the world of work.

Progression

Following successful completion of the course you will be eligible to apply for a range of full-time college courses, such as Pre-Apprenticeships in Construction or Pre-Apprenticeships in Building Services.

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

A Personal statement is required, and entry levels require to be met.

Key Facts

Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 5

Day

Tuesday/Thursday

Time

1.30pm – 4.00pm

/// The lecturers are great and have helped me learn new skills and build my confidence. ///

Inverclyde
Academy pupil
Reyna McWilliams



INTRODUCTION TO PLUMBING

Course Outline

Working in the plumbing industry offers a wide range of roles from fitting and repairing water and engineering 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. You will have the opportunity to work with a variety of materials used within the industry preparing you for a career in plumbing, electro technical, heating and ventilation, refrigeration and air conditioning. A perfect introduction to the industry aimed at individuals wishing to progress into further training or employment.

Entry Level Recommended

Achieved National 3 Maths and English and a keen interest in learning this trade.

Course Content

You will cover an introduction to the traditional building services engineering sector as well as an insight into newer renewable energies.

While gaining industry insight you will also grow your employability skills and get an introduction to safe working practices and the science behind them.

Progression

You can progress at college to the NPA Plumbing full time course or pursue an apprenticeship within the industry.

Key Facts

Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 4

Day

Tuesday/Thursday

Time

1.30pm – 4.00pm



ENGINEERING SYSTEMS FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIP Infill

Course Outline

Take the first steps towards an exciting career in Engineering! Explore the world of innovation, design, and cutting-edge technology with a Foundation Apprenticeship (FA) in Engineering. This SCQF Level 6 qualification is designed to provide you with theory, practice and related work experience, aimed at pupils in S6 and will take 1 year to complete. Bridge the gap between classroom knowledge and real-world application and explore behind the scenes with exciting trips, expert sessions, and cutting-edge technologies.

- Real-World Skills:** Gain hands-on experience and knowledge that go beyond textbooks.
- Build, Create, Innovate:** From designing futuristic structures to mastering the latest manufacturing techniques, this programme is your launchpad for creativity and innovation.
- Endless Possibilities:** Open doors to a range of diverse industries, from renewable energy to space exploration.
- Get Your Hands Dirty:** Learn by doing through projects, labs, and workshops, bringing theory to life.

Entry Level Recommended

Achieved National 5 Maths. Working towards

Higher Maths and another STEM based subject would be advantageous.

Course Content

You will complete an NC Engineering Systems (SCQF Level 6) covering a range of engaging units. The Performing Engineering Operations Units will cover a wide range of essential skills, from the fundamentals of mathematics and engineering principles to the intricate workings of electrical and mechanical systems. From exploring the principles of single-phase and three-phase systems and the dynamics of rotating electrical machines; every unit is designed to equip you with the knowledge and expertise needed to thrive in the engineering field.

Progression

Many of our FA's have progressed to a range of universities including University of Glasgow, University of Strathclyde, University of the West of Scotland and Edinburgh University. Of the students that complete the FA 93% have progressed their Engineering interests into either further or higher education, or Modern apprenticeships and 50% of the 92% are in Modern apprenticeships, with the others progressing to work or further study.

Key Facts



Location

Paisley campus - independent travel required and will be reimbursed.

Level

SCQF Level 6

Day

Tuesday/Thursday/Friday full day at College.
Block work placement May/June TBC

Time

9.30am - 4.00pm

Companies include:

aggreko

NHS
Greater Glasgow
and Clyde

BAE SYSTEMS

babcock **DIAGEO**

An application and personal statement will be required.

SKILLS FOR WORK 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.

Unlock your potential with this hands-on course which covers the processes, tools, technologies and skills, common to all engineering and manufacturing practices. From mechanical to maintenance and electrical to fabrication, this dynamic programme will give you all the basics to get started in the ever-growing engineering sector.

As a predominantly practical course most assessment is practical with some written and there are no formal exams.

Entry Level Recommended

Achieved National 5 Maths and English at grade 'C' or above (not Life Skill Maths) and preferably a science subject.

Course Content

The course is comprised of 4 Mandatory units, and they are 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**
- **Engineering Skills: Design and Manufacture**

Progression

On successful completion, you will gain direct access to either FA Engineering (if you remain in school) or NC L5 (full time). A Personal statement is required, and entry levels require to be met.

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 5

Day

Tuesday/Thursday

Time

1.30pm – 4.00pm

NPA ENGINEERING

(In partnership with Babcock International)



Course Outline

This Pre-Apprenticeship programme in mechanical & electrical engineering will provide you with the opportunity to engage directly with aerospace, defence and nuclear engineering services giant, Babcock International throughout the programme. There will be a particular focus on the Babcock International business at Faslane and Coulport including the various Modern Apprenticeship opportunities available.

Entry Level Recommended

You must be in S5 or S6 in August 2025 and planning to leave in May 2026. You should have a keen interest in Mechanical & Electrical Engineering. You must have achieved National 4 Maths and able to achieve Maths Craft 1 during this course.

Course Content

As part of the programme, you will complete mandatory units in Mathematics: Craft 1 as well as covering the basics of understanding industry engineering. There will also be a Work-based Challenge.

Additional optional units are available in: Mechanical Engineering Principles; Electrical Engineering Principles; Mechanical Workshop Skills; Electrical Wiring Skills; Engineering Project and Health & Safety: Engineering.

Progression

On successful completion, you will have the opportunity to be fast tracked through the application process for the Babcock International Modern Apprenticeship at Faslane and Coulport. Last year over 90% of the cohort were successful in securing Modern Apprenticeships with Babcock.

Join Babcock as an apprentice and you'll have the chance to work on truly inspiring projects. You'll get all the training and support you need to progress in your career while gaining hands on experience of the workplace.

Babcock International have over 26,000 employees delivering critical services to defence and civil customers all over the world, including engineering support to naval, land, air and nuclear operations, front line support, specialist training and asset management.

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Campus

Level

SCQF Level 5

Day

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Time

1.30pm - 4.00pm

A Personal statement is required. You will also be required to make an application to Babcock International.



FILM AND SCREEN AWARD

Course Outline

The Film and Screen Awards at SCQF level 5 is designed to equip you with the knowledge and skills required for further study or to gain employment within the Film and Screen Industry. It will provide you with a broad, creative and practical experience of film and screen where you will learn basic skills in video camera, video editing, sound recording and directing. The award will focus on developing your knowledge, skills and experience in practical filmmaking and building an understanding of all aspects of film and screen from a practical perspective. The award is intended to support personal development, including meta-skills, and allow for creative expression and experimentation. At the same time, it allows you to develop skills across the range of roles that exist in the film and screen industry, with an emphasis on craft and production roles.

Entry Level Recommended

Successful applicants will have a series of national 4 qualifications including English and a creative subject. You may also be asked to attend an interview where you will be expected to show an interest in film.

Course Content

Learn basic camera operations, basic video editing, sound recording and directing for single camera, and multi-camera studio production roles. Whether you're a budding filmmaker or passionate about video production, this course has everything you need to unleash your creativity!

Progression

Opportunity to progress at college onto NC Film and Screen or HNC Film and Screen.

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!

Check out our Instagram:



@inverclydetv



Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 5

Day

Tuesday/Thursday

Time

1.30pm – 4.00pm

HNC TELEVISION PRODUCTION

Check out our YouTube channel to see some of the work you could be involved in on this course:



Course Outline

Get hands-on in the world of TV! This interactive course provides external experience, based around working as part of our dynamic TV channel production team at Inverclyde TV. Gain real-world experiences that'll take your skills to the next level, from mastering camera techniques to fine-tuning your editing prowess.

On completion, you'll be equipped with the tools to land an entry-level role in camera, sound, editing, production, or studio work. So, if you're ready to turn your passion into a profession, join us and let's make TV magic together!

Entry Level Recommended

S6 pupils who have achieved at least one higher and who have a genuine interest in television production.

Course Content

Covering 12 SQA Credits you will gain a range of creative skills and practical experience including multi-camera production skills, lighting, sound recording, editing and production skills.

We will help prepare you for an exciting and

stimulating career in the Film & Television industry. You will be taught by industry experienced staff, and from the outset, you will be involved in a variety of hands-on productions designed to challenge you and develop your knowledge and skills in the various craft and production roles in television and film making. You'll work on location and in our recently upgraded TV studio.

Progression

On completion you could progress to HND Television Production at college. Graduates have gone on to establish careers as Camera operators, DOPs, Editors, Directors, Assistant Directors, Researchers, Production Assistants and Sound Recordists on a variety of productions including Football World Cups, ATP Tennis Tour, The Olympics, Dragons' Den and River City.

Others are independent film makers or started their own Production Companies

Many choose to progress onto Degree courses at universities such as UWS, Napier, Stirling and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland as well as universities and art schools south of the border.

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 7

Day

Tuesday/Thursday all day

Time

9.00am - 4.00pm

Interview

A successful interview with college staff will be required before a place is offered on the course.

HNC SOUND PRODUCTION

Course Outline

This course is aimed at those who are interested in learning how to make sound recordings in a recording studio environment and operate live sound in a music venue. The course will give you the skills needed to get an entry level role as a live sound engineer, studio recording engineer, music producer, instrument technician, multimedia editor or sound designer.

Entry Level Recommended

S6 pupils who have achieved at least one Higher and a genuine interest in Sound Production

Course Content

This course will cover 12 SQA Credits and give you the opportunity to develop a variety of skills within the Creative Audio Industry. You will also study Audio Postproduction, giving you the opportunity to gain skills that are relevant in other Creative Industries such as film and television.

You will be producing, recording, editing, and creating sound at our new studio facility and lab. Currently we are progressing to be the only recognised Steinberg campus.

Progression

You could progress at college to study HND Sound Production. After successfully completing this course, you'll have the skills needed to get an entry level role as a live sound engineer, studio recording and mixing engineer, audio postproduction engineer or sound designer.

Interview

A successful interview with college staff will be required before a place is offered on the course.

Key Facts

Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 7

Day

Tuesday/Thursday all day

Time

9.00am - 4.00pm



HNC MUSIC

Course Outline

This practical course will give you the opportunity to improve your performance on your chosen instrument. You will rehearse and perform in our state-of-the-art studio at our Greenock campus. You will have the opportunity to be recorded in a professional studio and you will learn to improve your music theory and how to promote your work.

Entry Level Recommended

S6 Pupils Experience in playing one of the following instruments:

- Bass Guitar
- Drums
- Guitar
- Keyboards
- Vocals

Course Content

The course covers 12 SQA Credits including 121 Instrumental Tuition on your chosen instrument. You will gain skills and confidence in live performance. Aside from the practical skills, you will get an insight into music history and music theory as well as an invaluable introduction to music business and the workings of the industry.

Progression

After completing the HNC, you can progress to further study at HND level. In the future you could work as a performance/recording musician, musical instrument tutor, record producer, session musician, songwriter, media composer, or a role in marketing, music management or event promotion.

Interview

A successful interview with college staff and short audition will be required before a place is offered on the course.

Key Facts

Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 7

Day

Tuesday/Thursday all day

Time

9.00am – 4.00pm



NPA MUSIC

Course Outline

Do you have a keen interest in rock or pop music? No matter what your ambitions are after leaving school, this course focuses on learning the craft of live performance which will culminate in an end of year show case in the main theatre of The Beacon Arts Centre.

This course is designed for musicians who wish to develop their instrumental technique, live performance and basic music theory skills. You will get to experience the excellent studio complex in Greenock learning from our talented lecturing team.

Entry Level Recommended

Pupils who passed S4 rock school will gain automatic entry. Other students will need an audition. Experience in playing one of the following instruments:

- Bass Guitar
- Drums
- Guitar
- Keyboards
- Vocals

Course Content

You will gain skills and confidence in performing music on one instrument or vocals. You will get experience of live performance as well as an insight into the music industry including marketing and promotion.

Progression

Take your passion for music to the next level with further study at HNC level. From there, the sky's the limit! You could progress in a range of exciting careers in the music industry from performance to promotion.

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 6

Day

Tuesday/Thursday

Time

1.30pm - 4.00pm



WATCH NOW ▶



SKILLS FOR WORK HAIRDRESSING

Course Outline

Prepare for the professional world of hairdressing by growing your skills in our cutting-edge salon facilities. Our expert lecturers collaborate with industry leaders, including Wella and other top brands, ensure we always stay up to date with the latest industry trends and techniques. We have been recognised as a Wella Centre of Excellence and you will be learning in state-of-the-art salons.

The main aim of the course is to provide you with the opportunity to gain the theoretical and practical skills to excel in a career in hairdressing. All units contain written work in the form of a portfolio of evidence.

Entry Level Recommended

There are no formal entry requirements pupils must have a keen interest in the Hairdressing industry.

Course Content

Get started with the skills essential for excelling in a salon environment! From mastering the basics of hair to staying up to date with the latest trends and getting creative, we've got you covered. The perfect pathway to an awesome career in hairdressing!

Progression

We have a range of fantastic hairdressing courses available at West to help you take the next step on your learning journey. Graduates from the department have successfully entered roles in leading salons and with renowned industry names as well as starting their own businesses.

A Personal statement is required, and entry levels require to be met.

Check out our Instagram:



@hairandmakeup
greenockcampus



Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 5

Day

Tuesday/Thursday

Time

1:30pm - 4:00pm



WATCH NOW

HNC APPLIED SCIENCE

Course Outline

This course will let you experience Higher Education and obtain a nationally recognised qualification, which can then be used for employment or for university admission. Focusing on Life Sciences you'll cover a range of biology subjects alongside chemistry and laboratory skills.

Entry Level Recommended

S6 pupils must have a pass (Grade C or above) in Higher Biology, Human Biology or Chemistry. You should also have a minimum of Nat 5 in another science subject and in Maths.

Course Content

The course is made up of 12 SQA credits including:

- **Microbiology (2 credits)**
- **Fundamental Chemistry (2 credits)**
- **DNA and Genetics (1 credit)**
- **Laboratory Skills (2 credits)**
- **Statistics for Science (1 credit)**

Assessment of college subjects is through a series of short tests rather than a final exam, and your overall grade is based on completion of a research project and report.

Progression

This course can be used as an entry qualification to most Life Science degree programmes, from biochemistry to zoology, and as a route to direct entry to Year 2 at various universities. Progression to HND Applied Biological Sciences is also an option within the college sector.

The HNC award is also recognised by industry and can lead to employment as a technician in research labs and in industry.

Interview

A successful interview with college staff will be required before a place is offered on the course.

Key Facts

Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 7

Day

Tuesday/Thursday

Time

9.00am – 4.00pm





PDA IN MODERN BIOLOGICAL TECHNIQUES

Course Outline

This course will let you experience Higher Education and obtain a nationally recognised qualification, which can then be used for employment or to strengthen your university application. Focusing on the techniques used in biological science laboratories and related industries, you'll develop an understanding of the theory whilst gaining practical skills.

Entry Level Recommended

S6 pupils must have a pass (Grade C or above) in Higher Biology or Human Biology. You should also have a minimum of Nat 5 in another science subject or in maths.

Course Content

The course is made up of 4 SQA credits:

- Microbiology (2 credits)
- Cell Biology (1 credit)
- Biotechnology (1 credit)

Assessment of college subjects is through a series of short tests rather than a final exam.

Progression

This course can be used to strengthen your application to most Life Science degree programmes and is also recognised by industry so will enhance your employment prospects in technician roles within industry and research labs.

Interview

A successful interview with college staff will be required before a place is offered on the course.

Key Facts

Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 7

Day

Tuesday/Thursday

Time

1.30pm – 4.00pm



HUMAN BODY STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

Course Outline

Extend your knowledge and understanding of selected body systems and how the human body works with this SCQF Level 8 course. Explore how the body co-ordinates its systems to maintain homeostasis and discover diverse conditions such as hyperthyroidism and gigantism.

Entry Level Recommended

Open to S6 pupils. You must have achieved Biology or Human Biology Higher or be working towards Advanced Higher. You should also have a genuine interest in human anatomy & physiology.

Course Content

Explore the inner workings of the human body covering topics such as the structure & function of the skeletal, cardiovascular, respiratory, urinary and digestive systems as well as their control by hormonal and electrical signalling.

Hands on practical activities will allow you to develop your confidence and competence in laboratory work alongside developing skills in data analysis and scientific communication

*Please note you will be studying an SQA double credit unit at SCQF level 8, this is not a Group Award.

Progression

The unit is an ideal progression route to university programmes in medicine and dentistry, as well as to biology-based degrees. Data handling, problem solving, and experimental techniques are all developed alongside expanding knowledge on anatomy and physiology. The career pathways are endless and ultimately you could work as a doctor, dentist, biomedical scientist, research scientist and more.

Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 8

Day

Tuesday

Time

1.30pm - 4.00pm

SPORT

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.

Although our course offers you an alternative to conventional classroom learning, 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 a strong interest in Sport and Fitness. S5/6 candidates currently working towards or have achieved SCQF level 6 subjects.

Course Content

As part of the course, you gain basic sports coaching techniques (SCQF Level 6), offering a quality educational experience in physical well-being and personal development. Through practical sessions, you will enhance your skills and reflect on your progress.

You will cover a unit on planning personal fitness (SCQF Level 6) as well as an introduction to sports mechanics (SCQF Level 5). Aside from the physical side, we will also cover the psychology of sport and exercise (SCQF Level 7).

Progression

You can progress at college to 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.

Check out our Instagram:



@sportwcs



Key Facts



Location

Greenock Finnart Campus

Level

SCQF Level 5-6-7

Day

Tuesday/Thursday

Time

1.30pm – 4.00pm

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.

For Foundation Apprenticeships travel expenses will be provided for work placements located more than 2 miles from your home.

How are these programmes different from the subjects I take at school?

The main difference is that you will spend time at college while working towards qualifications at SCQF Level 4, 5, 6 or 7.

If you are studying a Foundation Apprenticeship you will spend time in a work placement with an employer.

How will the courses be certified?

You will receive a certificate from the relevant awarding body (SQA, IMI etc.).

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

e: Sandra.gardiner@wcs.ac.uk

Sharron Rodger

Schools Relationship Manager

t: 07720974200

e: Sharron.Rodger@wcs.ac.uk

Katrina Maxwell

Foundation Apprenticeship School Engagement Coordinator

t: 01475 554030

e: katrina.maxwell@wcs.ac.uk

It sounds great - how do I apply?

Places are limited, you should speak to your guidance teacher as soon as possible. You should also read the option details for your choice of course and discuss this with your parent or guardian.

For Foundation Apprenticeships you must apply online through the West College Scotland website.

Further information can be found at:

- www.apprenticeships.scot
- www.westcollegescotland.ac.uk/foundation-apprenticeship
- <https://www.westcollegescotland.ac.uk/courses/schools-vocational-programme/>





t 0300 600 60 60

w www.westcollegescotland.ac.uk

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