

VOCATIONAL COURSE GUIDE

LEVELS 1, 2 AND 3



WHY STUDY VOCATIONAL COURSES AT NEW COLLEGE SWINDON?

What are vocational courses?

Vocational courses help you learn in a practical way about a specific job area. They can help you get the skills you need to start a job, progress in a career or go on to higher education. If you know what job or job sector you want to go into, you may want to study a vocational qualification. They are highly-recognised and fully accredited courses.

At Level 3, most vocational courses last for two years and are the equivalent of studying three A Levels. At Level 2, most vocational courses last for one year.

Vocational qualifications at Level 3 are ideal for your progression to either university or work. 95% of UK universities and colleges accept BTEC qualifications. Vocational students can often be better prepared in terms of the independent studying that is required at degree level, due to the portfolio-based nature of courses. The time management and self-organisation skills that you will develop also give you an added edge.

When it comes to progressing straight to a job or career, students who have studied these courses have valuable experience gained from undertaking real-life practical tasks and work experience placements.

Vocational courses at New College Swindon

We offer BTECs and other vocational and technical qualifications, including T Levels, across a wide range of subject areas and levels, from Entry Level right up to Levels 6 and beyond.

This leaflet focuses on vocational courses at Levels 1-3, as these are the ones where most school leavers and adults start their learning journey.

Fantastic choice of subjects

Courses on offer are wide and varied; please see the complete list in this leaflet on page 4-5.

Progression opportunities

You can enter college at Level one in a particular subject area and stay with us, progressing right the way to Level 4/5 and beyond.



Designed to set you up for life beyond the classroom, Careers Extra is an exciting new initiative that forms a key part of your study programme and is linked directly to your chosen subject(s). You will have access to a wide range of career-focused opportunities that give you the skills, experience and confidence needed to make you stand out from the crowd.

"This is exactly where I wanted to learn to cook and I have gained so many skills since being at the College; it has given me the opportunity to try new things and learn at a top level. The thrill I get from cooking is like no other; it makes me feel happy, excited and confident."

Kieran Saunders

Advanced Professional Cookery Level 3



Learn in industry standard facilities

Our North Star and Queens Drive campuses have specialist facilities and resources for vocational courses including:

- The Salon – a professional salon for hair and beauty courses, with paying customers
- Phoenix Theatre
- Art, dance, media makeup, recording studios, and photographic studios & darkroom
- Sports Centre, 3G pitch and gym
- A brand new Animal Management Centre
- A wet lab with facility for bio-chemical lab work
- Mock hospital wards with triage rooms and birthing pool
- Industry-standard training workshops
- Purpose built construction centre with outdoor simulated construction site
- A professional training restaurant and coffee bar.

All of our facilities are fully equipped with the materials needed to develop and practise your skills in a professional, hands on environment.

| I have achieved or will achieve | What can I study? | Duration | What's next? |
|---|--|----------|---|
| Six GCSEs at grade 7-9 | Vocational Course at Level 3/T Level | 2 years | Employment, university or an Apprenticeship |
| Five GCSEs at grade 4-9 (incl English Lang and often Maths) | Vocational Course at Level 3/T Level | 2 years | Employment, university or an Apprenticeship |
| Four GCSEs at grades 3-4 | Vocational course at Level 2 and English/Maths GCSEs | 1 year | Level 3 course/T level or Apprenticeship |
| Three GCSEs at grade 2+ | Vocational course at Level 2 and English/Maths GCSEs | 1 year | Level 2 courses |
| GCSEs at grade 1 or below | Foundation Learning programme (Entry Level/ Level 1) | 1 year | Level 2 courses |

These entry requirements are only a guide. You should check entry grades on the relevant course infosheet at www.newcollege.ac.uk. You can also progress to a higher level if you have already achieved a vocational qualification in the same subject at a previous level (subject to other entry requirements being met).

VOCATIONAL COURSE LIST

QD = QUEENS DRIVE CAMPUS | NS = NORTH STAR CAMPUS



Tia Stepp
Massage Therapies Level 3

"I've felt so welcome here and the beauty course has really helped me flourish."



Tom Sandwell
Sport & Exercise Science

This course has been an amazing experience. From anatomy to sports coaching, I've learned many transferable skills for future education."

| Area | Subject | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | T Level | Campus |
|---|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------|
| Animal Management | Animal Care | ✓ | ✓ | | | NS |
| | Animal Management | | | | ✓ | NS |
| Applied Science | Applied Science | | | ✓ | | QD |
| | Laboratory Science | | | | ✓ | QD |
| | Science T Level Transition Programme | | ✓ | | | QD |
| Creative Arts | Art and Design | | ✓ | ✓ | | QD/ L3 at NS |
| | Creative Studies | ✓ | | | | QD |
| | Fashion, Textiles, Costume & Interiors | | | ✓ | | QD |
| | Graphic Design | | | ✓ | | QD |
| | Photography | | ✓ | ✓ | | QD |
| Business, Accounting and Finance | Accounting | ✓ | | | ✓ | NS |
| | Business Management and Administration | | | | ✓ | NS |
| | Finance | | ✓ | | ✓ | NS |
| | Information Technology, Business and Esports | ✓ | | | | NS |
| | Finance, Accounting and Business T Level Transition Programme | | ✓ | | | NS |
| Early Years | Early Years | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | QD |
| | Early Years T Level Transition Programme | | ✓ | | | QD |
| Computing and Digital | Digital Production Design and Development | | | | ✓ | NS |
| | Digital Business Services | | | | ✓ | NS |
| | Digital Support Services | | | | ✓ | NS |
| | Esports | | ✓ | ✓ | | NS |
| | IT Business and Esports | ✓ | | | | NS |
| | ICT T Level Transition Programme | | ✓ | | | NS |
| | | | | | | |
| Construction Trades | Bricklaying | ✓ | ✓ | | | NS |
| | Carpentry and Joinery | ✓ | ✓ | | | NS |
| | Construction Multi Skills | ✓ | ✓ | | | NS |
| | Plastering | ✓ | | | | NS |
| | Plumbing | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | NS |

| Area | Subject | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | T Level | Campus |
|--|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|
| Electrical Installation and Engineering | Civil Engineering | | | | ✓ | NS |
| | Design, Surveying & Planning for Construction | | | | | NS |
| | Electrical Installation | | ✓ | ✓ | | NS |
| | Engineering | | ✓ | ✓ | | NS |
| | Engineering and Manufacturing | | | | ✓ | NS |
| Hair and Beauty | Barbering | | ✓ | | | NS |
| | Beauty | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | NS |
| | Hairdressing | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | NS |
| Health and Social Care | Health and Social Care | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | QD |
| | Health Transition to T-Level Programme | | ✓ | | | |
| Hospitality and Catering | Professional Cookery | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | NS |
| Creative Media | Creative Media | ✓ | ✓ | | | NS |
| | Film and TV Production | | | ✓ | | NS |
| | Games Design | | | ✓ | | NS |
| Media Make-Up | Media Make-up | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | NS/L1 at QD |
| Motor Vehicle | Light Vehicle Maintenance | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | NS |
| Performing Arts | Digital Music Production | | | ✓ | | QD |
| | Performing Arts | | ✓ | | | QD |
| | Performing Arts (Acting/Musical Theatre) | | | ✓ | | QD |
| | Performing Arts (Dance) | | | ✓ | | QD |
| | Performing Arts (Drama) | | | ✓ | | QD |
| Public Services | Public Services | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | QD |
| | Vocational Studies (Sport and Public Services) | ✓ | | | | QD |
| Sport | Sport | | ✓ | | | QD |
| | Sport and Exercise Science | | | ✓ | | QD |
| | Vocational Studies (Sport and Public Services) | ✓ | | | | QD |
| | Working in Sport and Leisure | | | ✓ | | QD |
| Travel and Tourism | Air Cabin Crew | | ✓ | | | NS |
| | Travel and Tourism | | ✓ | ✓ | | NS |

TAKE YOUR STUDIES TO THE **NEXT LEVEL**

T Levels are a 2-year programme, combining classroom and practical study with a minimum of 45 days industry placement, to give you real experience in the workplace.

They have been developed with employers and businesses to make sure that you have the skills and experience needed to gain an entry-level role, a higher apprenticeship or further study including a degree.

- 1 T Level is equal to 3 A Levels
- 80% classroom study and 20% work experience
- Overall grade of pass, merit or distinction
- Worth UCAS points and recognised by universities.



"The hospital ward is realistic and professional. It makes me feel like I am in a real, working ward!"

Ryan Venton

T-Level Health & Social Care Level 3

New College Swindon has invested over £2 million on the development of dedicated T-Level facilities, including:

- Training hospital with maternity wards, triage rooms and birthing pool
- Mock nursery
- Wet lab with facility for biochemical lab work
- Cyber lab
- Business and computing suite designed to replicate a real office space.



"I love Engineering. It's given me so much satisfaction and opened the door to new experiences where I can put my practical skills to good use."

Bradley Pignatelli Studied Engineering at Level 2 and is now studying an Extended Diploma in Engineering Technologies at Level 3.

Bradley Pignatelli

Extended Diploma in Engineering Technologies Level 3

CONTACT DETAILS

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