

LEVELS AND QUALIFICATIONS

Once you've chosen your subject area and the way you want to study, you just need to decide which level is right for you. If you're not sure, we'll help you. We're confident that we have something to suit everyone. Remember – all our courses come with support, encouragement and top-class teaching guaranteed.

<p>PRE-ENTRY & ENTRY Courses last between one term and two years. Entry requirements: just a desire to learn.</p>	<p>Pre-Entry Level – Almost entirely for students with learning difficulties, these programmes are designed to prepare you for some independent living and the possibility of employment. We offer learning in a variety of vocational areas, such as horticulture, cleaning and enterprise.</p>	<p>Entry Level for native-speakers of English – Our Entry Level programmes are designed to meet the needs of students who may want to develop their literacy and numeracy skills. These courses are focused on the individual aspirations of the student and look at their options for progression into work or further learning.</p>	<p>Entry Level for non-native speakers of English – We have a varied ESOL programme for students learning English for the first time. These courses focus on language learning in all its different aspects, while providing strong pastoral support and preparation for progression.</p>		
<p>LEVEL 1 FOUNDATION Courses normally last one year. Entry requirements: just a desire to learn.</p>	<p>Adult Learners – This is a general programme for adults wanting to build up skills in communications, numeracy and IT. Course tutors are on hand to help you build your confidence to move on.</p>	<p>Foundation Craft Award/Basic Vocational Skills – These are introductory courses in specialised crafts and skills. They are ideal if you are not working and therefore not eligible for NVQ Level 1. Once you are working you can move onto NVQs.</p>	<p>Foundation Diploma – includes functional skills and personal skills alongside practical learning elements designed to introduce vocational subjects.</p>	<p>NVQ Level 1 – NVQ is a national standard recognised by employers. This work-based course introduces you to the skills needed to prepare for a job in a particular industry.</p>	<p>Skills Academy Programmes – These 'skills for' courses are for 16-18 year olds and offer the best of our vocational training with a solid grounding in communications, numeracy and IT. A great first step along the career path.</p>
<p>LEVEL 2 INTERMEDIATE LEVEL Courses normally last one year. Entry requirements: normally two GCSEs at A-D, GNVQ Foundation, NVQ Level 1, City and Guilds, College assessment or equivalent.</p>	<p>GCSEs – English and Maths at Grade C or above are requirements for many jobs and courses.</p>	<p>BTEC (Edexcel) First Diploma – This nationally recognised programme allows you to choose from an extensive range of vocational areas. This qualification provides the groundwork for careers in specialist areas.</p>	<p>Higher Diploma – emphasis on developing vocational knowledge alongside wider skills. GCSE equivalent.</p>	<p>NVQ Level 2 – A work-based course for those who may have completed NVQ Level 1, or who are already employed. NVQ is a great route to becoming a professional in your chosen industry.</p>	<p>City & Guilds – These internationally recognised vocational courses are both widely respected as qualifications and have a practical value in the workplace.</p> <p>Apprenticeships – These nationally recognised qualifications are for those aged 16-25. Apprenticeships combine hands-on work with studying towards a recognised foundation course at NVQ Level 2.</p>
<p>LEVEL 3 ADVANCED LEVEL Courses normally last two years, though some are accredited after one year and this counts towards the full qualification. Entry requirements: normally four or five GCSEs at A*-C or GNVQ Intermediate or BTEC (Edexcel) First Diploma or NVQ Level 2 (or equivalent) or relevant industry experience.</p>	<p>BTEC (Edexcel) National Diploma – This course works like vocational A-levels (AVCE) except that BTECs are for more specialist subjects, such as fine art and fashion. These courses are ideal preparation for work or higher education.</p>		<p>Advanced Diploma – a two-year programme building in-depth expertise in chosen vocational subjects, again with wider skill development.</p>	<p>NVQ Level 3 – This is a supervisory level qualification, which requires you to be an experienced practitioner at Level 2. This qualification gives you a head start in becoming an effective supervisor.</p>	<p>Access courses – Access courses are ideal if you are over 19, have few or no previous qualifications and are now aiming to go to university.</p> <p>Advanced Apprenticeships – These courses combine hands-on paid work with studying towards a recognised qualification at an advanced level – NVQ Level 3.</p>
<p>LEVEL 4 HIGHER LEVEL These courses normally take one or two years. Entry requirements: normally one or more A-Levels (plus GCSEs), AVCE, GNVQ Advanced, or National Certificate or Diploma, or NVQ Level 3, or Access, or equivalent.</p>	<p>BA Foundation Degree – A new higher education qualification, which is work-related, flexible and valued by employers. A Foundation Degree can provide employees with a strong academic background in their line of work. We offer two-year courses in partnership with Goldsmiths, University of London, Greenwich University and London South Bank University.</p>	<p>Higher National Certificate or Diploma (HNCs and HNDs) – A work-focused and flexible alternative to a degree and a way of enhancing your employment prospects. These courses contribute towards the professional development requirements of employers. Some HNCs and HNDs can take you directly to the second or third level of a degree.</p>			