



SCHOOL LINKS

*Skills for Work*

**Construction Crafts**  
*at National 4 & 5*

Your school has joined with North East Scotland College to offer you the opportunity to undertake a vocational qualification as part of your school studies. This information leaflet is designed to answer your questions and explain a bit about the course you will be taking.

## WHAT IS IT?

Skills for Work Construction Crafts at National 4 or 5 are National courses aimed at pupils who are interested in working in the construction industry and recognises that many will not have the experience or the knowledge of the different trades to be able to make an informed choice for future studies or when considering Modern Apprenticeships. Therefore, it involves a number of short units which allow pupils to try out and develop their skills across a range of trades.

By completing one or both of these courses you will be developing important skills that will allow you to consider undertaking additional training and qualifications on leaving school, or entering suitable employment through an apprenticeship. You will also have the opportunity to gain a recognised SQA National Qualification.

## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

During this course you will:


- Develop technical knowledge, skills and understanding associated with a range of craft skills in construction
- Develop an awareness of health and safety issues in construction
- Be encouraged to develop a positive attitude to environmental issues
- Develop and learn to apply practical, technical and communication skills as a basis for future learning and progression
- Develop employment skills which can assist with finding a job in the future.

## HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

You will be taught by means of both practical based activities in the workshop and classroom based theory lessons. Most classes will take place in a workshop either at your school or at Fraserburgh Campus or Aberdeen Altens Campus.

Throughout the course you will be offered an opportunity to review and identify how your skills are developing.

You will be expected to demonstrate:

- An interest in the Construction industry
  - Good time keeping skills
  - A willingness and commitment to learning
  - A knowledge of appropriate dress, in particular Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
  - Planning and preparation skills
  - An ability to establish and maintain good working relationships with others
  - Problem solving skills.
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## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The National 4 course is made up of eight units, five mandatory and a further three chosen by the College. The five mandatory units are:

- Employability Skills
- Half Brick Walling
- Bench Joinery
- Decorative Painting Techniques.
- Plumbing.

And a minimum three of the four optional units below, if time allows all four units will be completed.

- Practical Copper Pipework
- Brickwork Techniques
- Carpentry and Joinery Techniques
- Decorative Finishing Using Water-borne Paints.

The National 5 course is made up of four units, three mandatory and a further one chosen by the College. The three mandatory units are:

- Employability Skills
- One Brick Walling
- Bench Joinery.

And one of the two optional units below, if time allows both units will be completed.

- Decorative Painting Techniques
- Plumbing of Sanitary Appliances.

## WHAT DO I NEED?

Whilst you are taking part in the course you will be required to:

- Wear the appropriate clothing, including safety footwear, i.e. boots or shoes with steel toe caps, boiler suit and safety glasses (PPE)
- Be ready to start your class at the given time
- Adhere to the School Pupils Code of Commitment.

For all construction and engineering courses it is necessary to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). You are not allowed into the workshops without PPE and will be returned to school and marked absent if you arrive without it.

Eating and drinking are not permitted in the workshops or classrooms. Drinking water is available from water dispensers in the corridors within the College buildings.



## HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

To achieve the course award you must attend regularly and successfully complete all units required. Assessment will be based on a range of practical activities in real or simulated workplace settings. Assessors will observe as you carry out tasks and you will be also complete self review and a folio.

These courses will show on your final SQA Exam Certificate as a National 4 or 5 award.

## WHAT CAN I DO AFTER THIS COURSE?

This course may provide candidates with opportunities to progress to:

- National Progression Award in Construction
- Employment as an apprentice in the construction industry
- Pre-vocational programmes in further education college

## WHO DO I SPEAK TO ABOUT THIS COURSE?

If you are interested in this course and want to find out more about it you should speak to your Guidance Teacher at school.

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It is expected that pupils enrolling on this course will remain enrolled with their school for the duration of the course. Therefore this course is **not** suitable for those school pupils planning on leaving school at Christmas.



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