



Trowel occupations

If you want to lay the foundations for a successful career in the building trade an Apprenticeship in trowel occupations could give you a great head-start.

As well as the Apprenticeship programme for the 16-24 age group, for the first time this year we are offering FREE Adult Apprenticeships for the over-25s.

Apprenticeships benefit both employees and employers, providing recognised qualifications which develop skills in the workplace.

Northumberland College offers an NVQ Level 2 in Trowel Occupations which includes training in workplace safety and work with masonry structures. It also builds in Key Skills Level 1 and a Technical Certificate.



The training is delivered by a combination of college attendance, onsite assessment and blended learning.

The Advanced Apprenticeship programme in trowel occupations offers the NVQ and Technical Certificate at Level 3, and Key Skills in Application of Number and Communication at Level 2.

You must have an employer to become an Apprentice.

Who is the programme for?

Apprenticeships are designed for people aged 16-24 years who are already employed. Adult Apprenticeships now offer free training to over-25s too.

Do I need any formal qualifications?

Ideally you will need GCSE Grade D or above in English and Maths. You must have an employer to become an Apprentice.

Do I need an interview?

Yes, you will need to attend an interview.

What will I study on the programme?

NVQ Level 2 in Trowel Occupations. This involves units dealing with:

- Using set out for masonry structures
- Erecting masonry structures
- Workplace safety
- Erecting thin joint masonry structures
- Setting out complex masonry structures
- Repairing and maintaining masonry structures

Key Skills Level 1 in

- Application of Number
- Communication

A Technical Certificate

- Intermediate Certificate Award

How is the programme organised?

The programme initially involves training at a Level 2 standard, which will normally take between 18 and 30 months. You will attend college, access e-learning and spend the remaining time working with a local bricklayer or building company.

How will my progress be assessed?

The NVQ qualifications are assessed by qualified staff both in college and in the workplace. This means you are observed in practical situations as well as collecting evidence of your skills. Key Skills and the Technical Certificate are assessed through a programme of work, assignments and some external tests. You can gain some exemptions from Key Skills depending on your GCSE, AS or A Level grades.

What final qualification will I get?

- NVQ Level 2 – Trowel Occupations
- Key Skills Certificates at Level 1
- A Technical Certificate – Intermediate Construction Award

What could I do after completing this programme successfully?

You can progress onto an Advanced Apprenticeship programme in trowel occupations, which will involve an NVQ and Technical Certificate at Level 3, and Key Skills in Application of Number, Communication and ICT at Level 2. Once you have completed your Advanced Apprenticeship there may be opportunities for you to progress to higher education.

Conditions of Training

All Apprentices will be employed for the term of their Apprenticeship and will work within the terms and conditions of their employer (hours of work, holiday entitlement, sickness procedure etc). The minimum wage you are entitled to on an Apprenticeship is £80 per week.