UNIVERSITY-LEVEL COURSES FOR THE REAL WORLD

Higher Education Guide 2017
Welcome to Stoke on Trent College

If you’re looking for a competitive edge in the employment market, then Stoke on Trent College’s higher education programmes will provide the help you need. The qualifications we offer at university-level have been developed specifically to provide you with professional skills that will really progress your employment prospects.

We have designed each programme with employers to provide the qualifications you need for your chosen career path and to help you ultimately achieve your career goals.

We offer a friendly, flexible learning environment and our low fees mean university-level education is now even more affordable.

Many of our programmes are awarded by Staffordshire University, providing our students with all the benefits of university membership, including university learning resources and social facilities.

Stoke on Trent College is at the heart of the community, easily accessible and with excellent public transport links to the six towns and beyond. Our approach to learning enables greater one-to-one contact and through our established links with local employers we can also offer real-time employment experience, though many of our higher education students come to us already in employment.

At Stoke on Trent College we’re proud of the success that our students achieve, many of whom have taken the step into higher education and never looked back.

Thank you for taking the time to consider Stoke on Trent College. We look forward to supporting you as you progress towards a positive and rewarding future career.

Sarah Robinson
Chief Executive of Stoke on Trent College
WHY CHOOSE STOKE ON TRENT COLLEGE?

Whether you are looking for an alternative to a full degree course, to progress in your existing job or change your career, at Stoke on Trent College we have many years’ experience in running higher level courses that deliver excellent results. Studying here, you will meet new people, encounter new ideas and learn more about your chosen subject. Our friendly, flexible learning environment and our low fees mean university-level education is now even more affordable.

VOCATIONAL COURSES FOR THE REAL WORLD
Courses are directly related to your job and delivered by tutors who have real-world experience and knowledge of the subjects they teach. We keep class sizes small, with an informal atmosphere and offer substantial individual support.

STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY
We work in partnership with Staffordshire University and are part of the University Quarter (Uniq). Foundation degrees and Foundation years are awarded by Staffordshire University and our HNC/D Computing students are also classed as University students, giving you access to resources at both the College and University. Should you wish to progress your studies further, you will have direct progression routes to the final year of degree programmes at Staffordshire University. Staffordshire University has an enviable reputation with 89.3% of full-time students in employment or continuing to study within six months after graduating (Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education 2014/15 survey).

CONVENIENT LOCATION
Both our Cauldon and Burslem Campuses, and the Staffordshire University Science Centre are easy to get to and are situated on main bus routes servicing all areas including Leek, Newcastle-under-Lyme and Kidsgrove.

FACILITIES
We’ve recently invested £36M in new buildings and facilities, so whichever course you choose, you will benefit from state-of-the-art facilities at both campuses.

At Cauldon Campus…
The Lifestyle building houses a fabulous spa, hair and beauty salons and catering facilities, along with training kitchens and restaurant and our £6.5M Sports Academy offers a fully equipped gym, sports hall and therapy rooms. In September 2015, we opened the £12M Enterprise Hub incorporating Business, IT, Science, Sports and Public Services courses – offering the latest in IT facilities, a Costa Coffee and much more.

At Burslem Campus…
The Live Nation Centre for Media and Performing Arts houses a 220 seat theatre, recording studio, dance studio, art workshops and Apple Mac suites. Meanwhile students on our Engineering and Construction courses benefit from state-of-the-art facilities for Engineering, Renewable Technologies, Electronics, Bricklaying and Plastering in the John Seddon Building and recently unveiled £10.5M Technology Hub.

Staffordshire University Science Centre
Science students also benefit from access to the Staffordshire University Science Centre, situated at the heart of the University Quarter offering specialist science laboratories.

SUPPORT TO SUCCEED
Studying at university-level requires a range of academic study skills. We provide you with training and support that will improve both your skills and confidence every step of the way. We are dedicated to helping you get the most from your career and achieving your personal goals, and we have a fantastic reputation for supporting and encouraging all students during their time with us.

HIGHER EDUCATION CENTRE
Our Higher Education Centre is designed to offer you the perfect study environment. Here you can access the internet, seek advice from experts, study and share your experiences with others. Dedicated to our Higher Education students, the Centre allows you to work at your own pace in an adult environment.

89.3% of Staffordshire University full time students are in employment or continuing to study within six months after graduating.
Study is either part-time over two years or ‘Accelerated’ part-time over 13 months. In order to study at Level 7 candidates must be graduates with a degree in the subject that they teach, usually with a 2:1 or 1st class honours. The programmes offer a progression route to at least one Honours degree and one Masters degree, most of which are available at Staffordshire University. Students on our Cert Ed/PGCE programmes are classed as joint Stoke on Trent College and Staffordshire University students, with access to the learning resources and social facilities at the University.


dividually modules

These are ‘bite-size’ degree-level units made up of one or more HNC or HND modules in a specialised field and can be completed in a much shorter time than a full degree programme. These are suitable for people who may just require one or two specialist skills at degree level, but not a full higher education qualification or those wanting to extend their teaching qualifications and expertise.

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Access to Higher Education qualifications provide you with an ideal way of developing the skills necessary to progress to university, whilst studying subjects that are relevant to your chosen degree programme. Successful completion of the Access course will provide you with a nationally recognised qualification that is an alternative to the traditional qualifications required by universities.

Qualifications range from ‘bite-size’ degree-level units to Foundation degree

foundations degrees

Foundation degrees are designed in partnership with employers, and offered in conjunction with Staffordshire University. They equip you with skills and knowledge relevant to your employment, integrating academic and work-based learning and allowing you to learn alongside your existing job. However, you may also undertake a Foundation degree when returning to work, changing your career or as an alternative to a full degree course.

Full-time Foundation degrees are mostly completed within two years. All Foundation degrees offer a guaranteed progression route to at least one named Honours degree, most of which are available at Staffordshire University.

HNC/HND

Higher National Certificates and Diplomas (HNCs and HNDs) are professionally geared to enable students to meet the needs of their chosen future employment. Study is either full-time or part-time. The course length will depend on the subject studied and can be from 12 months in the case of a full-time HNC to three years for a part-time HND.

Students on our Applied IT HNC/D programmes are classed as joint Stoke on Trent College and Staffordshire University students, with access to the learning resources and social facilities at the University. Where the HNC and HND awards are currently awarded by Pearson, students are classed as Stoke on Trent College students only, and should apply direct to the college.

level 4 certificate

The Level 4 Certificate is designed to improve your career prospects and is equivalent to the first year of a Foundation degree. On successful completion of the Level 4, learners can progress onto a Level 5 (Foundation degree) qualification or Level 6 BA (Hons) Degree.

level 5 certificate in education (PCET) / level 7 post graduate certificate in education (PCET)

The Level 5 Certificate in Education and Level 7 PGCE are professionally geared programmes to enable newly appointed teachers to meet the needs of employers and learners in providing education in the post-compulsory education and training sector (PCET). Students can be employed as teachers in an unpaid or paid capacity, but must be in a teaching role with full responsibilities for planning, delivering, assessing and developing learning programmes.

foundations year

A Foundation Year is an extra year of study at the start of a university course. It allows students who don’t meet the normal entry requirements for a degree course to fill in the gaps and go on to study a full degree. Each Foundation Year is an integral part of a specific honours degree which means once you have passed the Foundation Year you will progress directly onto Year 1 of the linked honours degree.
ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES
CISCO CCNA, PERFORMING ARTS, DANCE & ENGINEERING HNC/D
Application for these courses should be made directly to the College via the College website www.stokecollege.ac.uk or by calling 01782 208208.

FULL-TIME COURSES
Full-time programmes awarded by Staffordshire University are applied for directly through UCAS, with Staffordshire University as the institution (S72) and Stoke on Trent College as the campus. However, if you miss the UCAS deadline for applying, please contact us – we may still be able to help you find a place on a full-time programme. UCAS applications should be made via the UCAS website - www.ucas.com

PART-TIME COURSES
Part-time programmes awarded by Staffordshire University are applied for via the Staffordshire University website. Please visit www.staffs.ac.uk/study and use the course search facility in ‘undergraduate study’ to find the course you are interested in. This will take you to a Staffordshire University online application form so you can complete your application.
For more information call us on 01782 208208.

GUIDANCE FOR CURRENT STOKE ON TRENT COLLEGE STUDENTS
If you are a Stoke on Trent College student seeking to progress to a higher education course with us, then our highly qualified Careers Advice Team will be able to assist you in preparing for UCAS applications or for the part-time application route via the University.

OPEN EVENTS
To find out more about our university-level courses come to one of our Open Evenings, which take place from 5.00 to 7.30pm on dates throughout the year. Visit www.stokecollege.ac.uk for dates in the coming year, and to find out which is the right campus for you.

WHAT HAPPENS ONCE YOU HAVE APPLIED?
Following your application you will either be invited in for an interview or sent an offer, depending on the course you have applied for. For more information on the applications process please visit our website www.stokecollege.ac.uk
FEES AND FUNDING

There are two main costs involved in higher education—the tuition fee for your course, and the living costs associated with studying at university-level.

TUITION FEES
Tuition fees per year of study are published on our website www.stokecollege.ac.uk.

For the majority of our students, you will not have to pay your tuition fee up front, as a government Tuition Fee Loan is available from the Student Loans Company to cover your fees in full (this is also true for Access to HE students aged 19+, who have an Advanced Learning Loan available to cover tuition fees).

The loan is paid directly to the College by the Student Loans Company to cover your fees, and you only start to repay the loan when you are earning over £21,000 a year.

This loan is available for both full-time and part-time students (so long as the part-time course does not take more than twice as long to complete as the equivalent full-time course). Visit www.gov.uk/studentfinance for more information about Tuition Fee Loans and how to apply for one.

LIVING COSTS
If you are a full-time student, then there may be some financial support available to help with living costs such as accommodation and food (if you live away from home to study), travel and course materials.

Maintenance Loan
For full-time higher education students, a maintenance loan may be available to you in addition to the tuition fee loan, and the amount available will depend on where you live and study and your household income. If you live at home and come to Stoke on Trent College to study, the amount you can borrow is reduced as you won’t be paying for accommodation.

As with the tuition fee loan, you do not have to pay back any of this loan until you are earning over £21,000. If you live away from home, the maintenance loan is up to £8,200. The exact amount of maintenance loan you can apply for will also depend upon your household income. Please visit www.gov.uk/apply-for-student-finance/household-income for full details.

SHARIA LAW COMPLIANCE
Under Sharia Law, paying interest is prohibited. This means current-style student loans are deemed not suitable by many Muslims, making it potentially difficult for Muslim students to fund the cost of higher education. The government undertook a consultation on this subject during 2014 and has now confirmed that Muslim students in England will be able to get alternative student finance acceptable under Sharia Law, although this will not be available until 2017 at the earliest.
LEARNING SUPPORT
Stoke on Trent College is working to create an environment that is welcoming and inclusive. Our Learning Support Team is on hand to provide initial advice and information for individuals who have an additional support need/disability, including support in applying for DSA (Disabled Students’ Allowance). Individuals wishing to study at the College are advised to disclose their disability early in the application process.
You can apply for a Disabled Students’ Allowance (DSA) if you have a:
• Disability such as Asperger’s syndrome, autistic spectrum condition, visual impairment, hearing impairment, physical or mobility issues
• Long-term health condition such as epilepsy, cancer, HIV, diabetes
• Mental health condition such as depression, anxiety, OCD and schizophrenia
• Specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia, dyspraxia or ADHD
You must meet the definition of disability under the Equality Act 2010. The support you get will depend on your individual needs and not on income.
For further advice and information please contact the Learning Support Team on 01782 603653 or lsteam@stokecoll.ac.uk or by SMS Text to 07786 113933

LINKS WITH EMPLOYERS
For those of our students who are not already in employment, through our Job Shop we offer the opportunity to find a work placement or part-time work during your course, enabling you to gain real-time work experience. You can drop into the Job Shop at either campus.

HELP WITH CHILDCARE
The First Steps Nursery provides a caring, stimulating childcare environment for children between the ages of 12 weeks and 5 years. We pride ourselves on the service we offer, and our commitment to quality is reflected in both our Ofsted inspection reports and the quality awards we have received.
Opening hours are Monday to Thursday, 8.30am - 5.30pm and Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm, term time only.
For details call 01782 603507

ACCOMMODATION
Whilst Stoke on Trent College does not have any student accommodation of its own, we are able to provide links for you to local student accommodation, much of it used by students at Staffordshire University. For more information visit www.stokecollege.ac.uk
SPECIALIST FACILITIES

to give you the real skills and experience
you need to succeed
At Stoke on Trent College we enjoy close links with industry professionals in a wide range of local and national employers. Currently we work with some 1400 companies, building relationships that benefit both our programmes of study and our learners as they progress into employment.

Developing your readiness for employment is a key priority at Stoke on Trent College. So we work in partnership with a variety of businesses, professional bodies and public service organisations to ensure that the skills and knowledge taught on our courses are of value to employers and meet required professional standards.

Many of our courses also involve employers from a variety of organisations in the learning experience to ensure that you get the opportunity to apply your skills in real life situations. For example, on many courses students are encouraged to undertake live projects and assignments which have been devised by employers and are directly linked to the needs of their organisation and also provide opportunities for work placements.

For those of our students who are not already in employment, we offer the opportunity for work placement, enabling you to benefit from real-time work experience.

For students who are currently employed, we offer courses which are relevant to your workplace and flexible enough to fit in with work commitments.

Over the years, many students have progressed with the help of our work-based Higher Education courses and discovered that the pace of their studies has enabled them to maintain a healthy balance of work and study.

Working Partnerships

with 1,400 companies ranging from local owner-managed concerns to multi-national brands
ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

About the course

The Access to Higher Education course provides you with a qualification that will enable you to progress to university to study a range of vocational and academic Health degree programmes.

The Access course is an ideal way of developing the skills necessary to progress to university whilst studying subjects that are relevant to your chosen degree programme.

The course covers 3 key topics of Psychology, Biology and Sociology for Health as follows:

- **Psychology:** Abnormal Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Memory Processes, Stress and Social Psychology
- **Biology:** Cell Biology, Genetics, Human Immunity, Human Nutrition and the Digestive System, Reproduction and Growth, Respiration and Circulation, Endocrine and Nervous System, Musculo-Skeletal System and Urinary System
- **Sociology:** Crime and Deviance, Sociology of Health and Family

Entry requirements

There are no formal entry requirements, but it is beneficial for students to have Level 2 Functional Skills or above in English. In the absence of any entry qualifications, students will have to demonstrate Level 2 English ability via an initial assessment at interview.

Successful completion of the Access course will provide you with a nationally recognised qualification that is an alternative to the traditional qualifications required to progress to university.

Typically, successful students progress to a range of health related degree programmes including adult nursing, mental health nursing, children’s nursing, children’s nursing and midwifery.

In addition, students will need to check the entry requirements for their chosen degree programme. Some courses require students to have GCSEs in Maths and/or English or relevant work experience. It is very important that you check these entry requirements before you start the course.

Progression

Successful completion of the Access course will provide you with a nationally recognised qualification that is an alternative to the traditional qualifications required to progress to university.

Typically, successful students progress to a range of health related degree programmes including adult nursing, mental health nursing, children’s nursing, children’s nursing and midwifery.

Are you aged 19 or over?
Thinking of starting an Access course this year?

Apply for an Advanced Learning Loan to cover your course fees and pay nothing upfront! See page 10-11 for details or visit www.stokecollege.ac.uk

The College has given me the best possible platform to succeed. All of the staff have been very supportive.

Nursing Assistant Diane Lowe has proved no matter what age you are, you can still go back to college!

46 year old Diane undertook an Access to Health course, studying Biology, Sociology and Psychology.

Diane has gone about the course with incredible determination, showing motivation, a professional attitude and maturity in her conduct. Not one to blow her own trumpet, Diane has grown in self-confidence during the course and become a popular group member through her support for others.

Diane said when she first started at the College it was a bit of a struggle. “I wasn’t very good with computers so I spent a lot of time trying to finish assignments, but as the course went on I got better. I’m so glad I stuck at it; it has given me a lot more confidence!” After working as a Nursing Assistant at the Royal Stoke University Hospital for 14 years, Diane decided to go back to college to boost her qualifications.

She added: “I want to go up the ladder and achieve something. I want to apply for a position as an Operating Department Practitioner in the hospital theatre.

“The College has given me the best possible platform to succeed. All of the staff have been very supportive.”
ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION – DIPLOMA IN SCIENCE

ABOUT THE COURSE
The Access to Higher Education course provides you with an ideal way of developing the skills necessary to progress to university, whilst studying subjects that are relevant to your chosen degree programme.

The course covers the 3 key sciences of Chemistry, Biology and Physics as follows:

Chemistry: Atomic Structure, Bonding, Functional Groups, Hydrocarbons, Physical Chemistry and Hydrocarbons


Physics: Electricity, Mechanics, Optics and Sound, Physics, Thermal Properties and Heat Transfer

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
There are no formal entry requirements, but it is beneficial for students to have Level 2 Functional Skills or above in English. In the absence of any entry qualifications, students will have to demonstrate Level 2 English ability via an initial assessment at interview. Students without qualifications in Maths and English may find it beneficial to complete the Return to Study course first.

This enables students to develop confidence in their ability to study at a higher level before starting the Access programme.

In addition, students will need to check the entry requirements for their chosen degree programme. Some courses require students to have GCSEs in Maths and/or English or relevant work experience. It is very important that you check these entry requirements before you start the course.

PROGRESSION
Typically students on the Access Science Diploma progress to university to do a range of Science degree programmes including Forensic Science, Physiotherapy, Biology, Psychology, Radiography, Operating Department Practice (ODP), Pharmacy, Environmental Science, Biomedical Science, Paramedic Science, Biochemistry and Microbiology.

FURTHER INFORMATION INCLUDING TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT METHODS CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT WWW.STOKECOLLEGE.AC.UK

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION – DIPLOMA IN SOCIAL SCIENCE

ABOUT THE COURSE
The Access to Higher Education course provides you with an ideal way to develop the skills necessary to progress to university whilst studying subjects that are relevant to your chosen degree programme.

Successful completion of the course will provide you with a nationally recognised qualification that is an alternative to A Levels. The course will focus on a range of core and specialist units which will be delivered through taught sessions, the Virtual Learning Environment and e-tutorials.

Core units include Psychology, Sociology and Social Policy with learners selecting one specialist subject from Law Business, Social Work or Humanities.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
There are no formal entry requirements, but it is beneficial for students to have Level 2 Functional Skills or above in English. In the absence of any entry qualifications, students will have to demonstrate Level 2 English ability via an initial assessment at interview. Students without qualifications in Maths and English may find it beneficial to complete the Return to Study course first.

This enables students to develop confidence in their ability to study at a higher level before starting the Access programme. In addition, students will need to check the entry requirements for their chosen degree programme.

PROGRESSION
Typically students on this Diploma progress to university to do a range of subjects including Law, Social Work, Psychology, Sociology, Social Policy, Humanities and Social Work.

FURTHER INFORMATION INCLUDING TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT METHODS CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT WWW.STOKECOLLEGE.AC.UK
ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION - MEDICINE

ABOUT THE COURSE
The Access to Higher Education course provides you with a qualification that will enable you to progress to university to study a range of vocational and academic Medical degree programmes.

The Access course is an ideal way of developing the skills necessary to progress to university whilst studying subjects that are relevant to your chosen degree programme.

The course covers 3 key topics of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, along with a research topic, as follows:

- Physics: Electromagnetic Spectrum, Medical Physics, Optics and Sound.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
There are no formal entry requirements, but it is beneficial for students to have Level 2 Functional Skills or above in English. In the absence of any formal entry qualifications, students will have to demonstrate Level 2 English ability via an initial assessment at interview. Students without qualifications in Maths and English may find it beneficial to complete the Return to Study course first. This enables students to develop confidence in their ability to study at a higher level before starting the Access programme. In addition, students will need to check the entry requirements for their chosen degree programme. Some courses require students to have GCSEs in Maths and/or English or relevant work experience. It is very important that you check these entry requirements before you start the course.

PROGRESSION
Successful completion of the Access course will provide you with a nationally recognised qualification that is an alternative to the traditional qualifications required to progress to university. Typically, successful students’ progress to a range of Medical related degree programmes.

In addition, students will need to check the entry requirements for their chosen degree programme. Some courses require students to have GCSEs in Maths and/or English or relevant work experience. It is very important that you check these entry requirements before you start the course.

Return to Study course first. This enables students to develop confidence in their ability to study at a higher level before starting the Access programme. In addition, students will need to check the entry requirements for their chosen degree programme.

GET THE LOAN
GET QUALIFIED
GET THE JOB

CODE
FS555
DURATION
1 year full-time
LOCATION
Science Centre
APPLY
Direct to Stoke on Trent College

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION – DIPLOMA IN SOCIAL SCIENCE, BUSINESS AND LAW

ABOUT THE COURSE
The Access to Higher Education course provides you with an ideal way to develop the skills necessary to progress to university whilst studying subjects that are relevant to your chosen degree programme.

The course will focus on a range of Medical related programme.

Successful completion of the course will provide you with a nationally recognised qualification that is an alternative to A Levels. The course will cover a range of core and specialist units which will be delivered through taught sessions, the Virtual Learning Environment and e-tutorials.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
There are no formal entry requirements, but it is beneficial for students to have Level 2 Functional Skills or above in English. In the absence of any entry qualifications, students will have to demonstrate Level 2 English ability via an initial assessment at interview.

Students without qualifications in Maths and English may find it beneficial to complete the Return to Study course first. This enables students to develop confidence in their ability to study at a higher level before starting the Access programme. In addition, students will need to check the entry requirements for their chosen degree programme.

Some courses require students to have GCSEs in Maths and/or English or relevant work experience. It is very important that you check these entry requirements before you start the course.

PROGRESSION
Typically students on this Diploma progress to university to do a range of subjects including Law, Social Work, Psychology, Sociology, Social Policy, Humanities and Social Work.

GET THE LOAN
GET QUALIFIED
GET THE JOB

Are you aged 19 or over?
Thinking of starting an Access course this year?
Apply for an Advanced Learning Loan to cover your course fees and pay nothing upfront! See page 10-11 for details or visit www.stokecollege.ac.uk
ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION - SPORTS SCIENCE

**ABOUT THE COURSE**
The course is made up of a range of mandatory and optional units. The mandatory units include Anatomy and Physiology and example optional units include Physical Performance in Humans, Fitness Trainer, Teaching and Coaching, Sports Psychology.

The broad range of disciplines and subjects covered on the course will allow you to develop necessary skills relevant for progression in the sport and active leisure industry. It is intended that the majority of students, on successful completion of all units, will progress to higher education courses or employment.

This is an intensive one year programme and you will be expected to work hard on the course. Your life skills in time management, planning, prioritising and meeting deadlines will be key factors in ensuring success on the course.

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**
There are no formal entry requirements, but it is beneficial for students to have Level 2 Functional Skills or above in English. In the absence of any formal entry qualifications, students will have to demonstrate Level 2 English ability via an initial assessment at interview. Students without qualifications in Maths and English may find it beneficial to complete the Return to Study course first. This enables students to develop confidence in their ability to study at a higher level before starting the Access programme. In addition, students will need to check the entry requirements for their chosen degree programme. Some courses require students to have GCSEs in Maths and/or English or relevant work experience. It is very important that you check these entry requirements before you start the course.

**PROGRESSION**
The Access to Higher Education course provides you with a qualification that will enable you to progress to university to study a range of vocational and academic sports related degree programmes, these may include some of the following areas: Physical Education, Sports Science, Sports Management, Nutrition, Sport Psychology, Physiotherapy and related degrees.

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EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES LEVEL 4 CERTIFICATE AWARDED BY STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY

**ABOUT THE COURSE**
During the Level 4 Certificate you will examine a range of areas and disciplines that focus upon a comprehensive and multi-disciplinary understanding of children, families, policy and practice. This course offers a holistic approach to understanding early childhood, relating appropriate theory to practice. The modules you will study are:

- Practitioner’s Personal, Academic and Professional Development
- The Developing Child: A Holistic View
- The Planning Cycle
- Inclusive and Enabling Environments
- Theories, Approaches and Issues

You will also enable you to reflect on values, practices, assumptions and policies. Work-based activities, supported by a critical friend will help you to establish connections between practice and issues raised by the programme.

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**
You should hold a GCSE in English at grade C or above and a relevant and current Level 3 Childcare/Early Years qualification. You should be working within the Early Years sector (voluntary or paid employment) and have proof of a current Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

**PROGRESSION**
This programme is central to the government’s drive to raise standards. On successful completion of the Level 4 course you could decide to progress onto the Level 5. Completion of Level 5 will give you a Foundation degree in Early Childhood Studies.

Successful Foundation degree graduates may progress to the Level 6 of the BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies at Staffordshire University or another similar route to ‘top-up’ to a full honours degree that you may find more appropriate to your professional interests, for example a BA (Hons) Education. With a BA (Hons) degree in Early Childhood Studies you could work towards attaining an early years’ sector specific professional status, such as Early Years Teacher or Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) or follow routes into a range of related sectors, such as health or social work.
Emm a Bourne

**EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES FOUNDATION DEGREE (FdA)**
**AWARDED BY STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY**

**ABOUT THE COURSE**
Throughout this Foundation degree you will examine a range of areas and disciplines that focus upon a comprehensive and multi-disciplinary understanding of children, families, policy and practice. This course offers a holistic approach to understanding early childhood, relating appropriate theory to practice. You will look critically at the role of play, consider differing curriculum models and examine the impact of early childhood researchers, theorists and government legislation on current practices. Studies in the theory of childhood development and the rights and diversity of young people are complemented by a consideration of leadership in the workplace and a range of multi-professional perspectives to the field of early years.

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**
You should hold a GCSE in English at grade C or above and a relevant and current Level 3 Childcare/Early Years qualification. Examples include DCE, BTEC National, NVQ or Diploma CYPW Level 3 or their equivalent and have completed at least 1-year post qualification within the sector. You should be working within the Early Years sector (voluntary or paid employment) and have a statement of support, proof of a current Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and commitment from your employer.

**PROGRESSION**
This programme is central to the government’s drive to raise standards. Successful Foundation degree graduates may progress to the Level 6 of the BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies at Staffordshire University or another similar route to ‘top-up’ to a full honours degree that you may find more appropriate to your professional interests, for example a BA (Hons) Education. With a BA (Hons) degree in Early Childhood Studies you could work towards attaining an early years’ sector specific professional status, such as Early Years Teacher (EYT) or Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) or follow routes into a range of related sectors, such as health or social work.

Emma Bourne
Foundation degree in Early Childhood Studies.

Emma began her Foundation degree in Early Childhood Studies in 2014 and was faced with very significant barriers at the end of her first year, having to cope with major health issues in her family and difficult decisions regarding her own health. This was in addition to an ongoing need to care for a family member with severe disability and the blow of having her course assignment work accidentally deleted from her memory stick.

“Emma put determination and hard work as the reasons for succeeding in her career. She was recognised for this in the College’s Celebrating Success Awards and was also nominated by the Sentinel Newspaper as a hero. “I can’t believe they have thought of me as a hero!” said Emma, “I merely did what anyone else would have done under the circumstances. The support of the staff on the course has been exceptional and I would urge anyone who wants to work with children to take this course – since coming here I haven’t looked back!”

The support of the staff on the course has been exceptional and I would urge anyone who wants to work with children to take this course – since coming here I haven’t looked back!”
ENGINEERING

GENERAL ENGINEERING HNC
AWARDED BY PEARSON

ABOUT THE COURSE
This course has been developed with career progression and recognition by professional bodies in mind. It provides a specialist work-related programme of study that covers the key knowledge, understanding and practical skills required in the engineering sector and also offers particular specialist emphasis through the choice of the specialist units. This is a multidiscipline course covering electrical, electronic and mechanical engineering. It will develop analytical and practical skills and provides the opportunity to undertake a work-related project.

Core units include:
• Analytical Methods for Engineers Engineering Science
• Project: Design, Implementation and Evaluation

Optional units include:
• Mechanical Principles
• Manufacturing Processes
• Fluid Mechanics
• Programmable Logic Controllers
• Electrical, Electronic and Digital Principles.
The course is studied over 2 years on a part-time basis.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Applicants should be 18 or over and have successfully completed a BTEC Level 3 Extended National Diploma in Engineering.

PROGRESSION
On successful completion of the HNC you could progress to the HND in General Engineering.

Progression from this qualification may well be into or within employment in the manufacturing engineering sector where learners may work towards Incorporated Engineering status. Alternatively learners could progress to degree courses in related engineering areas such as manufacturing, mechanical, electrical, electronic or automotive engineering.

FURTHER INFORMATION INCLUDING TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT METHODS CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT WWW.STOKECOLLEGE.AC.UK

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

COMPUTING SCIENCE HNC
AWARDED BY STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY

ABOUT THE COURSE
This course is suitable for those interested in the computer industry, or seeking a stepping stone to a full Honours degree.

This programme covers a range of computing topics including:
• Database Development
• Hardware
• Networking
• Professional Skills
• Programming
• Web Development

It will help you to develop practical skills and gain confidence as well as enhancing your analytical, team working and communication skills.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Typically those applying for this course should have a minimum of 48 UCAS points which may come from an A-Level, AVCE, GNVQ, BTEC, or other study at Level 3.

Students offering Advanced Apprenticeship qualifications will also be considered.

Applicants should also have a GCSE in Maths or suitable equivalent (eg. 4 x OCR Level 5 units; OCR Numeracy, etc).

Special rules apply to learners aged over 21 who are looking to change career or return to study and therefore are encouraged to apply.

If you do not have these qualifications but are over 21 years and have relevant experience, other entry criteria may apply.

PROGRESSION
Following successful completion, you can progress to the Level 5 Higher National Diploma (HND) in Computing Science which offers a greater degree of specialism and then potentially progression to degree level programmes.
23 year-old Vishal Patel had already completed a degree in Sports and Exercise Science at the University of Essex, before studying a Foundation degree in ICT at Stoke on Trent College in partnership with Staffordshire University.

He explains: “After I finished my degree in Sports and Exercise Science, I applied for the BT Graduate scheme. Unfortunately, I didn’t make it onto the scheme at graduate level but was offered a position as a Higher Apprentice instead.

Application to the course will require an interview with a member of the teaching staff. This involved taking a position with graduate responsibilities, whilst combining this with studying a Foundation degree in ICT.

Vishal joined BT in 2013, taking the opportunity to rotate through a few different roles. It wasn’t long before he was promoted to a role as continuous improvement lead, where he drove business improvements and delivered a £27k per annum cost reduction, as well as embedding a new culture within the office.

As a result of his achievements, Vishal was headhunted to join another team as a transformation strategy consultant working directly under the head of strategy! Vishal is a strong advocate for higher education and feels there are lots of benefits to studying a Foundation degree.

He says: “I have been able to apply my new skills and knowledge immediately to my roles, I’ve been given the appropriate time to study effectively and I’ve been earning as I do everything!”

Vishal Patel
FdSc Information Communications Technology

I had already graduated the ‘traditional way’ – but combining a Foundation degree with a Higher Apprenticeship at BT has given me a much better start to a high flying career.

I had already graduated the ‘traditional way’ – but combining a Foundation degree with a Higher Apprenticeship at BT has given me a much better start to a high flying career.
COMPUTING - CISCO CCNA

ABOUT THE COURSE
This course (whilst offered separately here) is part of the HNC/D in Computing Science and as such is University Level. Ideally you will have some understanding of networking concepts and for Part 3 & 4 have completed Parts 1 & 2.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
These modules are at Level 4 or 5 and as such students will be expected to have good English and Maths ability (GCSE grade C). Ideally a student will also have an appropriate qualification at Level 3 (A-Level or equivalent). Dependent upon your existing ability and qualifications an interview for admission onto this course may be required.

PROGRESSION
You may choose other modules from the variety of those on offer that form part of the HNC and HND in Computing Science.

ABOUT THE MODULES
These modules are Level 3 and will be offered at Cauldon.

• Introduction to Networking (Code P1777-11)
• Further Networking (Code P1777-12)
• Hardware and Networking (Code P1777-13)
• Programming Concepts with C# (Code P1777-14)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
These modules are at Level 4 or 5 and as such students will be expected to have good English and Maths ability (GCSE grade C). Ideally a student will also have an appropriate qualification at Level 3 (A-Level or equivalent). Dependent upon your existing ability and qualifications an interview for admission onto this course may be required.

PROGRESSION
You may choose other modules from the variety of those on offer that form part of the HNC and HND in Computing Science.

ABOUT THE COURSE
In Computing we offer a number of modules from the HNC and HND in Computing Science programmes, which you can study at different times of the year. Please visit www.stokecollege.ac.uk for details of exactly when the different modules are running.

Individual Computing modules currently being offered by Stoke on Trent College are:

• Introduction to Web and Database Development (Code P1777-12)
• Further Networking with Wireless (Code P1777-15)
• Hardware and Networking (Code P1777-13)
• Programming Concepts with C# (Code P1777-14)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
These modules are at Level 4 or 5 and as such students will be expected to have good English and Maths ability (GCSE grade C). Ideally a student will also have an appropriate qualification at Level 3 (A-Level or equivalent). Dependent upon your existing ability and qualifications an interview for admission onto this course may be required.

PROGRESSION
You may choose other modules from the variety of those on offer that form part of the HNC and HND in Computing Science.

- Introduction to Web and Database Development (Code P1777-12)
- Further Networking with Wireless (Code P1777-15)
- Hardware and Networking (Code P1777-13)
- Programming Concepts with C# (Code P1777-14)
PERFORMING ARTS

PERFORMING ARTS (THEATRE) LEVEL 4

ABOUT THE COURSE
The course is designed to improve your practice and understanding of performance in all its various forms. Creative communication is central to the programme, encouraging actors to develop a range of skills that will enhance their employability in the industry and further their career goals. Acting for camera, movement studies, directing, outreach drama, classical, contemporary theatre and voice and speech are explored practically, with underpinning knowledge and research to support and guide the creative process through a range of assignments, project and performances.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Successful completion of an Extended Diploma in Performing Arts or relevant suite of A Levels.

PROGRESSION
Successful completion of this course will enable you to:
- Audition for professional training.
- Progress into a range of employment opportunities, including self-employed artist, arts administration, community theatre, theatre design, theatre in education and television and radio.
- Progress into higher education to achieve a (BA hons) Degree.

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

PERFORMING ARTS (DANCE) LEVEL 4

ABOUT THE COURSE
The course is designed to improve your practice and understanding of dance performance in all its various forms. Creative communication is central to the programme, encouraging dancers to develop a range of skills that will enhance their employability in the industry and further their career goals.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Successful completion of an Extended Diploma in Dance or relevant suite of A Levels plus successful completion of an audition.

PROGRESSION
Successful completion of this course will enable you to:
- Audition for professional training.
- Progress into a range of employment opportunities, including self-employed artist, arts administration, community dance, dance in education.
- Progress to higher education to achieve a (BA hons) Degree in Dance.

UNITS MAY INCLUDE:
- Classical Technique
- Contemporary Technique
- Dance Composition
- Musical Theatre
- Movement Studies
- Dance in Education
- Performance
- Dance Repertoire
- Choreography
- Dance Therapy
- Dance and Psychology
- Dance and Movement in Film
- Dance and Technology
- Dance and Research

CO CODE: F5810
DURATION: 1 year
LOCATION: Cauldon
APPLY: Direct to Stoke on Trent College
My time at college was most enjoyable, the tutors were all very knowledgeable and ready to help with any query, question or problem.

Lisa Jones
Foundation Year
Degree in Forensic Science/Biology.

Since finishing school 25 years ago, Lisa had an excellent career in retail, two children and slotted in some short educational courses along the way.

She studied the Foundation Year Degree in Forensic Science/Biology in preparation for a Science Degree at Staffordshire University. She is currently in her first year of a three-year degree in Biomedical Science at Staffordshire University after passing all modules during the Foundation Year at Stoke on Trent College.

Lisa said: “My time at college was most enjoyable, the tutors were all very knowledgeable and ready to help with any query, question or problem. Having never set foot in a laboratory before the practical lab sessions were very interesting and enjoyable. They covered a lot of different experimental aspects also scientific terminology and familiarisation with equipment which will prepare me for a degree.”

The theory and assignments side of the course were also very informative and allowing me to explore and expand on my knowledge gained in the classroom. Starting full-time education at the age of 41 was a big decision but I don’t regret a single moment of it.”
EDUCATION FOUNDATION DEGREE (FdA) AWARDED BY STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY

ABOUT THE COURSE
The Foundation degree in Education offers comprehensive coverage of the knowledge and skills required by those supporting learning and teaching. It is a practical course which is focused on the workplace.

This course will give you a deeper understanding of:
1. Up-to-date developments in the education sector;
2. How to apply key theories and principles of education to your professional practice to meet the specific needs of your employer and your own personal development;
3. Wider professional and academic skills development to help secure your current employment and broaden your future career options.

The course develops understanding of teaching and learning, working in education and behaviour management. It also covers skills required for effective communication, self development and career progression. You will take a range of modules which will be formally assessed through a range of tasks and activities. You will also be assessed on your understanding of: learner motivation and rewards; emotional intelligence and the effective learning environment.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Applicants for the Foundation degree in Education must:
• Be employed or in a voluntary capacity for a minimum of 2 days a week in an appropriate role and setting
• Normally have 3 GCSEs (or equivalent) at grade C or above; including English or a recent, recognised and equivalent English language qualification for international students whose first language is not English (or a related subject).
• Hold a Level 3 qualification in a related subject.

PROGRESSION
This Foundation degree in Education is designed to provide an opportunity for you if you are working with learners to build on your knowledge and experience and to enhance understanding of your current role. In addition it will provide a route towards obtaining a degree and professional qualifications at a higher level, e.g. BA (Hons) Education.

FURTHER INFORMATION INCLUDING TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT METHODS CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT WWW.STOKECOLLEGE.AC.UK

CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION/POST GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION: POST COMPULSORY EDUCATION AND TRAINING AWARDED BY STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY

ABOUT THE COURSE
This in-service teaching qualification provides you with the opportunity to meet the new government standards for teaching in the Education and Training sector (Post Compulsory) and to work towards gaining Qualified Teacher Learning and Skills (QTLS) status.

This is a work-based award with your teaching practice as the central focus. In order to help you develop your practice, your teaching is observed by your tutors, mentor and peers, whilst classroom and online activities encourage you to work with peers in communities of practice to help nurture a positive approach to teaching and assess and evaluate their appropriateness and validity through their application to your work situation. The qualification consists of both theoretical and practical aspects so for each module you will produce a written assignment, which comprises 75% of your marks and undertake and evaluate two successful observations, which comprises 25% of your marks.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
We require you to be in employment for a minimum of 100 hours at a recognised training or educational establishment.

• A degree (First or 2:1) in the subject that you are teaching for PGCE or Level 3 minimum qualification for Cert Ed.
• GCSE Grade C in English Language (or equivalent), and evidence that you are currently working at Literacy Level 2.
• ELTS Level 6 for all international students whose first language is not English (or a recent, recognised and equivalent English language qualification for speakers of other languages).

PROGRESSION
Progression from this award may lead on to the MA in Education at Staffordshire University.

FURTHER INFORMATION INCLUDING TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT METHODS CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT WWW.STOKECOLLEGE.AC.UK

HELP WITH FINANCE AND FEES MAY BE AVAILABLE SEE PAGES 10-11 FOR DETAILS
HOW TO FIND US

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