

Skills ACADEMY

**Guide for Schools, Parents,
Carers and Careers Advisors**

Leeds
College of
Building

Why Leeds College of Building?

At Leeds College of Building, we specialise in construction education and training. Construction is the creation of the built environment around us from repair and maintenance and new housing developments to infrastructure projects and sports stadiums. It covers all stages, including the initial building design and actual construction through to adding the finishing touches.

Why Leeds College of Building?

- BTEC Student of the Year 2019
- BTEC Apprenticeship Provider of the Year 2018
- 98% of students achieve what they came to do
- 85% success rate for apprenticeships-one of the top providers in the UK
- National and regional award winning students

About the College

- The only specialist construction college in the UK
- Ofsted grade 'Good'
- Currently train over 2,500 apprentices
- Work with over 500 employers to deliver apprenticeships
- Specialist career focused study programmes and apprenticeships available for school leavers, including A Level equivalent BTEC courses
- Progression to university level courses, including higher apprenticeships
- Relaxed and welcoming learning environment



Skills ACADEMY

‘The Right Choice, The Smart Choice’

Getting into construction is easy and in the Skills Academy at Leeds College of Building we have two routes available, technical and practical. Delivered by construction experts in bespoke workshops, the Skills Academy represents an excellent opportunity for young students to lay the early foundations for a successful career in the construction industry.

The Skills Academy Team work closely with local partner schools and Specialist Inclusive Learning Centres (SILC) offering students access to a wide range of work related courses from year 9 up to year 13. Courses are delivered at College and school.

Our courses offer fantastic opportunities for students who are interested in pursuing careers in the construction industry. In the Skills Academy, students will attain practical skills and technical knowledge whilst gaining valuable experience of learning within a college environment.



Technical Pathways

Students who are interested in professions within the construction industry can progress onto careers such as; construction management, civil engineering and building services engineering. An ideal pathway into further and higher education in these areas is the BTEC First Award and GCSE in Manufacturing. These Level 1 and 2 programmes are equivalent to two GCSEs at grade 9-1.

These courses aim to provide students with an introduction to the construction industry. Academic modules include mathematics and sciences relating to construction, design and drawing techniques, operational techniques, construction site materials and health & safety. These modules support the practical craft courses such as; brickwork, joinery, painting & decorating, plastering, plumbing, roof slating & tiling and wall & floor tiling.

Practical Pathways

For students who are more hands on and like to build, design and make things, our range of Level 1 courses are ideal. Practically based, with ongoing assessments rather than a final written exam, students will be tutored in many vocational areas such as; brickwork, joinery, painting & decorating, plastering, plumbing, roof slating & tiling and wall & floor tiling, plus many more.

These programmes will enable students to progress onto our wide range of study programme and apprenticeship courses.



Qualification Information	Details	Duration	Year Group
BTEC Level 3 Certificate/Diploma in Construction & the Built Environment - ideal for those interested in technical roles such as civil engineering, structural engineering and architecture.	180 GLH*/one AS Level	1 year	12 to 13
BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Environmental Sustainability - suitable for those who may be interested in technical roles within different employment sectors.	180 GLH*/one AS Level	1 year	12 to 13
BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Construction & the Built Environment - suitable for construction management & craft roles. Consists of four units: external exam, a design unit, construction maths and science unit and a trade or technical specific unit.	120 GLH* has points values that count towards Progress Eight ranging from 25 points at Level 1 to 58 points at Distinction* Level 2	1 or 2 years	10 to 11
BTEC Level 1 Diploma, Certificate & Award in Construction - designed for learners who prefer a more hands on approach to learning. The qualification comprises different units covering most vocational areas within the construction industry.	GLH* vary depending on the size of the qualification. There are 25 performance points available for a pass in this certificate	1 or 2 years	10 to 11
BTEC Level 1 Award - we offer this qualification to SILC learners who attend college as part of a carousel in conjunction with Leeds City College.	The award allows learners to try out different trade areas and get a qualification	1 year	10 to 11

*GLH: Guided Learning Hours



Features and Benefits

- A huge range of construction related courses available
- Courses delivered by construction experts. All of our lecturers have worked for many years in the construction industry
- Clear progression routes from the Skills Academy to further and higher education, study programmes and apprenticeships
- Excellent facilities and resources including bespoke workshops, IT, resources, library and refectory
- Safe and secure College campuses
- High success rates with an excellent reputation

Annual College Award Ceremony

Every year students from the Skills Academy are recognised for their skills and achievements at the annual College award ceremony, which is held at Leeds Town Hall.

The event is well attended, with over 300 guests present and showcases the great students we have at the College.



Pictured is Kai Lindley, Pre 16 Student of the Year, with the Faculty Director of Construction Crafts, Wayne Chappelow

Progression Pathways

When a student successfully completes their course they are guaranteed a place on a study programme course at the level they are working towards (subject to entry requirements).

There are many progression pathways onto further education courses leading to a range of exciting careers and professions such as an architect, bricklayer, civil engineer, electrician, gas engineer, joiner, plumber, structural engineer, surveyor and many more.



What Our Students Say About Us

I really enjoy being at college. I like the atmosphere and that I'm learning something worth while.

It's good to meet new people and it's more relaxed than school, I'm enjoying learning new things.

I feel my tutors are very helpful and will do their best to help in any way possible.

What Our Partner Schools Say About Us

I have worked 'In Partnership' with the Skills Academy for over six years. The tutors have a wealth of knowledge and experience to share with our students at Leeds City Academy and their dedication to ensuring our students achieve is steadfast. They are flexible in the delivery of their programmes and work with the Academy to meet our needs.

Helen Ward
CEIAG Manager
Leeds City Academy

RIGHT AT THE START AN

ARCHITECT

DESIGNS THE BUILDING

WORKING WITH A STRUCTURAL

ENGINEER

(BECAUSE WE DON'T
WANT IT TO FALL DOWN.)

BEFORE ANY BUILDING WORK BEGINS A

SURVEYOR

WILL WORK OUT WHAT THE CLIENT CAN
AFFORD AND KEEP WITHIN THE BUDGET.

ONLY AFTER THIS CAN THE

BRICKLAYERS,
CARPENTERS

AND THE JOINERS GET ON WITH THE
ACTUAL BUILDING WORK.

WE MUSTN'T FORGET THE

ELECTRICIANS AND THE

PLUMBERS WHO MAKE
THE PLACE
FUNCTION.

AND PLASTERERS,
FINALLY

TILERS AND PAINTERS
OFCOURSE

& DECORATORS

ADD THE FINISHING TOUCHES.

NONE OF THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE

WITHOUT A GOOD PROJECT

MANAGER!

CAREER BUILDING



Further Information

We appreciate that choosing to attend College may seem quite daunting. To overcome this, all students have access to the support they need to help them with their studies and personal/career development.

We have a specialist Skills Academy Co-ordinator who liaises directly with the school. We produce feedback reports throughout the year covering attendance, punctuality and how the student is progressing. New students will get the opportunity to attend a taster day in Year 9 to experience college life and help them to decide their subject options.

Contact Details

Parents/Carers

Please contact your school for further information.

Schools & Careers Advisors

We are happy to talk to you in more detail about the Skills Academy. To arrange a visit to your school or to find out more about how to enrol students onto the Skills Academy please contact:

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