



WESTON  
COLLEGE



**CEH**  
CAREER EXCELLENCE HUB

**CONSTRUCTION**

# WELCOME

**Construction is a diverse industry, with lots of exciting opportunities available in the area.**

We have decided to launch brand new Career Excellence Hubs, which gives a greater focus on preparing our learners for industry and we would be delighted to welcome you along to our new Construction Career Excellence Hub.

Whether it's liaising with businesses in the industry to make sure we're teaching you relevant and up-to-date skills, creating the best facilities and digital platforms in the region for you to study in, or selecting the top teachers with current industry experience - our Construction Career Excellence Hub is focused on providing you with the right learning environment to help you reach your potential.

We are about preparing you for a career - what we offer is far more than just a course. Weston College is a diverse and inclusive learning environment, and we reward our students when they go above and beyond their abilities and expectations.

This guide will introduce you to our Construction Career Excellence Hub.

I look forward to welcoming you soon.

**Dr Paul Phillips CBE, PhD, DLit, EdD**  
Principal and Chief Executive

Over **53,000 construction companies** in the South West

Electrical professionals can **earn** up to **£45,000 a year**

**Over 11,000 building projects** across the **South West**

Over **2.7 million employees** in the construction industry in the UK

# WHAT IS THE CAREER EXCELLENCE HUB?

**As a Weston College student you will become part of our exciting new Career Excellence Hub in Construction.**

This means you will take part in a study programme with lots of career boosting benefits, all with the aim of giving you the opportunity to become career ready!

Our mission statement is 'creating brighter futures' and we passionately believe in helping you reach your

ultimate goal, focussing on your future employability and developing the skills you need to have a successful career.

So, whether you're a school leaver or looking to study a full-time programme, our Career Excellence Hubs will help you stand out from the crowd and get ahead!



# WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

You'll get to study in **state-of-the-art** learning spaces in the **Future Tech Building at South West Skills Campus**, using the latest **industry standard** equipment, with concepts and ideas delivered by lecturers who have a wealth of industry experience.

We have dedicated areas for each areas of our provision, from Bricklaying to Plumbing.

We will equip you with 21st Century **employability skills** to progress you onto your next career destination. This will include, working on **'real world learning'** using employer briefs and real-life case studies and scenarios to encourage up to the minute workplace problem solving.

Upskilled with the latest digital tools and technologies as a **Microsoft Showcase College**.

In a rapidly changing world of work, your identity, professional networks, and digital capability will increasingly influence your **future career opportunities**. We'll prepare you to stand out by showcasing your work and achievements.

If competitions are in your sights, you will also have the option to compete against the best in the UK through our links with **WorldSkills UK**.

You will be supported with outstanding wrap-around pastoral support via our **Wellbeing@Weston** model which

provides all learners with access to highly qualified teams of welfare and mental health practitioners and resources all designed to support you **achieve** your **career** goals.

Inspired with personalised **1:1 Careers** Education Information Advice and Guidance, helping you look at all the options available to you for progression to the next step on your career journey.

Regardless of what your **career goal** is or whether you simply need to know what your options are - our team of highly trained careers advisors (Level 6 and above) offer relaxed, impartial advice to get you where you want to be helping you figure out the **best route to achieve your dream career**.

Empowered to learn more about your own **mental health and wellbeing** as part of your journey with us. Our ethos of **Body and Mind** will help you learn to develop coping strategies, build resilience, and access the proven benefits of exercise for wellness.

As well as all of the above benefits of being part of one of our Career Excellence Hubs, Weston College also offers you a fun, social experience designed for you to meet like-minded people, as well as being the only **OUTSTANDING COLLEGE IN THE REGION!**

**OUR CONSTRUCTION CAREER EXCELLENCE HUB IS ENDORSED BY:**

**Balfour Beatty**



We will provide you with **unrivalled exposure** to these employers with enhanced work experience, employer visits, simulation, as well as understanding what it means to be truly inclusive in a **modern** workplace, through valuing other people's diversity and ideas based on the principles of Fairness Respect Equality Diversity Inclusion and Engagement.



*Proud to be part of the WorldSkills UK Innovation Network*



# STUDY PROGRAMMES

We have a range of programmes available in our Construction Career Excellence Hub, which will prepare you for a life in the industry.

Whether you want to specialise in carpentry, or plastering, we have a course for you – just **click on the course**, and it will take you to the course page on our website:



Bricklaying

Electrical

Carpentry

Plastering

Plastering, City and Guilds  
– Level 1

Plumbing

Civil Engineering

Scaffolding



# WORKING WITH KEY EMPLOYERS

**Our Construction Career Excellence Hub is endorsed by leading employers, and they are actively involved throughout your whole training programme.**

Here is an example of how employers will be getting involved with your programme:

- They will co-design your training programme to provide you with the skills and knowledge needed for industry
- They will help to create an inspirational learning experience for you
- Provide the skills training required for wider industry
- Provide opportunities to you, through industry placements
- Assist in building your professional identity, through online networking.



Our endorsing organisations are:

## Balfour Beatty

“ At Balfour Beatty we are committed to investing in local talent, so we are delighted to be a part of the Construction Career Excellence Hub at Weston College.

We believe that you are going to play a crucial role in the future of the construction industry and we can't wait to work closely with you and support you to develop your skills and knowledge through the Career Excellence Hub.”



“ We recognise the importance of investing in talent, and the Career Excellence Hub is a fantastic way of not only discovering our future workforce - people like you, but helping to develop you whilst you complete your studies.

We are excited to be working in partnership with Weston College, as it is renowned locally for producing highly skilled construction workers, and we can't wait to help you on your journey.”



“ The Construction Career Excellence Hub presents an exciting opportunity for us to invest in local talent like you, and develop learners who could become the future leaders in our business.

Weston College is the perfect location for people to develop their construction skills, and we are thrilled to play a role in your development and offer further assistance on your journey into our industry.”



“ Through this partnership we will offer you placements, which will give you the opportunity to experience the construction industry first hand. We will also offer guest lectures and project briefs, to give you a real insight into our industry.

We're thrilled to be able to support you on your journey, via Weston College, into our exciting industry.”

# INDUSTRY SKILLS

Through our Career Excellence Hubs you will develop skills for life, which will help you gain employment once you have completed your study programme. We will help you to gain both hard skills, and soft skills, which employers have highlighted as keys skills in this sector, but what exactly are they?

Hard skills are the measurable ones that you list on your CV, and that you may hold certification in. Whereas soft skills are interpersonal, and help you to develop your character, which will benefit you in building relationships with co-workers and customers.

Alongside input from our Career Excellence Hub employer partners and advisory boards, we as a college have invested in powerful Labour Market Intelligence tools

to further guarantee that our curriculum meets employer need. Not only do we use all this information to inform our curriculum design, but it is also used to inform our skills and individual development programme called ID that's purpose is to accelerate your progress towards your career goal and next steps by equipping you with the complete package of knowledge, experiences and skills.

We have built them into your study programme, meaning you will learn and develop these skills with us:

## Hard Skills

- Communications
- Customer Service
- Enthusiasm
- Self-Motivation
- Willingness To Learn

## Soft Skills

- Problem Solving
- Planning
- Professionalism
- Time Management
- Trustworthiness

English and maths are also a very important part of Construction, here are some of the key skills they provide:

## English

- Speaking, listening and communication skills
- Advertising and promotional materials
- Writing detailed invoices and quotations
- Interpreting and following instructions accurately
- Writing detailed reports
- Skim reading and scanning

## Maths

- Wages/Tax.
- Accurately measuring using mm, cm, m
- Reading from plans. Using scale drawings
- Using ratios for example when mixing concrete
- Estimating the cost of materials, using price per metre
- Area and Volume calculations
- Angles. 90 degrees, 45 degrees. Calculating the pitch of a roof. Trigonometry!
- Calculating the length of a banister. Pythagoras!
- Time Planning for things such as deliveries
- Imperial and Metric Conversions (How many cm make 1 inch?).



# PROGRESSION ROUTES

Once you've completed your course, there are several options for you to further develop your skills and knowledge...



If you completed a Level 1, or Level 2 course, you can continue to progress to the next level course. Click here to go back to our course page, and discover the relevant course route, for you.



We also offer a Construction T Level programme, which is a mixture of college and work-based learning designed to give you the technical skills and workplace experience to kick-start your construction career.

Technical areas of study could include Surveying, design, civil engineering, planning and emerging technologies such as drone surveying and BIM.



An apprenticeship is a fantastic way of entering the construction industry. Not only will you get the opportunity to get your foot in the door with a local or national company, you will also be able to earn while you learn.

Through apprenticeships you will work closely with an experienced tradesperson to develop and practice your skills, all whilst receiving the benefits that being a student brings.



We have several degree options on offer at UCW, which will allow you to further develop your knowledge. UCW is rated as Gold in the Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework, meaning the teaching, learning and opportunities we provide are of the highest quality in Britain.

There are several degree options available in construction, which could lead you on to a career as an architect, site managers, project managers and surveyors. You can find the full UCW course list, here.

# CAREER IDEAS

Construction is an exciting and varied industry, so you might not know exactly which route you'd like to take yet. Here are a few different career options for you, with one of them potentially becoming your future career...

## ARCHITECT

Architects plan and design the construction and development of buildings and land areas with regard to functional and aesthetic requirements.

**Average salary:** £38,000

## ELECTRICIAN

Electricians perform a variety of miscellaneous technical support functions to assist with the design, development, installation, operation and maintenance of electrical and electronic systems.

**Average salary:** £30,400

## BRICKLAYER OR MASON

Bricklayers and masons erect and repair structures of stone, brick and similar materials. They also cut, shape and polish granite, marble, slate, and other stone for building, ornamental and other purposes.

**Average salary:** £24,700

## CARPENTER OR JOINER

Carpenters and joiners construct, erect, install and repair wooden structures and fittings used in internal and external frameworks. They also cut, shape, fit and assemble wood to make templates, jigs, scale models and scenic equipment for theatres.

**Average salary:** £24,800

## CIVIL ENGINEER

Civil engineers undertake research and design, direct construction and manage the operation and maintenance of civil and mining engineering structures.

**Average salary:** £39,800

## PLASTERER

Plasterers apply plaster and cement mixtures to walls and ceilings, fix fibrous sheets and cast and fix ornamental plasterwork to the interior or exterior of buildings.

**Average salary:** £26,700

## PLUMBER

Jobholders in this unit group assemble, install, maintain and repair plumbing fixtures, heating and ventilating systems, as well as pipes and pipeline systems in commercial, residential and industrial premises and public buildings.

**Average salary:** £28,500

# CONTACT US

Got a question about our  
**Career Excellence Hubs**  
or one of our programmes  
or just need to get in touch?

**[enquiries@weston.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@weston.ac.uk)**

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