



# North Highland College University of the Highlands and Islands

## **NPA Cosmetology (SCQF 4)**

### Overview of course

Students will learn how to work in a professional salon by carrying out salon duties in North Highland College's Beauty at Morven Salons. They will have the chance to work alongside other students to provide a hairdressing service to a range of clients.

### Entry requirements/criteria

- Demonstrate an interest in beauty
- Willingness to work with the public

### Additional attributes North Highland College UHI would look for

Students will be expected to -

- Be prepared to work hard all session
- Catch up on work missed if they are absent
- Ask for help if they need it
- Reflect on learning
- Prepare for practical lessons
- Work as part of a team
- Revise throughout the session
- Access and use the virtual learning environment

Therefore, the following attributes and skills are important for applicants –

- Motivation for learning
- Commitment to take personal responsibility for learning
- Confidence to ask questions
- Basic IT skills
- Independent study skills

### Why would pupils choose to study Cosmetology?

The skills learned as part of the Cosmetology course are beneficial to a number of industry sectors.

As well as the technical skills required to carry out a range of non-invasive beauty treatments, the course helps to develop team working, customer care and communication skills as students fulfil roles in the commercial beauty salon and on the reception desk.

Much of the course is based in the Beauty salon working alongside SVQ L2 and 3 Beauty Therapy students who support and act as role models. Confidence will develop as the students become used to working in a commercial salon environment with clients and therapists.

Students will learn about lifestyle choices including diet and personal presentation.

Students who have previously undertaken this qualification are working in the industry providing treatments in beauty salons and hair salons as well as in retail roles. Others are working in luxury hotels and spas and on cruise liners. Beauty therapist roles in beauty salons are a great way to progress and keep abreast of new treatments and products, with further opportunities to become a senior therapist, salon manager or salon owner once they gain the necessary experience. Mobile therapists and nail technicians are also very sought after, and can be a profitable and rewarding vocation.

Those who successfully complete may then apply for either the Hair and Beauty Skills course which runs for 6 months from January, or SVQ Level 2 Beauty Therapy. Students completing the qualification have numerous career options.

Applicants should show a keen interest in personal presentation and personal hygiene, have good communication skills and have a desire to provide excellent customer service.