



# North Highland College University of the Highlands and Islands

## **Skills for Work Hairdressing – National 4 (SCQF 4)**

### Overview of course

Students will work on five key elements which will give them an overview of the hair industry which they can then specialise in further education. They will look at salon awareness, working the salon, creativity and employability skills.

### Entry requirements/criteria

- Working towards national 4 level
- Demonstrate a keen interest in working within the hair industry
- Satisfactory reference

### 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

### What can students do after this course?

On completion they can apply for SVQ level 1 hair course.

### Why would pupils choose to study Hairdressing?

Employment opportunities in hairdressing are excellent. Apart from employment in the many busy salons locally and nationally there are opportunities for freelance hairdressers to work from home or

from mobile units which can travel to people's homes or set up at festivals or any other events where people gather. It is possible to have the freedom of self-employment without the risks of purchasing premises by renting a chair in a salon. We have previous students who are now working as hairdressers on cruise liners and in luxury hotels, and some who have gone on to own their own salons employing staff themselves.

The training at college is very hands on and practical with students working on mannequin heads and on real clients. Teaching is informal with students and tutors working side by side in the college salons. The different student groups are integrated so that the newer students including pupils on the college link programme are supported by the more experienced students.

Anyone applying for the hairdressing courses would be expected to take a pride in their appearance and personal hygiene. It would also be essential that they would want to learn how to provide excellent customer service, and be able to work well as part of a team.

Hairdressing is a physical job and anyone working in the industry will need to have the stamina to be on their feet all day long. Hairdressers can be at their busiest when other people are off work, for example on Saturdays and on the run up to Christmas and New Year.

It is a job where there is direct feedback from clients, and this can be very rewarding and give a great sense of job satisfaction.