

# College for School Students

**Specialist vocational courses for 14+ year olds,  
in partnership with local schools.**

**2017 | 2018**





# Contents

College for School Students .....	3
FreshStart .....	4
Trading Places .....	5
Catering .....	7
Construction .....	8
Hairdressing .....	11
Motor vehicle maintenance .....	12
Engineering.....	14
How to apply .....	16

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**For more information, please contact the  
Information Centre on 020 8326 2020 or by  
email ([info@west-thames.ac.uk](mailto:info@west-thames.ac.uk)).**





# College for School Students

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West Thames College specialises in vocational courses that give a real insight to the world of work and offers subjects that cannot always be studied at school. Students have access to state of the art workshops, studios and salons, and our tutors are industry professionals – providing the practical skills and knowledge needed to succeed.

Support is always available and includes help with study skills and coursework, with teachers on hand to offer advice and guidance.

We want our students to succeed and we work closely with schools and parents to ensure this happens. We provide regular feedback with parents evenings, progress reports and attendance reports, so that students, parents and the school are clear about how the student is progressing.

## Courses for 14-16 year olds

### Vocational Link courses

Vocational Link courses are for 14-16 year old school pupils who would like to try different subjects and gain vocational qualifications at Level 1 or Level 2 alongside their GCSEs. Students come to West Thames College – either our Isleworth campus or the Skills + Logistics Centre in Feltham – usually for one day per week, to learn practical skills in a realistic work environment using the college's state of the art kitchens, salons and workshops.

These courses are suitable for students of all abilities, but are particularly aimed at students who want to follow a vocational route rather than A Levels. Students will be able to progress onto a higher level vocational qualification or into employment.

### FreshStart for Year 11s

We also offer a full-time FreshStart course for Year 11 students who might be more suited to a college environment than a school environment.

### English as an Additional Language

This full-time course is for students needing additional English language (ESOL) support. English language is studied alongside a choice of exciting vocational options.

### Special Educational Needs

We can arrange customised provision to meet the student's requirements, ensuring they get the best out of their full-time education.

# FreshStart

## **BTEC Introductory Certificate in Sport, Travel & Tourism, Construction, Art & Design GCSEs or Functional Skills in English, Maths and ICT**

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### **Who is this course for?**

This course may be for you if you or your teachers feel that the school environment is not right for you and you would benefit more from a different environment at college. You will do all your studies at college instead of school and we will keep in touch with your school and your parent or carer about your attendance and progress. You will come to West Thames College in Isleworth or the Skills + Logistics Centre in Feltham full-time for one year, starting in Year 11.

### **What are the entry requirements?**

There are no entry requirements, but you should have an interest in learning new skills. You need to be referred by your school to do this course. You will have an initial assessment in English and maths at your interview so we can develop the right programme for you.

### **What will I study?**

Your course involves both practical and written work. You will spend some time in vocational areas and build a portfolio of written and photographic evidence. We will discuss the vocational areas on offer at your interview and throughout the extended induction to your programme. Vocational units may include painting and decorating, engineering, art and design, catering and sport.

We will support you to find a beneficial work placement and monitor this to ensure success. Additional components address real issues which may affect your life and bring about improved participation as a young citizen. Art subjects and sport build on self expression and teamwork skills. We will help you to reach your potential and work towards functional skills qualifications. GCSE Maths and English are also available.

Group sizes are small, so you will get lots of one-to-one support from your teacher and the support assistant, both in the practical and writing sessions.

### **Facilities**

You can use the college's facilities and learning resources and take part in sport and leisure activities.

### **How will I be assessed?**

You will meet your tutor regularly to set individual targets. This will help you to complete your coursework, fulfil your potential and complete your qualification.

### **Next step**

At the end of the course you will have gained an Edexcel Introductory Certificate in Vocational Studies and GCSEs or functional skills in English and Maths. This will enable you to go on to another course at the college, an apprenticeship, or in some cases, into employment. Your personal tutor will help you make the right decision during the final term of the course.

# Trading Places

## Vocational qualification plus GCSEs

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### Who is this course for?

Year 10 students who feel that the school environment is not right for them and who would benefit from the more different environment offered at college. You will do all your studies at college instead of school and we will keep in touch with your school and your parent/carer about your attendance and progress. The course lasts for 1 year and you will come to either West Thames College in Isleworth or the Skills + Logistics Centre in Feltham.

### What are the entry requirements?

You should have an interest in learning new skills. You will have an initial assessment in English and maths and you will need a referral and report from your school.

### What will I study?

The course involves practical work and written work. You will spend some time in vocational areas and build a portfolio of written work. We will discuss the vocational areas on offer at your interview.

Vocational areas include construction, motor vehicle, engineering, and hair and beauty.

We will support you to find a beneficial work placement and monitor this to ensure your success. Additional components address real issues which may affect your life and bring about improved participation as a young citizen. We will help you to reach your potential and work towards GCSE Maths and English.

Group sizes are small, so you will get lots of one-to-one support from your teacher and the support assistant, both in the practical and writing sessions.

### Facilities

You can use the college's facilities and learning resources and take part in sport and leisure facilities.

### How will I be assessed?

You will meet your tutor regularly to set individual targets. This will help you to complete your coursework, fulfil your potential and complete your qualification.

### Next step

At the end of the course you will have gained a vocational qualification and GCSEs. This will enable you to go on to the FreshStart Year 11 programme.





# Catering

## City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in General Cookery, RSH Food Hygiene Level 2, CIEH Health & Safety at Work Level 2

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### Who is this course for?

Year 10 and Year 11 students at all levels of academic achievement, who want to learn practical vocational skills and gain a vocational qualification alongside their GCSEs. The course lasts for 2 years and is held at the Skills + Logistics Centre in Feltham.

### What are the entry requirements?

You should have an interest in catering and want to work in the catering industry. You will have an initial assessment in English and maths and you will need a referral and report from your school.

### What will I study?

The course involves practical work in the kitchens and written work in the classroom. First you will do the food hygiene course – a requirement for anyone working with food which can help you to get part-time after-school work. Then you will learn skills in preparing and presenting food, using kitchen equipment, health, safety and hygiene, costing and planning menus, food planning and nutrition. You will also study theory: health and safety practices and regulations, safe storage of food, and the personal and social skills needed to succeed in the industry.

### Facilities

You will work in industrial standard kitchens producing food that is sold to staff, students and important visitors to the college. All students wear whites and closed-in footwear. These are professional kitchens, so you will be expected to present yourself as a catering professional.

### How will I be assessed?

For the cookery qualification, your practical skills will be assessed in the kitchens and you will complete an electronic portfolio. There are multiple choice tests for the food hygiene and health and safety qualifications.

### Next step

The Level 1 City & Guilds qualification should help you towards getting a job in the catering industry. You can progress to Level 2 which will give you the minimum standard qualification required by the industry to work in a professional kitchen. Your Connexions PA at school will help you with your next step, which might involve gaining experience in the industry whilst doing further training.



### Profile Perry Power, Chiswick Community College

*"Not only have I learned how to cook some great dishes such as lamb shanks and salmon en croute; I've also learned some important new life skills. Coming to the Skills + Logistics Centre every week has made me more confident, allowed me to meet new people and has given me an experience I'll never forget."*



# Construction

## BTEC Level 1 / Level 2 First Certificate in Construction and Built Environment

### Who is this course for?

Year 10 students at all levels of academic achievement, who want to learn practical skills and gain a vocational qualification alongside their GCSEs. The course lasts for 2 years and runs at the Skills + Logistics Centre in Feltham one day a week.

### What are the entry requirements?

You should have an interest in carpentry, brickwork and painting and decorating. You will have an initial assessment in English and maths and you will need a referral and report from your school.

### What will I study?

The course involves practical and written work. You will spend time in the construction trades workshops developing skills in 3 practical trades, such as joinery (carpentry), brickwork, and painting and decorating. You will learn health and safety practices, and the personal and social skills required to succeed in the industry. During the first year you will learn about starting work in the construction industry, developing skills and working safely in construction, and personal effectiveness, and you will learn one practical trade. In the second year you will study working in construction and financial management, and you will learn two practical trades.

### Facilities

You will work in our purpose-built workshops designed for joinery, brickwork and painting and decorating. All students will be required to wear overalls and protective footwear. Please remember that working in the construction trades can be messy and hard work.

### How will I be assessed?

Your practical skills will be assessed in the workshops and you will be required to complete a portfolio of written work to a satisfactory standard.

### Next step

At the end of the course you will have the first level of the qualification framework which is recognised by the construction trades industry. Along with your GCSEs, this qualification will give you a head start in applying for an apprenticeship or a Level 2 course at the Skills + Logistics Centre or at another college. Your Connexions PA at school will help you with your next step – working towards a place on a Level 2 construction trades course.



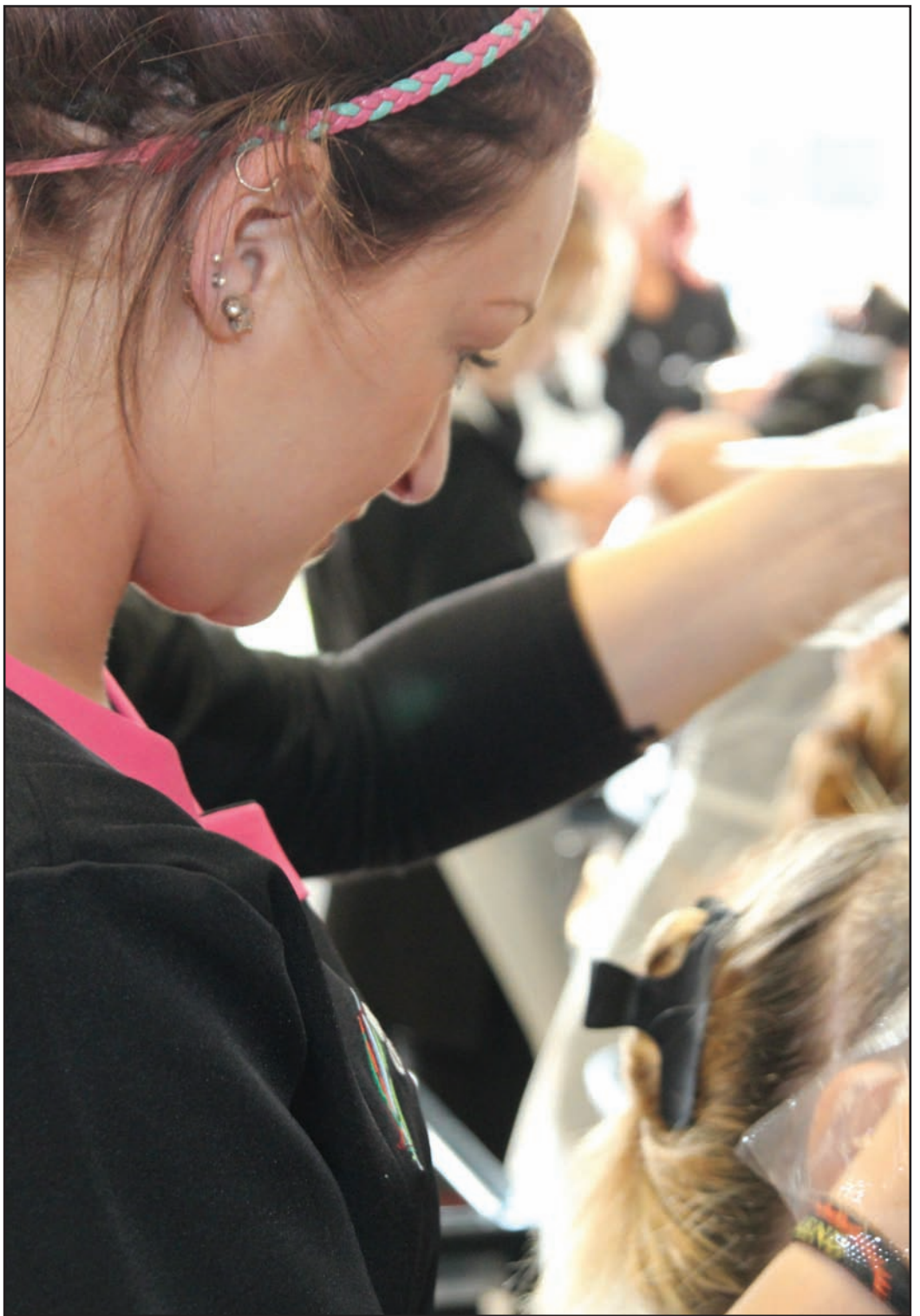
#### Profile Glenn Pearson, Woodbridge Park

*"I'd like to be a professional in the construction industry one day so the course was perfect as I got to learn the basics whilst still at school. The practical, hands-on style of learning is great and everyone – lecturers and other students – have been really supportive from day one."*



#### Profile Liam Whittle, Longford Community School

*"The Construction course offered me something different to try. I really enjoyed the change in environment to the classroom. Getting a taste of different trades was great but carpentry stood out as my favourite – especially learning about joints and shaping different types of timber."*



# Hairdressing

## Edexcel (NVQ) Level 1 Certificate in Hairdressing and Barbering

### Who is this course for?

Year 10 students at all levels who want to learn practical skills and gain a vocational qualification alongside their GCSEs. This 2-year course takes place in our Isleworth salons one day per week.

### What are the entry requirements?

You should have an interest in hairdressing and beauty and want to work in the hairdressing industry. You will have an initial assessment in English and maths and you will need a referral and report from your school.

### What will I study?

In Year 10 you will study:

- Learning to shampoo, condition and dry hair
- Assisting in the colouring and perming process.

In Years 10 and 11 you will study:

- Putting into practice good salon health and safety practices
- Preparing and maintaining the salons – this will involve tidying up
- Learning to work as an effective member of the hairdressing team.

You will also learn about, and assist with, nail treatments and facial treatments. You will either work on your own hair, on other students in your group, or on special training blocks.

### Facilities

You will work in the hairdressing salon at the Isleworth campus. You will be expected to wear appropriate clothing in the salons – we will advise you at interview. These are professional salons, taking clients on an appointment basis from the general public, so you will be expected to present yourself professionally, like a trainee hairdresser in a commercial salon.

### How will I be assessed?

Your practical work will be assessed in the salon and you will be asked questions on your knowledge. You will produce a portfolio of evidence, written tests or an assignment, depending on the unit, and you will produce a working diary to show the treatments and tasks you have performed.

### Next step

At the end of the course you will have at least a first level qualification in hairdressing and a basic understanding of beauty work. You will be in an excellent position to gain a job in a salon, study a further course at West Thames College, or gain an apprenticeship. **Please note:** To practice as a hairdresser, there is a minimum requirement for a Level 2 qualification. Your Connexions PA at school will be able to help you with your next step.



### Profile Greta Tunkunaite, Chiswick Community College Young Apprentice Hairdressing

*"Learning hairdressing at West Thames College whilst still at school was really enjoyable and the lecturers were brilliant, even helping me gain a work experience placement at Toni and Guy in Chiswick. The course taught me some cool skills and my friends now ask me to cut their hair all the time!"*



# Motor vehicle maintenance

## IMI Level 1 / Level 2 Certificate in Service and Maintenance Engineering (VRQ)

### Who is this course for?

Year 10 students at all levels of academic achievement who want to learn practical skills and gain a vocational qualification alongside their GCSEs. The course lasts for 2 years, during which time you will usually come into the Skills + Logistics Centre in Feltham for up to one day per week.

### What are the entry requirements?

You should have an interest in cars and motorbikes and want to work in the motor vehicle industry. You will have an initial assessment in English and maths and you will need a referral and report from your school.

### What will I study?

This course is for students who want to gain practical skills in our motor vehicle workshop to understand how the different parts of a car work and routine maintenance. Health and safety procedures form an important part of the course. You will also complete a portfolio of written work showing that you have understood the theory. There are five sections to the course:

- **Foundation studies** – changing tyres, using hydraulic jacks and repair
- **Chassis technology and routine maintenance** – braking systems and steering
- **Engine technology** – changing oil and filters; understanding lubrication and cooling systems
- **Transmission technology** – work on gearboxes and clutches
- **Electrical and electronic technology** – checking batteries, drive belts and charging and starting systems.

### Facilities

You will work on cars in our large motor vehicle workshop at the Skills + Logistics Centre. Working on cars can be messy, so all students will wear overalls and protective footwear. There will usually only be 10 to 12 students in your class, so you will get lots of one-to-one support from your teacher.

### How will I be assessed?

Your practical skills are assessed in the workshop. Your teacher will complete a log to be signed when you have acquired the skills. You will complete an online health and safety test and you must complete a portfolio of written work to a satisfactory standard to gain your IMI Award.

### Next step

At the end of the course you will have the first level qualification which is recognised by the motor vehicle industry. (The minimum requirement to practice in the industry is a Level 2 qualification.) Along with your GCSEs, this qualification will give you a head start in applying for apprenticeships in the industry where you will 'earn and learn' whilst gaining a Level 2 qualification and training. Your Connexions PA at school will be able to help you gain a place on an apprenticeship and/or a training course.



### Profile Tison Bailey, Woodbridge Park

*"It's great learning all about engines and how a car works. I've enjoyed every lesson and love coming here. The lessons are fun and the teachers are friendly. My ambition is to become a helicopter engineer one day and learning about mechanics feels like the start of that dream."*

ABRASIVE WHEELS  
OPERATIONS 1970

Fire  
point

Fire  
blanket

FIRE  
BLANKET





# Engineering

## IMIAl Level 1 / Level 2 Certificate in Service and Maintenance Engineering (VRQ)

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### Who is this course for?

Year 10 students at all levels of academic achievement, who want to learn practical skills and gain a vocational qualification alongside their GCSEs. The course lasts for 2 years, during which time you will usually come into the Skills + Logistics Centre in Feltham for up to one day per week.

### What are the entry requirements?

You should have an interest in engineering and want to work in the engineering industry. You will have an initial assessment in English and maths and you will need a referral and report from your school.

### What will I study?

The course involves both practical and written work. You will spend time in the engineering workshops and classrooms developing your skills in:

- **Introduction to machining.** Manufacturing different products in the workshop following a design such as hammers, screwdrivers and using the latest technology such as the 3D printer.
- **CAD.** Designing 2D and 3D products.
- **Cycle construction and maintenance.** Learning how to carry out routine maintenance on different kinds of bikes.

Theory work will include health and safety practices, design processes, the engineering industry, and the personal and social skills needed to succeed in the industry.

### Facilities

You will work in the engineering workshops at the Skills + Logistics Centre in Feltham using hand tools, machine tools and welding equipment, and in our computer-aided design workshop. All students will wear safety shoes, work jackets and safety glasses in line with industry standards.

### How will I be assessed?

Your practical skills are assessed in the workshops and you will be required to complete a portfolio of written work to a satisfactory standard. There are also 4 external exams. Assessments are graded pass, merit or distinction.

### Next step

At the end of the course you will have the first level qualification which is recognised by the engineering industry. (The minimum requirement to practice in the industry is a Level 2 qualification.) Along with your GCSEs, this qualification will give you a head start in applying for apprenticeships in the industry where you will 'earn and learn' whilst gaining a Level 2 qualification and training. Your Connexions PA at school will be able to help you gain a place on an apprenticeship and/or a training course.

# How to apply

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1. Decide whether or not the course is right for you. Discuss this with your parent or carer and/or someone at school.
2. Complete the Pre-16 Application Form. You and your parent or carer need to complete and sign this. If you don't have the application form, it can be downloaded from our website or phone the Information Centre on 020 8326 2020 to request a copy.
3. Return your completed application form to your school or referring body.
4. Your school or referring body completes the reverse side of the form, provides a reference, and sends the form to West Thames College Admissions Department.
5. West Thames College will acknowledge receipt of your application.
6. An interview will be arranged for you.

## Interview

1. You and your school / referring body will be sent a letter inviting you for an interview.
2. You must be accompanied by either a parent, guardian, or representative from your school or referring body.
3. We will write to you to let you know whether or not your application has been successful.

## For more information




If you have any questions or if you need help to apply, please contact the Information Centre on 020 8326 2020 or by email ([info@west-thames.ac.uk](mailto:info@west-thames.ac.uk)).



# travel



## Isleworth campus

London Road  
Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 4HS

-  Piccadilly line to Osterley Station or Hounslow East
-  Trains from Waterloo to Isleworth Station via Brentford or Hounslow
-  Buses 110, 117, 235, 237 and H37 stop outside the college, or catch any bus to Hounslow Bus Station

## Skills + Logistics Centre

77 Boundaries Road  
Feltham, Middlesex TW13 5DT

-  Feltham (10 mins walk)
-  Buses 285 and 490 stop on Uxbridge Road

