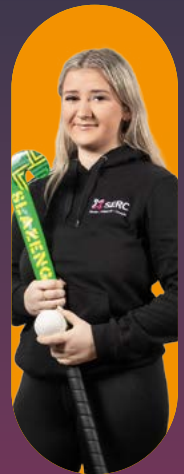
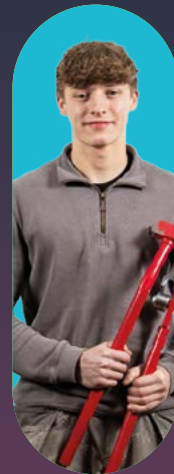


FURTHER EDUCATION PROSPECTUS



2024-25

Welcome

Welcome to SERC, Northern Ireland's top-performing college. In 2022-23, we saw a 97% achievement rate for our mainstream students, and we would be delighted for you to be part of our continuing success. You can unlock your future career at SERC on an FE course, Apprenticeship or Traineeship. And it's possible to continue with us through Higher Education right up to degree level.

SERC has qualified teaching staff, with experience of working professionally in their course area. We work with partners in industry, education, business and government to create a learning experience which helps our students to develop as rounded, confident people, with the skills and qualities they need to progress in their career and their life.

It's important to us to maintain an environment where every student can benefit fully from their time at SERC. The college has an extensive network of support services to help you meet any challenges which may arise, including learning support, student finance guidance and careers advice. Browse our prospectus, explore our website, and come and talk to us at an open evening to find out why you are better off at SERC.



Ken Webb MBE,
Principal and Chief Executive

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**WHEN YOU SEE THIS BUTTON, CLICK
ON IT TO FIND OUT MORE**



FURTHER EDUCATION AT SERC

Further Education (FE) courses are open to all. They are suitable for students aged 16 and over and include Diplomas, Extended Diplomas and Certificates.

At SERC you can choose from a range of vocational options, apprenticeships and traineeships. These qualifications cover levels 1, 2 and 3 and all options include practical tasks to develop your broader skills and challenge you to achieve. You will complete assignments and tests throughout the year, linking theory and practical work. We also offer A-level courses at our Bangor Campus.

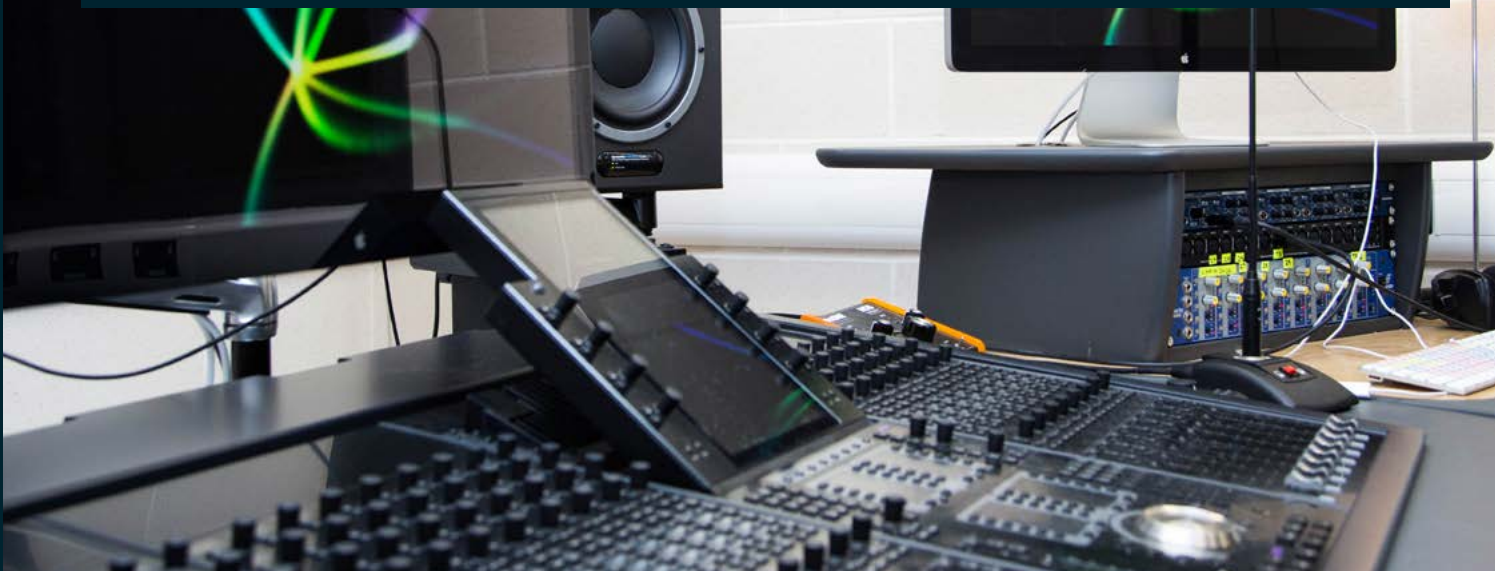
Access to Higher Education

Access to Higher Education courses are for you if you have been out of formal education for two or more years. These courses develop your personal and academic confidence and lead to Higher Education courses such as degrees, foundation degrees, HNDs and HNCs. Many of our Access students progress to university, while others stay at SERC to study a Higher Education course.

LEARN MORE



PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS



Courses at Levels 1 and 2 are one or two-year courses; completing a Level 2 course attains the equivalent of five GCSEs. Successful completion of a Level 2 course will enable you to progress to a Level 3 course and then to Higher Education, university or employment.

If you're leaving school with five or more GCSEs, a **Level 3 course** at SERC is ideal. Each will equip you with the knowledge and the practical skills you will need to continue to Higher Education (HE) courses at SERC or university, or to gain employment in your chosen field. Level 3 qualifications generate UCAS points for entry to higher education, just like A-Levels.

BTEC Nationals Grades vs UCAS Tariffs (RQF)

Extended Diploma	Diploma	Foundation Diploma	Extended Certificate	Certificate	UCAS Tariff Points
D*D*D*					168
D*D*D					160
D*DD					152
DDD					144
DDM					128
DMM	D*D*				112
	D*D				104
MMM	DD				96
		D*			84
MMP	DM				80
		D			72
MPP	MM				64
			D*		56
PPP	MP	M	D		48
	PP		M		32
				D*	28
		P		D	24
			P	M	16
				P	8

- D*** = Distinction Star
- D** = Distinction
- M*** = Merit Star
- M** = Merit
- P*** = Pass Star
- P** = Pass



WHAT IS AN APPRENTICESHIP



Apprenticeships are an opportunity to earn while you learn, and can be taken at Level 2 or Level 3.

As an apprentice you will be a new or existing employee, in a Northern Ireland-based company, working with experienced staff to learn and develop your skills. An apprentice also receives 'off-the-job' training, usually on a day-release basis with a training provider, to work towards achieving vocational qualifications and Essential Skills qualifications (reading, writing, maths and computers). SERC will meet with you

and your employer to discuss your training needs and will then develop a training programme for you. They will be with you every step of the way throughout your apprenticeship to support you and make sure you are making progress. Usually you are with the employer four days a week and at SERC one day a week. Your employer will pay you for your time spent at college.

LEARN MORE



Did you Know?

The apprenticeships programme offers training to people **of all ages** across a range of industries and businesses, with all-age apprenticeships available in priority skill areas.

In some areas, SERC provides work-based apprenticeships with training and assessment delivered in the work place.



Charlie Clarke

“

All the theory I am gaining in college, supports the knowledge and experience I am acquiring in the workplace. The combination of classroom and workplace learning means I have a comprehensive understanding of engineering, as I continually progress and build on my skills. The work is varied, interesting, and every day is different. I have been told I was the first female engineering apprentice with Lakeland, so I am keen to blaze a trail for those who follow.

Charlie Clarke
Level 3 Manufacturing Engineering

”

NORTHERN IRELAND TRAINEESHIPS



The NI Traineeship programme provides a high-quality vocational education and training programme at Level 2 and is aimed at school leavers who aspire to work within a specific sector.



Matthew Wales

“

I am currently studying on the carpentry and joinery traineeship at the Newtownards campus. I really enjoy the practical work I do in the workshop and getting to use my hands to complete different projects. My tutors are very friendly and have been brilliant in helping me with anything I don't understand. So far, I have had a great experience at SERC and would highly recommend it to others.

Matthew Wales
Carpentry and Joinery Traineeship,
(Year 1 Level 2)

”

The NI Traineeship programme delivers a Level 2 qualification and can lead to a Level 3 apprenticeship, or a Level 3 FE course. Traineeships at SERC are available in the following areas below:

- Animal Care
- Applied Science
- Art and Design
- Barbering
- Beauty Therapy
- Bricklaying
- Business
- Carpentry & Joinery
- Children's Care, Learning and Development
- Construction Plant Maintenance
- Creative Media Production & Technology
- Electrical
- Engineering
- Hair and Media Make-up
- Hairdressing
- Health and Social Care
- Hospitality & Tourism Team Member (Food & Beverage Service)
- Information Technology
- Land Based Engineering
- Maintenance Operations (Construction)
- Music
- Nail Services
- Plastering
- Plumbing
- Professional Bakery
- Professional Chef
- Refrigeration Air Conditioning & Heat Pump Systems
- Retail
- Sport
- Travel & Tourism
- Vehicle Maintenance & Repair (Heavy Vehicle)
- Vehicle Maintenance & Repair (Light Vehicle)





SKILLS FOR LIFE & WORK

Skills for Life and Work is a programme for young people who need entry-level and/or Level 1 training and qualifications. If school and GCSEs did not go as you hoped, and you want to get back on track, this programme is ideal.

LEARN MORE 

Eligibility

Skills for Life and Work is open to young people aged 16-17 years. Those who have a disability can join if they are under 22 years old, and young people who have an in-care background are eligible until they reach the age of 24.

A training credit from the careers service is required to join; contact a careers advisor if you are interested in Skills for Life and Work.

All participants will receive an Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) of £40 per week. This allowance is not means-tested.

All Skills for Life and Work participants will undertake:

- A vocational (professional and technical) qualification
- Personal development and employability qualifications
- Activities to help you learn more about the world of work, including a substantial work placement when you are ready
- Essential Skills qualifications (according to what you need)
- There is also the opportunity to enter The Duke of Edinburgh/Joint/Gaisce Award

Each participant will work with staff to agree a personal training plan. This will set out their Skills for Life and Work goals, the regulated qualifications they plan to undertake, other learning activities and work placement details. SERC tutors have the expertise to help participants to deal with barriers that get in the way of their learning and achievement.





Samantha Brown

“

I enjoyed the units in my course such as fashion, ceramics, fine art, photography and graphic design. SERC is great for anyone wanting to expand their skills not only in a creative sense but in an entrepreneurial way, with mentors to help. I started a business, Strawberry Art Pie, and I would love to see how far I can go with it.

Samantha Brown
Level 3 Art and Design

”

“

We have state of the art facilities at College, and from day one on the course, we are encouraged to work as professionals preparing for work in the industry. A lot of work is project based, so we are given tasks which replicate the kind of jobs you might expect to do in work such as recording an advertisement for radio, a video to raise awareness about some issue, a website, photography, or an information poster.

Barney Mullan
Level 2 and Level 3 Creative Media
Production and Technology



Barney Mullan

”



Brooke Morgan

“

I loved the course, and the lecturing team were fantastic at keeping me on track and motivated. As a parent I had additional responsibilities, and there was some flexibility to help me complete the course, with the tutors sending work home or making sure I was on top of everything so I could progress. I will complete the course with the equivalent of three A-Levels, which means I will be able to apply to go onto university to study nursing or midwifery.

Brooke Morgan
Extended Diploma Health and Social Care

”

“

SERC's facilities on campus are really good. There are fully functioning kitchens which are great to train in, and the lecturing staff are always hands on and happy to help with anything. The tutors were great and amazing to learn from. Since being at SERC, I have taken part in some cooking competitions, including one in Italy, and had three weeks of work experience in Nashville.

Dylan Murphy
Level 3 Apprenticeship in Professional Cookery



Dylan Murphy

”



FULL-TIME COURSES

**CLICK ON THE COURSE
TO FIND OUT MORE**



Code	Course Title	Location
Access to HE		
10005	Level 3 Access Diploma In Foundation Studies	Ballynahinch, Bangor, Downpatrick, Lisburn, Newcastle & Newtownards

Animal Care		
10473	Level 3 National Extended Diploma Animal Management	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

Art & Design		
10897	Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Art and Design and Media Practice	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
11097	Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Ceramics	Bangor
11141	Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Creative Media	Bangor
10525	Level 3 Technical Diploma in Art and Design	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
10526	Level 3 Technical Diploma in Art and Design (Graphic Design and Illustration)	Bangor

Beauty & Holistic Therapies		
10449	Level 3 Diploma in Theatrical, Special Effects and Hair and Media Make-Up	Lisburn
10489	Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy General	Bangor & Lisburn
10500	Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Nail Services	Bangor & Lisburn
10502	Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Spa Therapy	Downpatrick

Bio Sciences		
10951	Level 3 Advanced Tech in Applied Science	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

Bricklaying		
10431	Level 3 Diploma in Bricklaying	Newtownards

Business & Management		
10475	Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Business	Bangor & Lisburn

Code	Course Title	Location
Carpentry & Joinery		
10430	Level 3 Diploma in Bench Joinery	Lisburn

Computing/Software Engineering/Networking		
10439	Level 3 National Diploma in IT - IT Professional	Bangor, Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
10457	Level 3 National Extended Diploma in IT - IT Professional	Bangor, Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
11133	University Access Diploma in Computing and Engineering Sciences	Bangor & Lisburn

Construction Studies		
10950	Level 3 Advanced Tech in Construction and the Built Environment	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
10835	Level 3 Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment	Lisburn
10997	Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Civil Engineering	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

Early Years		
10426	Level 3 Diploma for Children's Care, Learning and Development	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards

Electronic Engineering		
10423	Level 3 National Diploma Engineering - Advanced Electronics	Bangor, Lisburn
10452	Level 3 National Extended Diploma Engineering - Advanced Electronics	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

GCE A Level		
10162	A Level	Bangor

Hairdressing		
10488	Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Barbering	Bangor & Lisburn
10496	Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Hairdressing	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

Code	Course Title	Location
Health & Care		
10437	Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care (Adults)	Downpatrick
10469	Level 3 National Diploma in Health and Social Care	Lisburn & Newtownards
10476	Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care (Health Studies)	Lisburn & Newtownards

Hospitality & Catering		
11072	Level 3 Diploma Hospitality with Events	Bangor
11096	Level 3 Diploma in Professional Chef	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
10505	Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Professional Cookery - Patisserie and Confectionery	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

Manufacturing & General Engineering		
10424	Level 3 National Diploma Engineering - Advanced Manufacturing	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
10425	Level 3 National Diploma Engineering - Mechatronics	Downpatrick
10455	Level 3 National Extended Diploma Engineering - Advanced Manufacturing	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
10453	Level 3 National Extended Diploma Engineering - Mechatronics	Downpatrick

Media		
10931	Level 3 Extended Diploma in Creative Media Production & Technology	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

Motor Vehicle		
10440	Level 3 Diploma in Light Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Competence	Lisburn
10441	Level 3 Diploma in Light Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Principles	Lisburn
10466	Level 3 Motorsport Engineering	Bangor

Code	Course Title	Location
Music		
10477	Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Music	Bangor & Lisburn
10478	Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Music Technology	Bangor

Performing Arts		
10481	Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Performing Arts Practice (Dance)	Bangor
10480	Level 3 National Extended Diploma Performing Arts Practice	Bangor & Lisburn

Photography		
10527	Level 3 Technical Diploma in Art and Design (Photography)	Bangor

Plastering		
10442	Level 3 Diploma in Plastering - Solid	Lisburn

Public Services		
10926	Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Uniformed Protective Services	Bangor

Refrigeration & Air Conditioning		
10464	Level 3 in Refrigeration & Air Conditioning	Lisburn
10747	Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Servicing and Maintaining Refrigeration Systems	Lisburn

Skills for Life & Work		
11049	Introductory Foundation Learning	Downpatrick, Lisburn, Newtownards,
10689	Level 1 Skills For Life and Work	Bangor, Downpatrick, Lisburn, Newtownards,

Code	Course Title	Location
Sport & Recreation		
11194	Level 3 National Diploma in Sport, Fitness and Personal Training	Downpatrick & Lisburn
10479	Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn,
10810	Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport and Outdoor Activities	Bangor

Travel & Tourism		
10450	Level 3 Diploma in Travel and Tourism	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

“

I would definitely recommend SERC to anyone looking to study. Coming here was the best decision for me, as I didn't suit the regular school environment for learning, and university didn't seem like the pathway I wanted to go down. I'm enjoying the more practical learning environment in SERC much more and I'm on a pathway to a career I'm a lot more interested in through the course.

Orla Dempster

Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Uniformed Protective Services



Orla Dempster

”



APPRENTICESHIP COURSES

**CLICK ON THE COURSE
TO FIND OUT MORE**



Code	Course Title	Location
Bio Sciences		
10845	Level 2 Apprenticeship NI in Pharmacy Services	Hollywood
10645	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Pharmacy services	Hollywood
Bricklaying		
10055	Level 2 Apprenticeship NI in Bricklaying	Newtownards
10056	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Bricklaying	Newtownards
Business & Management		
10675	Level 2 Apprenticeship NI in Retail	Bangor, Downpatrick Lisburn
Carpentry & Joinery		
10079	Level 2 Apprenticeship NI in Carpentry & Joinery	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
10080	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Carpentry & Joinery	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
Construction Studies		
11000	Level 2 Apprenticeship NI in Glass Industry	Lisburn
10107	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Civil Engineering	Lisburn
Early Years		
11108	Level 2 Traineeship in Children's Care, Learning and Development	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
Electrical Installation		
10140	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Electrical Installation	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
10682	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Fire and Security Systems	Lisburn, Newtownards & Other
Hairdressing		
10179	Level 2 Apprenticeship NI in Hairdressing	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
10180	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Hairdressing	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
Hospitality & Catering		
10082	Level 2 Apprenticeship NI in Professional Cookery	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

Code	Course Title	Location
10083	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Professional Cookery	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

Manufacturing & General Engineering

10145	Level 2 Apprenticeship NI in Engineering	Bangor, Downpatrick, Lisburn & Other
10146	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Engineering	Bangor, Downpatrick, Lisburn & Other
10657	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Polymers	Lisburn

Motor Vehicle

10253	Level 2 Apprenticeship NI in Land Based Engineering	Lisburn
10711	Level 2 Apprenticeship NI in Vehicle Maintenance & Repair (Heavy Vehicle)	Lisburn
10714	Level 2 Apprenticeship NI in Vehicle Maintenance & Repair (Light Vehicle)	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
10122	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Construction Plant Maintenance	Lisburn
10255	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Land Based Engineering	Lisburn
10712	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Vehicle Maintenance & Repair (Heavy Vehicle)	Lisburn
10715	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Vehicle Maintenance & Repair (Light Vehicle)	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards

Plastering

10650	Level 2 Apprenticeship NI in Plastering	Lisburn
11034	Level 2 Apprenticeship NI in Wall and Floor Tiling	Lisburn
10649	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Plastering	Lisburn

Plumbing

10652	Level 2 Apprenticeship NI in Plumbing	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
10653	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Plumbing	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards

Refrigeration & Air Conditioning

10670	Level 2 Apprenticeship NI in Refrigeration & Air Conditioning	Lisburn
10028	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Air Conditioning	Lisburn
10669	Level 3 Apprenticeship NI in Refrigeration	Lisburn



Matthew Bowden

“

SERC set me up perfectly for my career, it gave me the skills I needed to start off my career and then offered the further education courses I needed to upskill and progress further. I thoroughly enjoyed my time there. My favourite memory would be competing in the NI Skill Build and finishing second while I was completing my apprenticeship.

Matthew Bowden

Level 2 & 3 Plumbing and Heating Apprenticeship

”

“

I have had the most amazing experiences, from learning on the job and at SERC with leaders in the industry, to taking part in competitions such as SkillBuildNI and WorldSkills which introduced me to peers and industry professionals from across the UK. I have gained valuable work experience and my essential 'Gold Card' - proof that I am fully qualified for the industry.

Jonny Hamilton

Level 3 Fire Systems Apprenticeship



Jonny Hamilton

”



TRAINEESHIP COURSES

**CLICK ON THE COURSE
TO FIND OUT MORE**



Code	Course Title	Location
Animal Care		
11012	Level 2 Traineeship in Animal Care	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
Art & Design		
11181	Level 2 Traineeship in Art and Design	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
Beauty & Holistic Therapies		
11182	Level 2 Traineeship in Beauty Therapy	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
11183	Level 2 Traineeship in Nail Services	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
Bio Sciences		
11190	Level 2 Traineeship in Applied Science	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
Bricklaying		
10763	Level 2 Traineeship in Bricklaying	Newtownards
Business & Management		
11188	Level 2 Traineeship in Business	Bangor & Lisburn
10781	Level 2 Traineeship in Retail	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
Carpentry & Joinery		
10764	Level 2 Traineeship in Carpentry & Joinery	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
Computing/Software Engineering/Networking		
11102	Level 2 Traineeship in Information Technology	Bangor, Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
Construction Studies		
11191	Level 2 Traineeship in Maintenance Operations (Construction)	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
11193	Level 2 Traineeship in Refrigeration Air Conditioning and Heat Pump Systems	Lisburn

Code	Course Title	Location
Early Years		
11108	Level 2 Traineeship in Children's Care, Learning and Development	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
Electrical Installation		
10771	Level 2 Traineeship in Electrical	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
Hairdressing		
11184	Level 2 Traineeship in Barbering	Bangor & Lisburn
11187	Level 2 Traineeship in Hair and Media Make-Up	Bangor & Lisburn
10773	Level 2 Traineeship in Hairdressing	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
Health & Care		
11107	Level 2 Traineeship in Health and Social Care	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
Hospitality & Catering		
10813	Level 2 Traineeship in Hospitality & Tourism Team Member (Food & Beverage Service)	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
11189	Level 2 Traineeship in Professional Bakery	Bangor, Lisburn
10766	Level 2 Traineeship in Professional Chef	Bangor, Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
Manufacturing & General Engineering		
10772	Level 2 Traineeship in Engineering	Bangor, Downpatrick, Lisburn & Other
Media		
11185	Level 2 Traineeship in Creative Media Production & Technology	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
Motor Vehicle		
10770	Level 2 Traineeship in Construction Plant Maintenance	Lisburn
10776	Level 2 Traineeship in Land Based Engineering	Lisburn
10784	Level 2 Traineeship in Vehicle Maintenance & Repair (Heavy Vehicle)	Lisburn
10785	Level 2 Traineeship in Vehicle Maintenance & Repair (Light Vehicle)	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards

Code	Course Title	Location
Music		
11186	Level 2 Traineeship in Music	Bangor & Lisburn
Plastering		
10777	Level 2 Traineeship in Plastering	Lisburn
Plumbing		
10778	Level 2 Traineeship in Plumbing	Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
Sport & Recreation		
11192	Level 2 Traineeship in Sport	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
Travel & Tourism		
11106	Level 2 Traineeship in Travel & Tourism	Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn

“

I had heard a lot of good about SERC from friends that had come here to study, and I came to a couple of open days which really sold the college for me – the teachers were very friendly and were great in helping me decide on what I wanted to study. It's not like high school at all and the course is hands-on, which is great for me as I prefer practical courses over writing and text-based courses.

Natasha Kennedy
Level 2 Traineeship in Vehicle Maintenance & Repair (Light Vehicle)



Natasha Kennedy

”

YOUR FURTHER EDUCATION PROGRAMME



Your Further Education study programme (course) will include a number of elements. Each study programme will be unique to your individual needs to support your career ambitions.

Vocational Qualification

Your vocational qualification will make up the majority of your study programme. The qualification will be a mix of practical and theory which will enhance your understanding of the subject.

English and Maths

If you do not have a GCSE grade C or above in English or Maths, you will work towards achieving an Essential Skills qualification in these subjects. These will be built into your timetable and are recognised by employers and by some universities.

Work Experience

You will undertake practical work experience and work-related learning, related to the vocational area of the study programme. This will develop your employability skills and apply your learning in real life situations.

Additional Activities

Your programme will also include other activities designed to support and help you develop the job related skills, experience and confidence required to progress to employment or Higher Education. This includes tutorials, field trips and volunteering opportunities.

Online study will play an important part of your education and parts of your course this year will be delivered to you online.

During the full lockdown in 2020, SERC successfully moved online and remained online and open for business. This experience proved that students can develop good study habits, it reinforced digital skills and it developed confidence in independent work. SERC wants to build on that success and so courses will continue to use a blended learning approach - combining on-campus and online sessions. As ever, you will be expected to study a number of hours each week outside College class time to complete assignments. Support will always be available to guide your learning and to help you achieve your goals.



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS



The table on page 31 shows typical entry requirements for each level, although your chosen course may have specific requirements, so please check individual course details through the course listings.

For all courses there is an interview requirement. There may be more specific requirements for some courses; e.g. for creative arts courses you may be asked for a portfolio of your work. If you have disabilities or learning difficulties, you may not need to meet some entry requirements - our Learning Support Team can advise you.

Call **0345 600 7555** for further advice.

Entry Requirements Table

	Vocational Courses	Entry Requirements	Equivalent	When Completed
Level 6	Bachelor's Degree	Successful completion of Level 5 related qualification or related industry experience and an interview.	BA (Hons)	Continue to Masters or use your skills to start work
Level 5	Higher National Diplomas (HNDs), Foundation Degrees, Higher Level Apprenticeships	Successful completion of Level 4 related qualification or related industry experience and an interview.	2nd year of a Bachelor Degree	Progress to university or use your skills to start work
Level 4	Higher National Certificates (HNCs), Higher Level Apprenticeships	A Levels or successful completion of Level 3 related qualification or related industry experience and an interview.	1st year of a Bachelor Degree	Progress to Higher Education at SERC, university or use your skills to start work
Level 3	BTECs, Diplomas, Apprenticeships and Access to Education	5 GCSEs at Grades C/4 or above including English Language and/or Maths (some courses may require both, please check your individual course). Or successful completion of a Level 2 related qualification and interview.	A Levels	Progress to Higher Education at SERC, university or use your skills to start work
Level 2	Apprenticeships and Traineeships	4 GCSEs at grades D-G including English and Maths at grade F or higher or equivalent. Enhanced criteria in Maths and English may also apply, refer to individual course descriptions for details. Accreditation for Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) may also be considered.	GCSEs	Progress to Level 3 study or use skills to start work
Level 1	BTECs, Awards, Certificates, Diplomas, NVQs, Skills for Life and Work	No formal qualification required.		Progress to Level 2 study or use skills to start work
Entry	Skills for Life and Work	No formal qualifications required.		Progress to Level 1 study



WHY SERC?

The Student Experience

Learning is rooted in meeting practical challenges and working on projects to develop teamwork and self-management skills

Courses include work placements, and in many cases offer work experience abroad

We have industry-experienced, qualified tutors and state-of-the-art facilities

Go Greener!

SERC was awarded the prestigious Green Gown Award for our commitment to promoting sustainability. Students and staff are invited to get involved in progressing this commitment through eco communities and involvement in projects.

LEARN MORE



Student Businesses

SERC provides a range of activities through which you can develop enterprise skills. All full-time students spend the first two weeks of the academic year developing enterprise ideas. There are also dedicated workspaces for students to develop their ideas, and a team supporting students to establish their own business.

LEARN MORE



Community Radio

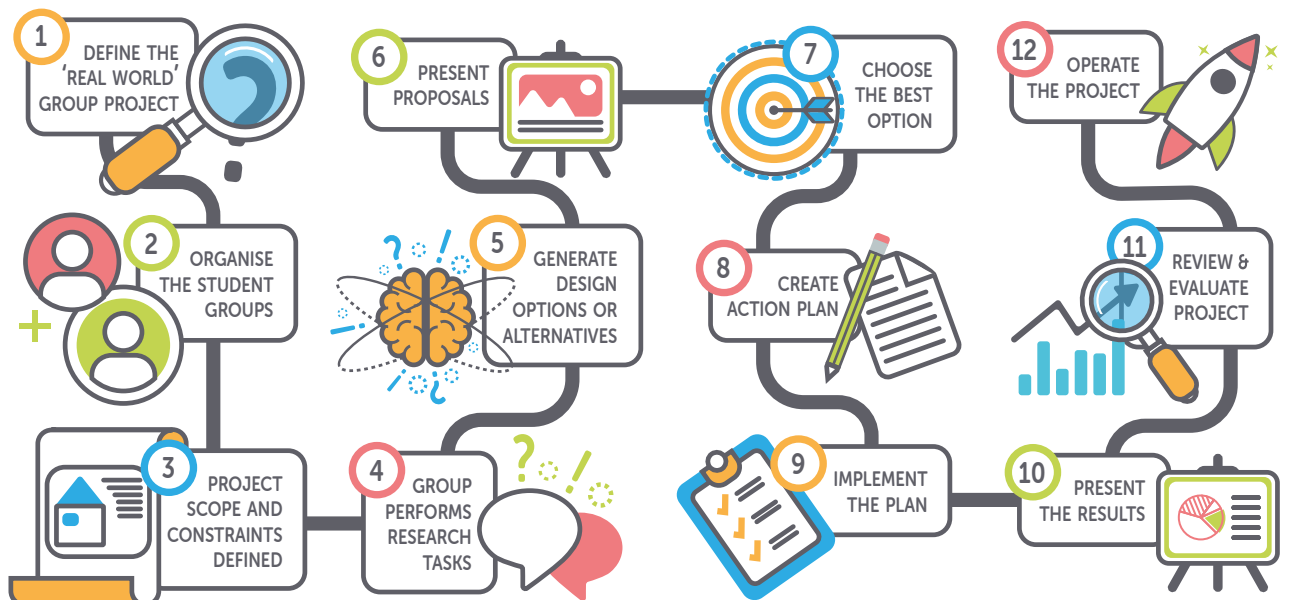
SERC supports three community radio stations that provide training for students and members of the public, with industry-standard live broadcasting facilities and opportunities to create and innovate under supervision from experienced media professionals.

LEARN MORE



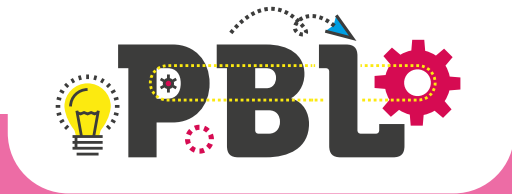
PROJECT BASED LEARNING (PBL)

Project-based learning (PBL) is used across all vocational areas at SERC and will prepare you for the world of work by developing the right skills, attitudes and behaviours, while having fun and learning along the way.



SERC has developed a 12 step Project Based Learning (PBL) process to help you learn better.

PBL uses industry focused projects to enhance your learning. You will study in small groups, learn from each other and develop skills in a fun way. Regardless of whether you prefer to learn using written instructions or using your imagination to create new solutions, PBL will make you more employable.



Why PBL?

PBL is a student-centred approach which students find more enjoyable and satisfying

Students with PBL experience rate their abilities higher

It encourages learning from experience, drawing on what has been learnt to understand problems

It helps develop teamwork and communication skills

STUDENT SUPPORT

SERC is committed to supporting all students to meet challenges and achieve their aims. The College has an extensive network of support services and also works with a range of agencies to make sure help is there whenever it is needed.



Pastoral Care

We work with Ascertainment, Awareness, Inspiration and the HSC to make sure you are able to overcome challenges and achieve your goals.



Student Carers

If you have caring responsibilities at home, we understand that this can have an impact on your learning. We have a dedicated support service to offer help and advice.



Learning Support

If you have additional needs, we have the facilities and staff to work with you to help you succeed.



Learning Resource Centres

If you need a place to study or help in finding resources to support your learning, we have Learning Resource Centres on each main campus with printed books and e-books and quiet study areas.



Student Finance

It can be difficult to juggle your finances when you're a student. SERC publishes a range of guides and has a team of advisors to support you.



Little SERC Creche at Newcastle Campus

Little SERC was set up in 2020 to provide safe, stimulating childcare to help parents enrolled on courses at Newcastle.



Careers

Our award-winning careers advisors can help you plan your path to achieving your ambitions. The service is impartial and available to everyone.



STUDENTS' UNION



SERC Students' Union (SU) delivers a programme of events and activities for the SERC student community. The SU advocates for all students at SERC and works to enrich and enhance college life for all our students. All students, both full-time and part-time, are members of the Students' Union and can stand for office such as class representative, welfare officer etc.

LEARN MORE



YOUR VOICE

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

Turing Scheme

The UK Government's new Turing Scheme offers SERC students the opportunity to work or study anywhere in the world. During the 2023-24 academic year, 87 students from 10 curriculum areas will travel to various countries in Europe or to South Africa.

The fully funded work placement will help you to improve your technical and professional skills, cultural awareness and language ability.

What's included?

- All travel, visas and insurance
- All accommodation and meals
- Cultural activities
- Suitable work placement and support from your tutors

How to get involved

A recruitment process will take place during autumn 2024, through which suitable candidates will be selected. Selected students must have current travel and health documentation. More information will be provided by your tutor.

**NOTE: International mobilities are subject to Government advice, particularly in relation to COVID-19.*

Gaining work experience abroad will help boost your self-confidence, independence and improve your employability prospects, giving your CV an extra edge.



REAL SKILLS FOR REAL LIFE

At SERC we know it is important to educate the whole person, which means we don't just deliver paper qualifications, we develop rounded individuals with the personal and interpersonal skills needed to navigate life. We know, too, that these skills are valued by employers.

Transversal skills (T-skills) and **Meta-skills (M-skills)** are behaviours and skills which underpin the learning of other skills and knowledge. At SERC, we call these Uber-skills (U-skills). They include critical thinking, team work, creativity, problem-solving, time management and learning skills.

SERC puts these at the centre of the educational experience to build confidence and prepare our students for the challenges of modern life and work.

APPLYING TO SERC

STEP 1 APPLY

Visit www.serc.ac.uk and select a course to start the application process. You can apply for up to three different courses.

STEP 2 PRE ENTRY ADVICE AND GUIDANCE SESSIONS

We'll invite you to attend a mandatory pre-entry advice and guidance session with the subject tutor - it's a great chance to talk about the course and discuss how it can help you achieve the career you want.

STEP 3 EVALUATION OPPORTUNITY

Our admissions process includes an evaluation opportunity allowing us to consider skills beyond academic achievement. This might include, for example, an audition, portfolio submission or a practical task.

STEP 4 WELL DONE

Providing all entry requirements are met, you will be given a Conditional Offer for your chosen course. However, if you already have the grades and meet all entry requirements, you will be able to enrol. To enrol you will need evidence of results and proof of ID i.e. Passport, Driving Licence, National ID Card or National Insurance Card. If you don't get the results you need, please don't panic. We will be right here to help you look at all your options.



**Apply now for
courses starting in
September 2024**

