

Chameleon School of Construction

As well as gaining qualifications, what else do you think would help an applicant stand out?

Having the right attitude and a willingness to learn. It's an old cliché, but you really do get out what you put in.

Does your institution provide any work experience/taster sessions/virtual open days which students can access before they apply?

We usually host a series of open days towards the end of the academic year, usually around May/June. We hope this will continue to be the case. For updates on these open days, please visit our website at www.chameleonschoolofconstruction.co.uk or follow us on Facebook, twitter, or Instagram.

Are there apprenticeships for everything? E.g. architecture and photography.

The subjects we deliver at Chameleon School of Construction are bricklaying, plastering, or wall & floor tiling. Our Swadlincote Centre also offers courses in motor vehicle maintenance.

What courses do you offer and when do your courses start? How long are the courses?

We offer NOCN CSkills Diploma qualifications in the construction subjects listed above. Our motor vehicle courses are approved by the Institute of the Motor Industry. All are classed as full-time education, with attendance for two days per week for an academic year.

What are the benefits of apprenticeships?

The benefit of an apprenticeship is that you are paid by your employer while you are working towards your qualification. However, apprenticeships can be hard to get, and the beauty of our diploma courses is that you do not need to be employed in order to join and gain industry-recognised qualifications.

What is the likelihood of being offered a job after completion of an apprenticeship?

This is influenced by many factors, most of which are beyond your control. What you can control is your attitude to learning, and if this is positive it will stand you in good stead.

How many GCSEs do I need and what are the average entry requirements for an apprenticeship?

Our diploma courses are open to all, regardless of prior academic achievement. For those who need additional help with English and Maths, we provide Function Skills learning in those subjects alongside the practical workshops.

What is the pay like for an apprentice? What is the pay like once you have qualified?

From April 2021, the minimum wage for Apprentices will be £4.30. The minimum wage increases after you have completed your apprenticeship. A fully-qualified construction tradesman can earn, on average, around £15 per hour.

How many hours to you spend working and how many hours do you spend training/learning?

Our diploma courses require attendance for two days per week, from 9am-3pm. This gives you the freedom to pursue employment alongside your course, whether that be in a related industry or not.

What is the dress code?

You must bring safety boots with steel toe caps, and wear clothes that you do not mind getting dirty as the workshops are a dusty environment.

Can I get a joinery apprenticeship?

We do not deliver joinery courses at Chameleon School of Construction.

Is it competitive to get an apprenticeship, what would make the ideal candidate?

It can be competitive to get an apprenticeship, so perseverance is important. If you do not find an employer willing to take you on as an apprentice, you are still welcome to come to Chameleon School of Construction on our diploma courses. On these courses you will be gaining practical skills while working toward an industry-recognised qualification, and this will impress potential employers. You can continue to try and find an employer to take you on as an apprentice while attending Chameleon.

Are all of your courses Level 2/3 courses or do you also do Higher Level or Degree Apprenticeships?

Yes we deliver courses from Level 1 up to Level 3.

What is the easiest and most effective way to apply for apprenticeships?

Search online for employers in your chosen industry/trade and email them. It doesn't cost anything, and a good employer will be impressed at your initiative.