



north west
regional college
Derry-Londonderry • Limavady • Strabane

FROM HERE *To Career*

Higher Level Apprenticeship

COURSE GUIDE

2026-27



Employ Clever with a Higher Level Apprenticeship

North West Regional College, supported by the Department for the Economy (DfE), Open University, Ulster University, Accounting Technicians Ireland, CACHE, BTEC Pearson and many leading employers across the North West region are delighted to announce the further development of a major employment initiative for the North West Region.

The College offers a number of Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA) programmes tailored to meet industry needs. These programmes will offer employers an opportunity to 'employ clever' aimed at addressing high-level skills shortages which are increasingly evident across the region.

What is a Higher Level Apprenticeship?

A Higher Level Apprenticeship is a unique work-based programme which enables participants to earn while they learn and gain a nationally recognised higher level qualification. Successful candidates will be employed in a company relevant to their chosen profession to gain valuable experience over a 2 or 3 year period. This experience will include mentoring and academic support provided from both North West Regional College and the employer as the HLA progresses through the relevant higher level qualification.

These programmes are widely recognised as the best combination of on the job training and employee higher level study available. They offer employees the opportunity to gain a level 4 / 5 qualification. In addition they aim to improve business practice by developing a progressively skilled workforce essential for today's competitive economic climate.



SKILLS
TO SUCCEED | APPRENTICESHIPS

The Open University

cache
training | upskilling | development

Department for the
Economy
An Roinn
Geilleagair
www.economy-ni.gov.uk
Apprenticeships

Pearson
BTEC

Accounting Technicians Ireland

Ulster University

#employclever

www.nwrc.ac.uk/hla

Employ Clever with a Higher Level Apprenticeship

North West Regional College has developed the Higher Level Apprenticeship provision within the region based on strong links with academic partners and business.

The College is now offering programmes in the following areas:

- Accountancy
- Business & Enterprise
- Computing
- Cyber Security
- Leadership for Children's Care, Learning and Development
- Hospitality, Tourism and Events Management
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Engineering (General Engineering)
- Construction Management



The benefits for Employers

Higher Level Apprenticeships can deliver in many ways for business:

1. Meet the unique needs of your business

With Higher Level Apprentices learning at work, they are able to develop the knowledge and occupational competencies demanded by specific job roles and meet the unique needs of your business.

The aim of each programme is to develop the skills relevant to employers from day one.

2. Recruit from a larger talent pool

Higher Level Apprenticeships enable businesses to attract and retain employees with potential, expanding workplace diversity and benefiting the local community and wider economy.

3. Increase your productivity

Higher Level Apprentices can keep your business up-to-date with the latest techniques and technology, increasing your productivity for the future.

4. Fill your higher level skills gaps

Higher level skills are vital to business performance and economic growth – through Higher Level Apprenticeships; you can fill your higher level skills gaps efficiently and effectively by tailoring the learning to your workplace.

5. Develop existing staff

You can develop existing staff through participation in the Higher Level Apprenticeship programme or as they work with your Higher Level Apprentice through mentoring opportunities and other opportunities.





MEET JORDAN

Hi! My name is **Jordan McElwee**. I previously studied ICT, 3D Design and English Literature at A-Level at Limavady High School.

I used to work in a Chinese take-away before swapping my chopsticks for computer chips and pursuing a **HLA in Software Development** 🤖



FUN FACT: Jordan loves solo travel, exploring cities like Krakow, New York, and Barcelona. He believes it gives him the chance to fully immerse himself in different cultures, broaden his perspective, and gain a sense of independence and peace of mind.

Scan the QR code to meet other students like me and find out why we love NWRC.

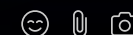


What attracted you to a Higher Level Apprenticeship?

The HLA aligned perfectly with my strengths and interests. I enjoy problem-solving, understanding how things work, and the creative process involved in building something from scratch. The Apprenticeship programme had a stand out benefit - it allowed me to earn a wage while I learning, gain valuable work experience, and build connections with local companies. Plus, NO TUITION FEES! 🎉🎉🎉

I'm currently working full-time as an Application Support Engineer at Fujitsu Services in Derry / Londonderry. I started there as a Higher Level Apprentice and transitioned into a permanent role after completing my apprenticeship.

Join the conversation at nwrc.ac.uk



How is the course delivered?

The Higher Level Apprenticeship is delivered part-time each week, normally on a day release basis. Teaching methods include lectures, seminars, tutorials, live projects and blended learning as appropriate.

How much will it cost?

HLA course related fees are funded by Department for the Economy and so there is currently no charge to employer or apprentice.

Apprentices must have a permanent contract of employment for at least 21 hours per week (inclusive of day release element)

Employers must adhere to Northern Ireland National Minimum Wage and National Living wage regulations.

What involvement is required by the employers?

Employers need to support Higher Level Apprentices in terms of study time and provide a work based mentor.

Who can apply for a Higher Level apprenticeship?*

New Job Post: Taking on a Higher Level Apprentice is the same as recruiting for a new position within your organisation. Following an assessment of your needs with the Higher Level Apprenticeships Coordinator at North West Regional College an employers recruitment session can be set up to assist with the recruitment of the apprentice.

Apprentices may be recent school leavers who have completed A Levels or other relevant Level 3 qualifications, careers changers, mature learners or existing employees who are upskilling/ reskilling and moving to a new job role. All applicants must meet the minimum school leavers age by 1st July prior to the start of the programme and meet the minimum entry criteria set by the awarding body (Ulster University, BTEC Pearson, ATI /CACHE)

(HLA in Accountancy applicants must be 18 on or before 1st July on year commencing programme)

(HLA Leadership in Children's Care Learning and Development – applicants must be at least 19 years old upon commencing apprenticeship)

Existing employees who are taking on a new role within the business and who wish to up-skill or re-skill may also be eligible.

*Employers must be based in Northern Ireland. Employers can enhance the entry requirements set by the awarding body. Only those potential participants who are assessed as capable and committed to achieving the full requirements of a HLA should be recruited to the provision.

**As an alternative to the standard entry requirements, applicants may be able to apply to enter the programme through the Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) process. This process involves assessing learning achieved outside education or training, as appropriate and recognised for academic purposes. For further information see contact details relating to the course/programme. Normally APEL applications need to be made well in advance of the course start date in September.





Higher Level Apprenticeship (Level 5) Accountancy

Campus

Derry~Londonderry

Study Mode

Part-Time

Length of Study

2 Years

Awarding Body

Accounting Technicians Ireland (ATI)

Course Contact

Course Coordinator

Elizabeth Earley

028 7127 6337

Elizabeth.Earley@nwrc.ac.uk,

Skills Development Officer

higherlevelapprenticeships@nwrc.ac.uk

Progression



Course Overview

This programme enables employees to undertake a Level 5 Diploma For Accounting Technicians. This is a two-year employment focussed training and education programme.

The programme is divided into four modules per year with an additional work practice module also to be completed each year. Exams for the modules are invigilated online exams in June each year. The programme is delivered part time day release one day each week with the other 4 days working with a Northern Irish employer.

Graduates benefit from formal workplace and academic mentoring, with two-years' work experience gained in a real business environment, whilst gaining highly transferable skills.

This course is open to career-changers, school-leavers, recent graduates and mature learners in Northern Ireland, exploring a career in accounting through applied learning. It is also open to current employees with a Northern Ireland based company, moving into a new job role and who wish to upskill.

Core Modules

Year 1

- Financial Accounting
- Taxation, Law and Ethics
- Business Management

Year 2

- Advanced Financial Accounting
- Advanced Taxation
- Management Accounting and Financial Data Management

Entry Requirements

UK - 96 UCAS Tariff Points plus a minimum Grade B in GCSE Mathematics and Grade C in English;

ROI: ILC - 96 UCAS Points plus a Grade O3 in Maths and Grade O4 in English.

Applicants who are 21 years of age (by 1st January of the year in which they wish to commence the course) but do not possess the minimum educational requirements, may still apply to do the course based on qualifications and experience.

Employment

You will be employed in a company relevant to your chosen profession to gain valuable experience over the duration of the course.

Further Study

Graduates can use their qualification as a stepping stone to Higher-Level Professional Accounting, Taxation or Degree Programmes. Graduates from this programme can benefit from exemptions offered by all of the main accountancy bodies:

- Chartered Accountants Ireland (CAI)
- Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)
- Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)
- Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Ireland (CPA)
- Institute of Financial Accountants (IFA)
- Association of Tax Technicians (ATT)

There is also the opportunity to transfer to the penultimate or final year of a Bachelor's Degree in Business, Accounting or Finance from the following higher education institutions:

- Athlone Institute of Technology
- Cork Institute of Technology
- Dublin Business School
- Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology
- Institute of Public Administration
- Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin)
- Sligo Institute of Technology
- Waterford Institute of Technology





Higher Level Apprenticeship (Level 5) Business and Enterprise

Campus
Derry~Londonderry

Study Mode
Part-Time

Length of Study
3 Years

Awarding Body
Ulster University

Course Contact
Course Coordinator
Luane Quigley
028 7127 6103
luane.quigley@nwrc.ac.uk

Skills Development Officer
higherlevelapprenticeships@nwrc.ac.uk

Progression



Course Overview

This programme enables employees to undertake a Level 5 Foundation Degree in Business and Enterprise validated by Ulster University whilst remaining in employment. The programme is delivered part time day release 1 day per week over 2.5 years. This innovative course, developed based on industry needs, will give you the opportunity to develop business and enterprise knowledge and skills and employment experience. A key feature of this course is the work based learning which provides the opportunity to work in a company on a 'live' project. Knowledge and skills will be gained through activities and application to 'real world' business issues and opportunities. Practical aspects of people management, marketing, on-line business and finance will feature strongly in related modules.

Core Modules

- Academic Career and Enhancement skills
- Principles of Marketing
- Introduction to Financial Accounting
- Foundations of Entrepreneurship
- Principles of Economics
- Principles of Management
- Professional Skills
- Accounts and Ethics for Business Managers
- Marketing Management
- High Performance Work Enterprises
- Introduction to Work-Based Learning
- Work-Based Learning in Practice

Entry Requirements

UK - 56 UCAS Tariff points (2 A levels)+ GCSE Maths Grade C or equivalent (e.g. Essential Skills Level 2 Numeracy) AND GCSE English Grade C or equivalent (e.g. Essential Skills

Level 2 Communication)
Ulster University Access Course
- 50% (which includes Level 2 in Communications & Mathematics)

ROI: 56 UCAS Tariff points + OLC (Grade 04 or above) in English and Maths;
INFORMATION SESSION IS REQUIRED

Employment

A key feature of this course is the work-based learning which provides the opportunity to work in a company on a 'live' business project. Knowledge and skills will be gained through activities and application to business issues and opportunities. Practical aspects of people management, marketing, on-line business and finance will feature strongly in related modules enhancing skills.

Further Study

If pathways to HLA level 6 - 7 studies exist, then participants may wish to consider continuing their progression as a Higher-Level Apprentice. Learners graduate on the successful completion of the Foundation Degree and graduates have the opportunity to progress directly to the final year of the Hons Business Degree at Ulster University, particularly Magee Campus, subject to meeting UU criteria and the completion of a summer bridging module.





Higher Level Apprenticeship (Level 5) Computing

Campus

Derry~Londonderry

Study Mode

Part-Time

Length of Study

3 Years

Awarding Body

Ulster University

Course Contact

Course Coordinator

Peter Wisener
028 7127 6195
peter.wisener@nwrc.ac.uk

Skills Development Officer

higherlevelapprenticeships@nwrc.ac.uk

Progression



Course Overview

This programme enables employees to undertake a Level 5 Foundation Degree in Computing, whilst gaining valuable industry-based experience. The programme is delivered part time on day release from work one day per week. The course is an opportunity to develop key industry specific skills and knowledge with a desire to pursue a career within the sector. It will give students the ability to study a range of units with opportunities to explore different specialisms and a chance to consider a wide range of career opportunities within the Computing sector with a focus on Software Development. Over the course of three years, units are delivered through the completion of practical application through project-based learning. Assessments involve class tests, practical exercises, case study and work-based assignments including live observation assessment. The course will allow students enhance career prospects in a range of job roles within the Computing sector.

Core Modules

- Programming Fundamentals
- Database Design and Development
- Object Oriented Programming
- Computer Technologies
- Mathematics for Computing
- Web Development
- Cyber Security
- Software Testing
- Data Analytics
- Work Based Learning
- UX Design

Entry Requirements

UK - 64 UCAS points, plus GCSE Maths Grade C minimum and GCSE English Grade C or Essential Skills Level 2 Communications;

ROI: ILC - 64 UCAS points, plus OLC (Grade 04 or above) to include Maths and English;

APEL (Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning) may apply for entry

Assessment

A variety of assessments including coursework and examinations.

Employment

You will be employed in a company relevant to your chosen profession to gain valuable experience over the duration of the course.

This will include mentoring and academic support provided from both NWRC and the employer as you study towards a higher level, nationally recognised qualification.

Further Study

Successful completion of the Foundation Degree with appropriate grades enables progression to second year of BSc (Hons) Computing Science at Ulster University



Higher Level Apprenticeship (Level 5) Foundation Degree in Cyber Security

Pending DfE Approval

Campus

Derry~Londonderry

Study Mode

Part-Time

Length of Study

3 Years

Awarding Body

Open University

Course Contact

Course Coordinator

James Harron
james.harron@nwrc.ac.uk.

Skills Development Officer

higherlevelapprenticeships@nwrc.ac.uk

Progression



Course Overview

This programme enables employees to undertake a Level 5 Foundation Degree in Cyber Security, whilst gaining valuable industry based experience. The course aims to create and prepare future professionals in the area of cyber security, whilst enhancing the learner's technology knowledge and skills.

The course team who will be involved in delivering the programme are committed to cultivating learners to develop their personal and professional technological skills and promote a lifelong learning ethos in the area of cyber security. The course will provide a broad-based learning environment that prepares graduates, who have successfully achieved the Foundation Degree, to either follow a productive career as professionals in the cyber security industry or to proceed to a higher academic qualification.

Areas to be studied will include:

- Equip students with a knowledge and understanding of the theory and principles underlying modern cyber security.
- Compare, analyse and evaluate a range of techniques, theories and methods applied to the development of applications and solutions.
- Develop students' abilities in the evaluation, selection, application and integration of a range of tools and facilities.
- Develop students' ability to carry out a programme of supervised work within a team.

Core Modules

Networking Fundamentals, Programming Essentials, Computing Mathematics, Ethical Hacking, Network Data Security, Cyber Security Fundamentals, Mobile Devices & Cloud Security, Responsive Incident Management, Server Management and Security, Cyber Security Implementation, Work Based Learning.

Entry Requirements

48 UCAS points (APEL applicable) plus GCSE Grade C or above English Language and Mathematics (or equivalent) OR APEL (Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning) may apply for entry (visit www.nwrc.ac.uk/apply for details).

Assessment

Coursework, Practical Skills Assessment, Presentation, Exam

Employment

For a Higher Level Apprenticeship, you will be employed by a company relevant to your chosen profession. You can upskill and move to a new job role or a newly recruited employee taking up a permanent contract of employment.

Further Study

If pathways to HLA level 6 - 7 studies exist, then participants may wish to consider continuing their progression as a Higher Level Apprentice. Successful completion of the course depending on grade enables progression to the second year of the BSc (Hons) Computer Science at Ulster University, to similar degrees at other universities, or directly into Computing and IT related employment.



Higher Level Apprenticeship (Level 5)

Leadership for Children's Care, Learning and Development

Campus

Derry~Londonderry

Study Mode

Part-Time

Length of Study

2 Years

Awarding Body

CACHE

Course Contact

Course Coordinator

Karen Crawford

028 7127 6479

karen.crawford@nwrc.ac.uk

Skills Development Officer

higherlevelapprenticeships@nwrc.ac.uk

Progression



Course Overview

This course is for senior practitioners in a leadership or management role who work within early years and childcare settings including day nurseries, crèches, playgroups and pre-school settings.

The course is also suitable for practitioners who have an opportunity to be appointed into leadership roles within the setting. It is flexible and delivered to meet the individual needs of the busy professional practitioner in partnership with their employer. The employer provides a work based mentor and the College delivers knowledge based units and a work placement assessor who works with each individual apprentice to extend and build on their knowledge and competency at this level.

The Level 5 Diploma in Leadership for Children's Care, Learning & Development (Management) NI provides a thorough grounding in the key concepts and practical skills required in the sector. It is delivered over 2 years with classes scheduled weekly.

The course aims to provide the apprentices with the skills and knowledge needed to manage practice and lead others in children's care, learning and development.

Please note - you must upload a CV and personal statement in support of your application

Entry Requirements

Be newly appointed or promoted to a position of Deputy Leader, Leader, Assistant Managers or Deputy Manager in children's care, learning and development setting.

- Keen to progress their career
- Be a minimum age of at least 19 years old
- Have a minimum of GCSE English at Grade C or equivalent
- Hold a Level 3 qualification in CCLD

A pre-course information session will be held for applicants – each applicant must attend.

Those students who do not possess GCSE Maths or equivalent will be encouraged to complete Essential Skills Numeracy.

Employment

You will be employed in a company relevant to your chosen profession to gain valuable experience over the duration of the course.

This will include mentoring and academic support provided from both NWRC and the employer as you study towards a higher level, nationally recognised qualification.

Further Study

Upon successful completion, opportunities exist for progression to employment or university. Previous graduates have progressed to the (Hons) Degree in Early Childhood Studies.





Higher Level Apprenticeship (Level 5)

Hospitality Tourism and Events Management

Campus

Derry~Londonderry

Study Mode

Part-Time

Length of Study

2.5 Years

Additional Fees

Field Trips: £40

Awarding Body

Open University

Course Contact

Course Coordinator

Luane Quigley

028 7127 6103

luane.quigley@nwrc.ac.uk

Skills Development Officer

higherlevelapprenticeships@nwrc.ac.uk

Progression



Course Overview

The Higher Level Apprenticeship Foundation Degree programme has been designed to prepare staff employed in the Hospitality, Tourism & Events industry and students wishing to enter the industry for careers in supervisory or junior management positions.

Assessment is a combination of coursework and class based assessments. A number of trips are organised as part of the programme which incur a financial cost to the Student. Mandatory day trips, approximately £40.

Core Modules

- Academic Enhancement Skills;
- Contemporary Hospitality, Tourism & Events;
- Principles of Events Planning;
- Introduction to Accounting & Finance;
- Domestic Tourism;
- Work Based Learning;
- Professional Skills;
- Leadership & People Management;
- Marketing and Digital Strategies;
- Global Hospitality, Tourism & Events Management Issues

Specialist modules

- Fundamentals of Food & Beverage Service.
- International Travel & Tourism Destination Management.
- Events Operations,

Entry Requirements

4 GCSE's at Grade C or above to include English Language plus 48 UCAS points.

APEL (Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning) may apply for entry.

Assessment

Assessment is a combination of coursework and examinations.

Employment

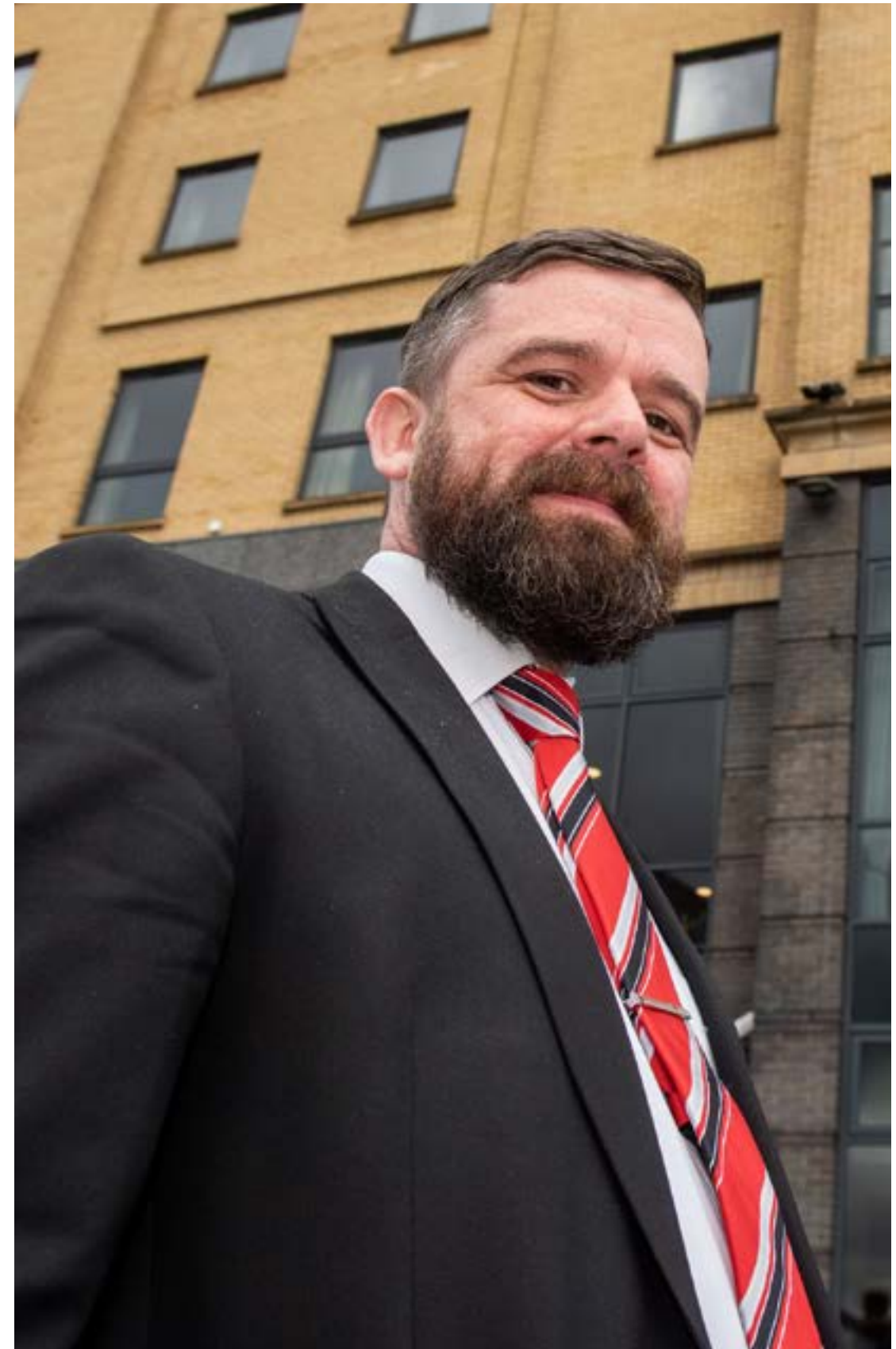
You will be employed in a company relevant to your chosen profession to gain valuable experience over the duration of the course. This will include mentoring and academic support provided from both NWRC and the employer as you study towards a higher level, nationally recognised qualification.

Your Future

Successful completion of the Foundation Degree with appropriate grades provides HLA students the opportunity to progress to similar Honour degrees at a Higher Education Institution or University. All Universities' have their own entry requirements, so it is recommended to personally check these options out.

Exemptions for modules already achieved will be determined by the specific degree applied to as well as the Universities regulations in relation to exemptions.

Alternatively, students will have acquired a combination of technical skills, academic knowledge, and transferable skills to enable them to seek promotion to or employment in junior management positions within Hospitality and Tourism organisations. This may include hotels, restaurants, licensed trade, nightclubs, casino's, cruise ships, visitor attractions/ theme parks, airports, airline industry, tourist information, tour guides, Tourist Board, local authority tourism offices, event planning organisations to name but a few.





Higher Level Apprenticeship (Level 5) Electrical and Electronic Engineering HND

Campus

Derry~Londonderry

Study Mode

Part-Time

Length of Study

3 Years

Awarding Body

Pearson BTEC

Course Contact

Course Coordinator

Desmond Paul,
028 7127 6534
desmond.paul@nwrc.ac.uk

Skills Development Officer

higherlevelapprenticeships@nwrc.ac.uk

Progression



Course Overview

This programme enables employees to undertake a BTEC Level 5 Higher National Diploma in Electrical & Electronic Engineering. The programme is delivered part time day release over three years and the full HND programme includes 16 units. Years one and two both include one full day/ evening of classes (5 units per year) while year three includes one full day/ evening plus one additional evening (to cover 6 units). This programme will develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills and incorporates a range of IT applications, industry standard software and simulation packages. Assessment is 100% coursework.

Core Modules

- Engineering Mathematics
- Engineering Science
- Electrical and Electronic Principles
- Digital Principles
- Electronic Circuits and Devices
- Engineering Design Managing a Professional Engineering Project
- Programmable Logic Controllers
- Further Engineering Mathematics
- Embedded Systems
- Research Project
- Professional Engineering Management
- Industrial Power, Electronics and Storage
- Industrial Systems
- Further Electrical, Electronic and Digital Principles

Entry Requirements

UK: 48 UCAS points; Applicants must have Level 3 passes in at least one of Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Engineering, Science or Technology (or equivalent), and a minimum Grade C/4 in GCSE Mathematics* and English (or University-approved equivalent**).

*Certain BTEC Level 3 Maths units

may be acceptable in lieu of GCSE Maths. **Level 2 Essential Skills in Communication is currently acceptable in lieu of GCSE English. OR Relevant Access course with an overall mark of at least 41%, including passes in Mathematics and a Science subject.

ROI: 48 UCAS Points; Applicants must have at least one of Maths, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Engineering, Science or Technology at H5 Higher level and 4 OLCs (Grade O4 or above) Maths and English at Grade H6 or above (Higher Level) or Grade O4 or above (Ordinary Level) if not sitting at Higher Level.

As with all Higher Engineering courses, students require a good standard of mathematics and applied mathematics. Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) may be considered for entry. For details visit nwrc.ac.uk/apply

Employment

You will be employed in a company relevant to your chosen profession to gain valuable experience over the duration of the course.

Further Study

If pathways to HLA level 6 - 7 studies exist then participants may wish to consider continuing their progression as a Higher Level Apprentice. Successful completion of the Higher National Diploma with appropriate grades can enable progression to Year 2 BEng (Hons) degree pathway of related degree at Ulster University or similar degrees at other universities.

Your Future Career

Careers in engineering are popular due to their prestige, positive job outlook and the higher-than-average salary.



Higher Level Apprenticeship (Level 5) General Engineering HND

Campus

Derry~Londonderry

Study Mode

Part-Time

Length of Study

3 Years

Awarding Body

Pearson BTEC

Course Contact

Course Coordinator

Nuala McAreavey
Nuala.McAreavey@nwrc.ac.uk

Skills Development Officer

higherlevelapprenticeships@nwrc.ac.uk

Progression



Course Overview

The apprenticeship delivery model consists of 1 day release (off-the-job) to attend NWRC over 34 weeks and 4 days within the workplace (on-the-job learning). The apprenticeship is completed over 3 years and the technical qualification element is a HND General Engineering, credit value of 240.

Core Modules:

Engineering Mathematics
Materials, Properties and Testing
Engineering Science
Computer Aided Design & Manufacture (CAD/CAM)
Quality & Process Improvement
Engineering Design
Managing a professional Engineering Project
Fluid Mechanics
Lean Manufacturing
Sustainability
Research Project
Professional Engineering Management
Advance Mechanical Principles
Further Engineering Mathematics
Analogue Electronic Systems

Entry Requirements:

UK: 48 UCAS points to include one pass in related discipline and GCSE English and Mathematics at Grade C or equivalent OR Relevant Access course with an overall mark of at least 41%, including passes in Mathematics and a Science subject. APEL applicable.

ROI: 48 UCAS points to include one pass in related discipline and OLC English and Mathematics at

Grade O5 or equivalent OR Relevant Access course with an overall mark of at least 41%, including passes in Mathematics and a Science subject. APEL applicable.

Employment

You will be employed in a company relevant to your chosen profession to gain valuable experience over the duration of the course.

Further Study

If pathways to HLA level 6 - 7 studies exist then participants may wish to consider continuing their progression as a Higher Level Apprentice. Successful completion of the Higher National Diploma with appropriate grades can enable progression to Year 2 BEng (Hons) degree pathway of related degree at Ulster University or similar

Your Future Career

Careers in engineering are popular due to their prestige, positive job outlook and the higher-than-average salary.



Higher Level Apprenticeship (Level 4)

HNC Engineering (General Engineering)

Campus

Derry~Londonderry

Study Mode

Part-Time

Length of Study

2 Years

Awarding Body

Pearson BTEC

Course Contact

Course Coordinator

Gary Morrison

gary.morrison@nwrc.ac.uk

Skills Development Officer

higherlevelapprenticeships@nwrc.ac.uk

Progression



Course Overview

The apprenticeship delivery model consists of 1 day release (off-the-job) to attend NWRC over 34 weeks and 4 days within the workplace (on-the-job learning). The apprenticeship is completed over 2 years and the technical qualification element is a HNC General Engineering, credit value of 120. In addition, an optional Level 3 Mathematics module will be delivered in year 1 for those apprentices who require consolidation in the understanding of mathematics. The importance of engineering qualifications and training has been recognised by Government and the Advanced Manufacturing Industry has been identified by the MATRIX Panel has a key area for economic growth.

Course Modules

- Engineering Maths
- Engineering Science
- CAD for Maintenance Engineers
- Computer Aided Design and Manufacture (CAD/CAM)
- Engineering Design
- Managing a Professional Engineering Project
- Fluid Mechanics
- Quality and Process Improvement

Entry Requirements

UK: 32 UCAS points at GCE A level with at least one pass in a related discipline, plus pass in GCSE mathematics (or equivalent) OR a BTEC level 3 qualification in an engineering discipline

ROI: An Irish Leaving Certificate: equivalent to 32 UCAS points (to include mathematics at C3) Mature students with alternative qualifications will be considered for admission by Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL).

Interview is required

Employment

You will be employed in a company relevant to your chosen profession to gain valuable experience over the duration of the course.

Further Study

The course will provide you with the opportunity to progress to HE programmes at university including BEng Hons in Mechanical Engineering, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, Mechatronic Engineering, Renewable Energy.

Your Future Career

The course will enable you to seek employment as Higher Engineering Technicians and Incorporated Engineers in the local engineering/ manufacturing industry.



Higher Level Apprenticeship (Level 4)

HNC Engineering (Electrical and Electronic Engineering)

Campus

Derry~Londonderry

Study Mode

Part-Time

Length of Study

3 Years

Awarding Body

Pearson BTEC

Course Contact

Course Coordinator

David McLoone

028 7127 6314

David.McLoone@nwrc.ac.uk

Skills Development Officer

higherlevelapprenticeships@nwrc.ac.uk

Progression



Course Overview

This course will enable students to gain an understanding of the fundamental electrical quantities and see how the modern electronic world functions. Undertaking an Engineering project in Year 2 helps consolidate all the knowledge a student has amassed during the course. The course is designed to prepare students for a range of technical and management careers in Electrical & Electronic engineering and will provide specialised studies which are directly relevant to individual vocations and professions in the workplace. The importance of engineering qualifications and training has been recognised by Government, and the Advanced Manufacturing Industry has been identified by the MATRIX Panel has a key area for economic growth.

Course Modules

- Engineering Mathematics
- Engineering Science
- Electrical and Electronic Principles
- Digital Principles
- Engineering Design
- Managing a Professional Engineering Project
- Electronic Circuits and Devices
- Programmable Logic Controllers

Entry Requirements

UK: 32 UCAS points at GCE A level with at least one pass in a related discipline, plus pass in GCSE mathematics (or equivalent) OR a BTEC level 3 qualification in an engineering discipline.

ROI: An Irish Leaving Certificate: equivalent to 32 UCAS points (to include mathematics at C3). Mature students with alternative qualifications will be considered for admission by Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL).

Interview is required

Employment

You will be employed in a company relevant to your chosen profession to gain valuable experience over the duration of the course.

Further Study

The course will provide you with the opportunity to progress to HE programmes at university including BEng Hons Electronic Engineering and BEng Hons Electrical & Electronic Engineering.

Your Future Career

The course will enable you to aspire to positions as Higher Engineering Technicians and Incorporated Engineers in the local engineering/ manufacturing industry.



Higher Level Apprenticeship (Level 4) Construction Management (Renewables)

Campus

Derry~Londonderry

Study Mode

Part-Time

Length of Study

2 Years

Awarding Body

Pearson BTEC

Course Contact

Course Coordinator

Michael Carr
028 7127 6352
Michael.carr@nwrc.ac.uk

Skills Development Officer

higherlevelapprenticeships@nwrc.ac.uk

Progression



Course Overview

This Level 4 HNC Higher Level Apprenticeship programme is designed to prepare apprentices for a range of technical and management careers within the Built Environment sector. Apprentices will be employed by a company within constructions industry and attend NWRC on day release one day per week to study for their HNC qualification over a 2 year period.

Course Modules

- Construction Technology
- The Construction Environment
- Construction Design Project
- Surveying, Measuring and Setting-out
- Digital applications for Construction
- Principles of Off- site Construction
- Principles of Alternative Energies
- Legal and Statutory Requirements in Construction
- Tender and Procurement

Entry Requirements

UK- 48 UCAS UCAS Tariff points at A Level together with a minimum of 5 passes at GCSE Grade C or above, which must include Maths and English Language or equivalent Level 2 qualification; OR National Diploma in a relevant area of study (including GCSE Grade C or above in Maths and English Language or equivalent Level 2 qualification; OR University approved equivalent). Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) may be considered or entry.

ROI- 48 UCAS Tariff points + 5 OLCs (Grade 04 or above) to include Maths and English; The College reserves the right to increase the entrance criteria, based upon demand. Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) may be considered for entry.

Employment

You will be in employed within a company relevant to your chosen careers to gain valuable industry experience. You can be an existing employee upskilling and moving to a new job role or a newly recruited employee taking up a permanent contract of employment.

Further Study

Students who complete the qualification will benefit from the opportunities for deeper learning and can develop the knowledge and academic study skills they need to progress to a Level 5 Higher National Diploma or to university degree course in a construction, renewable technologies, or a built environment related area.

Your Future Career

In developing the programme, the awarding body, Pearson BTEC have worked closely with the majority of the construction related professional bodies including the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), the Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists (CIAT), the Chartered Association of Building Engineers (CABE) and the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB).

By aligning the content and assessment activities to agreed professional body competency standards, students are supported to develop as professional practitioners for the future in a range of careers in construction and the built environment at technician level. This includes careers in the Modern Methods of Construction industry, architectural technology, construction management, and to some extent, civil engineering, building services engineering and quantity surveying. Employment could be with design consultants, contractors or with the public sector



Higher Level Apprenticeship (Level 5) Construction Management

Campus

Derry~Londonderry

Study Mode

Part-Time

Length of Study

3 years

Awarding Body

Pearson BTEC

Course Contact

Course Coordinator

Michael Carr
028 7127 6352
Michael.carr@nwrc.ac.uk

Skills Development Officer

higherlevelapprenticeships@nwrc.ac.uk

Progression



Course Overview

This Level 5 HND Higher Level Apprenticeship programme is designed to prepare apprentices for a range of technical and management careers within the Built Environment sector. Apprentices will be employed by a company within constructions industry and attend NWRC on day release one day per week to study for their HNC qualification over a 2 year period.

Course Modules

- Construction Technology
- The Construction Environment
- Digital Applications for Construction Information
- Surveying, Measuring and Setting out
- Principles of Alternative Energy
- Construction Design Project (Pearson-set)
- Tender & Procurement
- Advanced Construction Drawing & Detailing
- Construction Technology for Complex Building Projects
- Project Management
- Personal Professional Development
- Surveying for Conservation, Renovation & Refurb
- Contracts & Management
- Sustainable Methods of Construction
- Group Project (Pearson set)

Entry Requirements

UK- 48 UCAS UCAS Tariff points at A Level together with a minimum of 5 passes at GCSE Grade C or above, which must include Maths and English Language or equivalent Level 2 qualification; OR National Diploma in a relevant area of study (including GCSE Grade C or above in Maths and English Language or equivalent Level 2 qualification; OR University approved equivalent). Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) may be considered or entry.

ROI- 48 UCAS Tariff points + 5 OLCs (Grade 04 or above) to include Maths and English; The College reserves the right to increase the entrance criteria, based upon demand.

Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) may be considered for entry.

Employment

You will be in employed within a company relevant to your chosen careers to gain valuable industry experience. You can be an existing employee upskilling and moving to a new job role or a newly recruited employee taking up a permanent contract of employment.

Further Study

Students who complete the qualification will benefit from the opportunities for deeper learning and can develop the knowledge and academic study skills they need to progress to a University Degree course in a Construction, Renewable Technologies, or a Built Environment related area.

Your Future Career

In developing the programme, the awarding body, Pearson BTEC have worked closely with the majority of the construction related professional bodies including the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), the Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists (CIAT), the Chartered Association of Building Engineers (CABE) and the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB).

By aligning the content and assessment activities to agreed professional body competency standards, students are supported to develop as professional practitioners for the future in a range of careers in construction and the built environment at technician level. This includes careers in the Modern Methods of Construction industry, architectural technology, construction management, and to some extent, civil engineering, building services engineering and quantity surveying. Employment could be with design consultants, contractors or with the public sector



Course Symbol Key

Use the symbol key below to give you an overview of the entry requirements and opportunities provided as part of your course.

	Interview		Health Declaration
	Work Placement		APEL*
	Information Session		Associate Student Status
	AccessNI Check		

*Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL)

APEL is a process through which the learning you have gained from experience can be counted towards entry onto courses. For more information about the APEL process please visit nwrc.ac.uk/policies

*Associate Student Status

NWRC is a partner college of Ulster University, Queen's University and LYIT. When you study a relevant course validated by these Universities, you are officially an Associate Student of the respective organisation.



www.nwrc.ac.uk
028 7127 6000

DISCLAIMER

We make every reasonable effort to ensure that the information provided in this course guide is correct at the time of going to print. The College shall not be bound by any errors or omissions, and cannot accept liability in respect thereof.

Any subsequent changes will be published online. Please refer to www.nwrc.ac.uk for the latest information before you apply.

The College will make every effort to deliver in accordance with the descriptions set out in this course guide. However, the College is dependent upon public funds which have to be managed in a way which is efficient. The College therefore reserves the right to make variations to the content or methods of delivery of assessment of courses, to discontinue courses or to merge or combine courses, if such action is reasonably considered to be necessary in the context of its wider purpose. If the College discontinues any course, we will use reasonable endeavours to provide a suitable alternative.

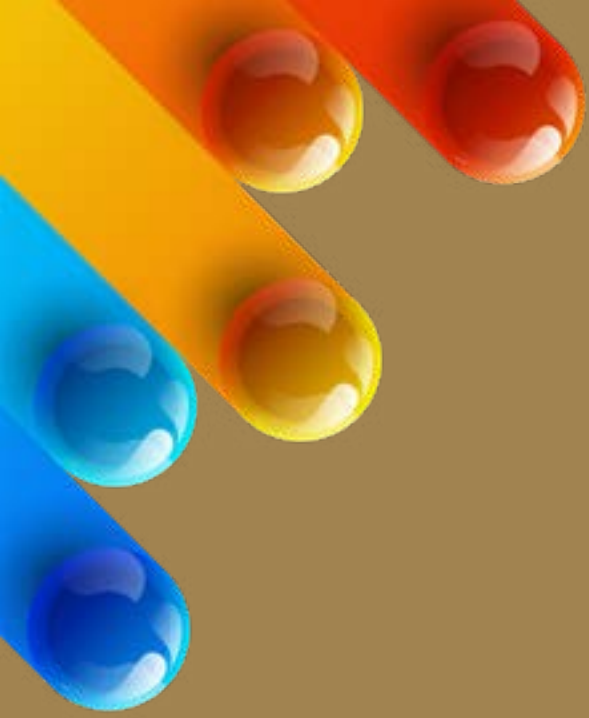
In the event of a pandemic, the College may have to implement restrictions in respect of your study or effect a temporary College closure. Please be assured, in such instances NWRC will follow government advice and will make appropriate reasonable adjustments to maintain the ongoing quality of teaching and support for all of our students. In line with the Consumer Rights Act 2015, you will be notified of any such changes, the reasons for the changes and any options available to you to avoid such changes having an adverse impact on your future career and financial prospects.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This course guide was designed, edited and produced by the NWRC Marketing and PR team.

We would like to thank all students and staff who helped with the production, especially those students who supplied testimonials and agreed to be profiled.





north west
regional college
Derry~Londonderry • Limavady • Strabane

How do I get involved in the Higher Level Apprenticeship programme?

Contact

North West Regional College
Derry~Londonderry

T: 028 7127 6234

E: higherlevelapprenticeships@nwrc.ac.uk

#employ**clever**



www.nwrc.ac.uk/hla



The Queen
Elizabeth Prizes
for Education

Winner 2025