



**FREE** travel to  
College, **FREE**  
equipment and  
**FREE** uniform  
(for all 16-18 year old  
full-time learners)



**dc** Derwentside  
College

# FULL TIME

## GUIDE 2025

# WELCOME

Derwentside College is committed to delivering top-quality education and training to all our learners. We are dedicated to supporting your success every step of the way.

With strong partnerships across hundreds of employers, we will help you secure high-quality employment or guide you towards further or higher education opportunities.

## THE RIGHT COURSE FOR YOU

It is essential you receive advice and guidance before selecting a programme that is right for you. We have ensured every course we offer has clear entry requirements with a selection of progression routes. We are here to help you make the right career choice.

### Entry Level

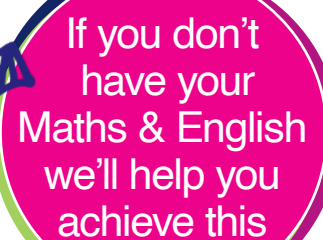
Entry level qualifications can help you boost your confidence, build new skills, increase your knowledge and progress to a Level 1 course. No qualifications are needed.

# E

### Level 1

To join a Level 1 course you will need GCSEs at Grades 2-1 or an entry level qualification. You can then progress to a Level 2 course in your chosen area of study.

# 1



If you don't have your Maths & English we'll help you achieve this

### Level 2

To join a Level 2 course you will need either a Level 1 qualification or Grade 3s at GCSE which includes English Language and Maths. You can then progress to a Level 3 course in your chosen area of study or an Apprenticeship or T Level.

# 2

### Level 3

To join a Level 3 course you will need a minimum of 4 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above, which includes English Language, Maths or a Level 2 qualification. You can then progress to University, to an Apprenticeship or employment.

# 3

### T Levels

To join a T Level course you will need a minimum of 4 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above, which includes English Language and Maths. T Levels provide skills to progress to your chosen career or University.

# T

# T LEVELS

## What are T-Levels?

T-levels are government-backed, career focused qualifications for learners aged 16-19.

## How long do they last?

T-Levels (like A-levels) take place over 2 years.

## What level are they?

They are Level 3 courses which follow on from your GCSEs. One T-Level is equivalent to 3 A-levels.

## How will my time be split?

You'll spend 80% of your time in the classroom and 20% on placement with one of our fantastic rated employers.

## How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed in a range of ways, including, written examination, employer set project, group work, observation, activity planners and professional discussions.

## What qualification will I gain?

You will gain a nationally recognised certificate showing your overall grade of pass, merit, distinction or distinction\*.

## What can I progress on to?

You can choose to move onto a:

- Skilled occupation
- Higher or Degree level apprenticeship
- Higher Education at University

### KEY BENEFITS...

#### T-levels are Career Focused

#### Enabling you to:

- Gain industry experience
- Get a nationally recognised qualification
- Earn UCAS points
- Get real knowledge of your chosen career
- Build vital skills, such as teamwork and communication for your future career

During the 2-year programme, you will develop the core knowledge and skills that are needed to enter your chosen occupation.

## We offer T-Levels in...

Digital Production & Design

Education and Early Years

Building Services for Construction (Electrical Installation)

Engineering Design & Development

Health



**T-LEVELS**  
THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

| T Level Grade | UCAS Points |
|---------------|-------------|
| Distinction * | 168         |
| Distinction   | 144         |
| Merit         | 120         |
| Pass          | 96          |



## FREE

You will receive FREE uniform for this course



## EXPERIENCE

You will work in our new salon - The Retreat and experience visiting high-end spas throughout the region

# BEAUTY THERAPY

These courses will prepare you for a career in the popular and highly demanding beauty therapy industry. Our courses will also develop your creativity and skills leading to a wide range of employment opportunities, for example in salons, health spas and on cruise liners.

## WHAT CAN I STUDY?

|                | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Beauty Therapy | ✓       | ✓       | ✓       |

## CAREERS IN BEAUTY THERAPY

- Aromatherapist
- Make-Up Artist/ Media Make-Up
- Reflexologist
- Beauty Therapist
- Nail Technician
- Spa or Salon Manager

Progress to higher education or work in your chosen career

Find out more about our courses







## FREE

You will receive  
FREE kit and  
FREE uniform



## EXPERIENCE

Gain experience in our  
newly renovated  
restaurant  
Steel House Bistro



# CATERING & HOSPITALITY

There are many occupations in the Catering and Hospitality industry. With demand for skilled chefs and hospitality specialists, studying catering and hospitality at Derwentside College will enable you to put your skills into practice, leading to many exciting employment opportunities.

## WHAT CAN I STUDY?

|                        | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 |
|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Catering & Hospitality | ✓       | ✓       | ✓       |

## CAREERS IN CATERING & HOSPITALITY

- Catering Manager
- Head Chef
- Sommelier
- Chef
- Hospitality Manager
- Sous Chef

Progress to higher education or work in your chosen career

Find out more  
about our courses





## FREE

You will receive  
FREE PPE  
for this course



## EXPERIENCE

Gain hands-on  
practical experience in  
a wide-range of trades

# CONSTRUCTION

If you're thinking about a career within the building industry and are keen to develop your skills in one of the related trades, there has never been a better time. Gain skills in Bricklaying, Carpentry and Joinery, Flooring, Groundworks, Highways or Roofing.

## WHAT CAN I STUDY?

|  | Level 1 | Level 2 | Apprenticeship<br>Level 2 |
|--|---------|---------|---------------------------|
| <b>Multi-Craft Construction</b>            | ✓       |         |                           |
| <b>Bricklaying/Carpentry &amp; Joinery</b> | ✓       | ✓       | ✓                         |
| <b>Groundworks/Roofing/Floorlaying</b>     |         |         | ✓                         |

## CAREERS IN CONSTRUCTION

- Bricklayer
- Carpet Fitter and Floor Layer
- Roofer
- Building Surveyor
- Construction Manager
- Wood Machinist

Progress to an apprenticeship, higher education or work in your chosen career

Find out more  
about our courses





## FREE

Free Travel for all 16-18 year old full time learners



## EXPERIENCE

Learn in our brand new digital facilities. Take part in technology focused trips



**A GREAT ALTERNATIVE TO A LEVELS**

# DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

The North East has the fastest growing Tech Industry outside of London. There are over 35,000 Digital Tech jobs and the sector has grown by 45% in the last 5 years. If you want to explore emerging technologies, develop software and web applications or investigate cybersecurity then these courses are for you.

## WHAT CAN I STUDY?

|                                       | Level 2 | T Level (Level 3) | Apprenticeship Level 2 | Apprenticeship Level 3 |
|---------------------------------------|---------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Digital Technology                    | ✓       |                   |                        |                        |
| Digital Production & Design           |         | ✓                 |                        |                        |
| Information, Communication Technician |         |                   |                        | ✓                      |

## CAREERS IN DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

- Computer Games Developer
- Forensic Computer Analyst
- Software Developer
- Cyber Intelligence Officer
- Network Engineer
- Web Developer

Find out more about our courses



Use the T Level to progress to a degree, apprenticeship or course of study at a higher level



**A GREAT  
ALTERNATIVE  
TO A LEVELS**



**FREE**

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16-18 year old  
full time learners



**EXPERIENCE**

Work placement  
opportunities  
(Help at our play group  
Little Learners)

# EDUCATION & CHILDCARE

If you are interested in working with children or young people then our courses will enable you to study a range of exciting topics. You will also have the opportunity to gain practical, hands-on experience in a wide range of childcare settings such as nurseries and schools.

## WHAT CAN I STUDY?

|                                  | Level 1 | Level 2 | T Level<br>Level 3 | Apprenticeship<br>Level 2 | Apprenticeship<br>Level 3 |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Childcare</b>                 | ✓       | ✓       |                    | ✓                         | ✓                         |
| <b>Teaching &amp; Learning</b>   |         |         |                    |                           | ✓                         |
| <b>Education and Early Years</b> |         |         | ✓                  |                           |                           |

## CAREERS IN EDUCATION & CHILDCARE

- Early Years Practitioner
- Learning Support Worker
- Teacher
- Learning Mentor
- SEN Teacher
- Teaching Assistant

Find out more  
about our courses



Use the T Level to progress to a degree, apprenticeship or course of study at a higher level





## FREE

You will receive  
FREE PPE  
for this course



## EXPERIENCE

Specialise in your chosen  
vocational area in the  
College's extensive  
workshops

**A GREAT  
ALTERNATIVE  
TO A LEVELS**



# ENGINEERING

Studying Engineering can lead to a variety of exciting careers, with both local and national organisations. Studying with Derwentside College will ensure that you train in excellent workshop facilities, with the most up-to-date equipment enabling you to specialise in your chosen discipline.

## WHAT CAN I STUDY?

|   | Level 1 | Level 2 | T Level<br>Level 3 | Apprenticeship<br>Level 2 | Apprenticeship<br>Level 3 |
|---|---------|---------|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Engineering</b>  |         | ✓       |                    | ✓                         | ✓                         |
| <b>Electrical Installation</b>                                      | ✓       | ✓       |                    |                           | ✓                         |
| <b>Building Services for Construction (Electrical Installation)</b> |         |         | ✓                  |                           |                           |
| <b>Engineering Design &amp; Development</b>                         |         |         | ✓                  |                           |                           |

## CAREERS IN ENGINEERING

- CAD Technician
- Electrical Engineer
- Mechanical Engineering Technician
- Civil Engineer
- Engineering Maintenance Technician
- Quantity Surveyor

Find out more  
about our courses



**Use the T Level to progress to a degree, apprenticeship or course of study at a higher level**



## FREE

You will receive FREE kit and FREE uniform for this course



## EXPERIENCE

You will work in our new salon - The Retreat

# HAIRDRESSING

If you are looking for a rewarding career, have an artistic flair and want to be part of a creative industry, then we will set you up to thrive in hairdressing. With the sector set to grow in future years, there has never been a better time to come and develop your skills.

## WHAT CAN I STUDY?

|                     | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 |
|---------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| <b>Hairdressing</b> | ✓       | ✓       | ✓       |

## CAREERS IN HAIRDRESSING

- Colourist
- Hairpiece Specialist
- Salon Owner
- Hairdresser
- Salon Manager
- Senior Hair Stylist

Find out more about our courses



Progress to higher education or work in your chosen career



## FREE

Free Travel for all  
16-18 year old  
full time learners



## EXPERIENCE

Industry placement  
opportunities with the NHS



**A GREAT  
ALTERNATIVE  
TO A LEVELS**

# HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

During your studies you will gain a broad understanding of numerous health and social care issues, such as promoting health and well-being and physical aspects of health. You will also be given the opportunity to work in a variety of care settings, gaining vital practical experience.

## WHAT CAN I STUDY?

|                                 | Level 1 | Level 2 | T Level<br>(Level 3) | Apprenticeship<br>Level 2 | Apprenticeship<br>Level 3 |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Health &amp; Social Care</b> | ✓       | ✓       |                      | ✓                         | ✓                         |
| <b>Health</b>                   |         |         | ✓                    |                           |                           |

## CAREERS IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

- Care Worker
- Midwife
- Paramedic
- Healthcare Assistant
- Nurse
- Social Worker

Find out more  
about our courses



Use the T Level to progress to a degree, apprenticeship or course of study at a higher level



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full time learners



**EXPERIENCE**

Participate in a wide  
range of enrichment  
activities and taster  
sessions

# VOCATIONAL STUDIES

The Vocational Studies programme is ideal for learners who may not yet feel ready for a full-time study path and would benefit from additional learning support. This course is designed to enhance your personal and social development, equipping you with the skills and confidence needed to progress into further study or employment.

Throughout your time at the college, you will be guided by a dedicated personal tutor with specialist expertise. They will provide individualised support, ensuring that every aspect of your learning is tailored to help you achieve your personal goals and future aspirations.

There are no formal qualifications required to join this course.  
The programme will be designed to meet your learning needs and ensure that you are able to achieve qualifications which will help you to progress.

## WHAT COULD I DO AFTER THIS COURSE?

You can progress to the Ace Programme or a Level 1 Study Programme such as:  
Beauty Therapy • Catering • Construction • Engineering • Hairdressing





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full time learners



## EXPERIENCE

Participate in a wide  
range of enrichment  
activities and taster  
sessions



# THE ACE PROGRAMME

The ACE (Aspirational, Careers, Employability) Programme, is a Level 1 full time study programme that gives you the vocational and study skills to enable you to progress to a Level 2 course, an apprenticeship or employment.

You will attend sessions in your chosen vocational areas to gain skills and knowledge of working and training in the relevant subject.

The ACE Programme will enable you to build a personalised learning package, using both your own goals and an assessment of your skills.

Learners will also attend weekly Maths and English sessions to GCSE or Functional skill level.

### Vocational areas include:

Beauty Therapy • Care • Catering • Childcare • Construction • Hairdressing • Digital Technology

## WHAT COULD I DO AFTER THIS COURSE?

This course will provide you with a broad range of knowledge, understanding and skills and open pathways to higher level courses within the College, various job roles or in preparation for an apprenticeship.

# APPRENTICESHIPS

Apprenticeships offer a unique blend of hands-on work experience and classroom learning, providing you with the opportunity to earn while you learn. Designed to develop both practical skills and theoretical knowledge, our apprenticeships prepare you for a successful career in your chosen industry. With strong employer partnerships and real-world training, you'll gain valuable industry insights and qualifications, all while progressing towards your professional goals. Whether you're looking to start a new career or advance in your current field, an apprenticeship is a great pathway to future success.

## We offer Apprenticeships in the following areas:

- Bricklaying
- Business Administration
- Carpentry and Joinery
- Childcare
- Construction
- Customer Service
- Digital
- Early Years Educator
- Electrical Installation
- Engineering
- Floorlayer
- Groundworker
- Health & Social Care
- Healthcare Support Services
- Highways Maintenance
- Manufacturing
- Roofing
- Teaching Assistant



**SCAN TO SEE  
OUR CURRENT  
APPRENTICESHIP  
VACANCIES**

**EARN  
WHILE  
YOU  
LEARN**





**Georgia Errington**  
Electrical Engineering Apprentice  
McVickers

I enrolled on a full-time course with Derwentside College, and within 2 months I was able to secure an apprenticeship with a local company, McVickers. Working within a 'male-orientated' role was a little daunting at first; however, everyone was so welcoming, and I am definitely one of the team. There are so many career opportunities for females in engineering. This apprenticeship will help me achieve my dream job working as an electrician!



**Mason Ambrosini**  
Construction Apprentice  
Wyn Construction

After finishing my GCSE's at Durham Johnston School, I began looking for a construction apprenticeship because it was something I had always wanted to do. I was lucky enough to be taken on by Wyn Construction. I consider myself extremely fortunate to work for such a wonderful company as Wyn; they truly care about their employees. I'm really enjoying my time on site; I'm constantly learning new skills, and I'm excited about my future career.

## WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY...



**Charlie Monaghan**  
Engineering Apprentice  
Thomas Swan

I enjoyed my time at school, but I wasn't sure what I wanted to do. A relative suggested the engineering programme at Derwentside College, and when I joined I found the welding pathway to be really enjoyable. I attended a Thomas Swan work trial and found it so interesting I asked if I could stay and learn more. I was thrilled when I received the offer of an apprenticeship, and I love my new position with this highly successful company.



**Reagan Webber**  
T Level Education & Childcare

After one year of A-Levels, I realised it wasn't for me; I wanted to change my direction, and the Early Years and Education T-Level was a great option. I am really enjoying my time on the course as I am gaining first-hand experience working with children. At college I am an active member of the 'Little Learners' playgroup. From my perspective, T-Levels are a solid foundation and a great pathway to get into my chosen career of teaching.



# FANTASTIC FACILITIES

We have been busy making the college an even better place to learn, with over £2.2 million investment in state-of-the-art facilities in engineering, digital, new labs, and ward facilities.



The Retreat , Hair Salon



The Retreat, Beauty Salon



Steel House Bistro



Little Learners Play Group



Electrical Skills Hub



Construction



The Refectory

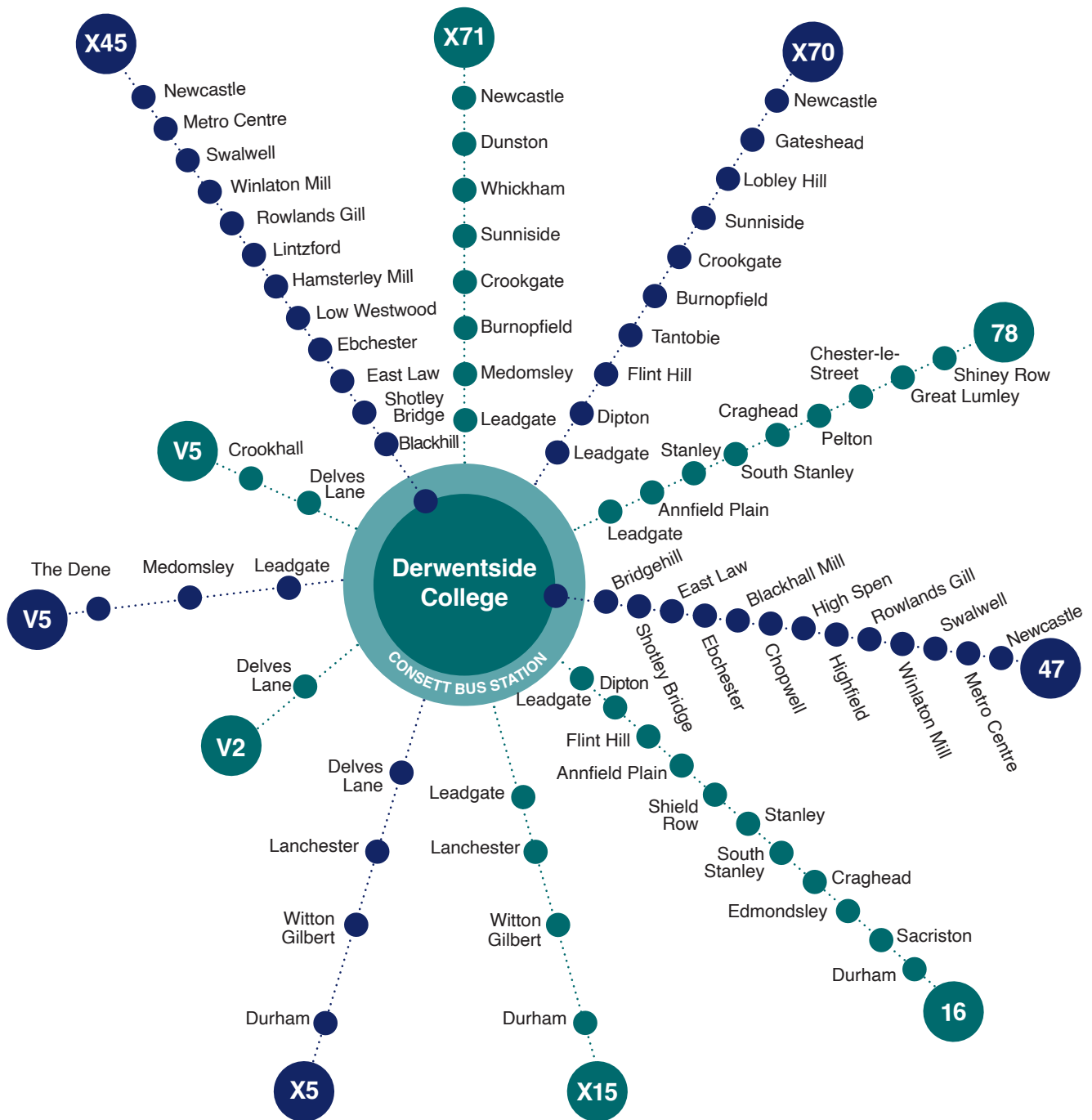


The Ward



# FREE TRAVEL

All full time 16-18 learners are eligible for **FREE travel** regardless of personal circumstances. 16-18 learners receive an annual ticket via the Go North East mobile app, allowing FREE travel to and from College during term time.



# STUDENT LIFE - ENRICHMENT

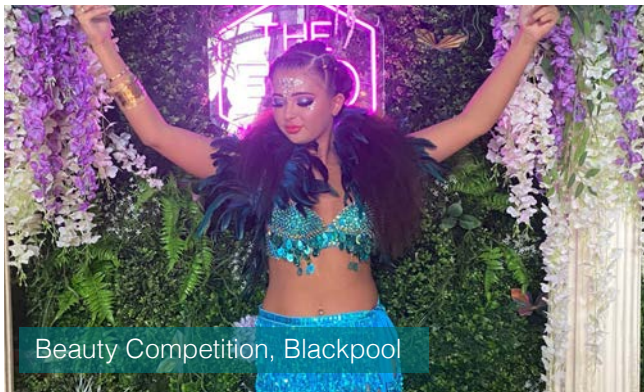
Learners will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of enrichment activities, such as trips, talks, talks by guest speakers, and inter college competitions. Get the most out of your time with us.



1950s Competition, Beamish Museum



1950s Competition, Beamish Museum



Beauty Competition, Blackpool



Inter College Roofing Competition



Inter College Welding Competition



Inter College Catering Competition



NHS T Level Visit



BBC Newcastle Visit

# FINANCIAL SUPPORT

All full-time 16-18 year old learners will receive:

**FREE** travel

**FREE** meals (for eligible learners)

**FREE** specialist equipment

**FREE** uniform

**FREE** childcare

and you could be entitled to a termly bursary too!



# LEARNER SUPPORT

College life encourages learners to become more independent and develop the personal organisational skills needed for everyday life. The transition from school to college can be a big step for some learners, but we are here to support you every step of the way.

Our expert tutors are dedicated to giving our learners the best possible start to their choice of career. Additionally, our **Learning Support Team** will make sure you receive all the help and guidance you need during your time with us. We also have a dedicated team of **Well-being Practitioners** who will help if you need to cope with personal, social or emotional difficulties.

# EXPERT CAREERS GUIDANCE

Derwentside College is dedicated to providing excellence in career guidance to all learners. The College has invested in an exciting new Careers Hub. This space is open for students and members of the community to drop in and speak to careers advisors, view our apprenticeship vacancies, and use the career exploration facilities to plan your career path. If you would like to book a careers appointment, please call **01207 585900** or email **enquiries@derwentside.ac.uk**



Follow Us...





# OPEN EVENTS

**Tuesday 29 April**  
**Thursday 19 June**

**Visit us to find out about our exciting  
range of Vocational Courses,  
T Levels and Apprenticeships**

**A great alternative to A Levels**

**Book your visit between 4pm-7pm**  
**[www.derwentside.ac.uk/events](http://www.derwentside.ac.uk/events)**  
**or call 01207 585900**

