

## **My Child's Future**

**Q - Which qualifications at school would help to get onto a hairdressing course.**

A - Criteria for each college will vary slightly so please check with the provider.

Generally 5 GCSE's (or equivalent) grade 4-9 including Maths & English are required.

However, some institutions would still accept if Maths & English not achieved, although further studying to GCSE are mandatory throughout the programme

However a level 4-9 in GCSE's would mean your child would not need to do functional skills alongside their hairdressing qualification. If they score lower than a 4 then they would need to sit additional classes in maths and English alongside the hairdressing qualification.

**Q What other experience could be gained whilst studying for a hairdressing qualification?**

While studying for a hairdressing qualification, your child will develop communication, teamwork, and organisational skills alongside developing numeracy, literacy, technological and interpersonal skills.

Studying hairdressing enhances life skills through building confidence, developing effective communication, understanding workplace health and safety requirements, and developing an understanding for the world of work.

**Q How can my child study to become a hairdresser in a college?**

They can either study full time at college or become an employed apprentice

**Q. Which college course should my child apply for?**

If your child chooses to attend college, they will need to be applying for a level 2 qualification, but the college can confirm this at interview.

**Q How long does college training last?**

Between 1-3 years, but each course generally runs for 1 academic year.

**Q What is an apprenticeship?**

An apprentice would be employed by a salon (paid a salary) and would work at the salon, gaining valuable real life work experience, whilst studying at college or training provider, to gain an accredited qualification (18-24 months)

20% of the working time must consist of training, (practical and theory). The remaining, 80% of their time, will be spent assisting in the salon and developing skills on clients (i.e. shampooing and reception).

An apprenticeship for a level 2 diploma can take between 18 months to 2 years to complete. The training finishes with an End Point Assessment (EPA). The EPA is done by an assessor from the Awarding Body spending a day with the student observing and questioning the student to ensure they are fully competent in the skills needed to work as a qualified hairdresser.

### **Q How old does my child need to become an apprentice hairdresser?**

A minimum of 16 years old

### **Q. Where and how does my child start to look for an apprenticeship?**

The easiest place to start your search for an apprenticeship is

[gov.uk/apprenticeships](https://www.gov.uk/apprenticeships)

Your child could contact local salons to ask if they have any vacancies.

### **Q. Who provides the training when my child is studying?**

If your child chooses a full-time college course, all the training will be provided there. If they choose an apprenticeship, they will spend 80% of their hours working in the salon with the other 20% spent training. This could be done either by your child attending a training centre each week or the salon or training provider visiting the salon to deliver the theory and practical training.

### **Q. What other training possibilities are involved with training to be a hairdresser?**

When training to be a hairdresser your child could follow a particular area of interest and specialise in that area, e.g. if colouring is their passion they could continue to study after their initial training to gain a qualification specialising in hair colour to become a colour technician.

### **Q. What are the salary ranges?**

Starting salary as an apprentice for 16-17 years of age is £4.15 per hour (2020-2021), 18- to 20-year-olds £6.56per hour.

Once qualified salons determine their own rates of pay, this could be set at the minimum wage with commission tiers attached.

Educator roles for product companies start from £22k  
A qualified hairdressing teacher could earn between £24,000 - £41,000

**Q - Why does my child have to study Maths & English?**

It is a Government requirement that all apprentices and students who do not achieve above a grade 4 GCSE in Maths & English must continue to study towards gaining these qualifications.

**Q - What happens if my child continues to study Maths and English. But at the end of their apprenticeship has not attained a grade 4 GCSE in Maths & English?**

**Q. Which career paths are available to my child?**

Once qualified, your child could progress onto further qualifications, including a level 3 qualification or specialist courses - such as barbering.

**Career paths include.**

- Working as an employed stylist/courist in a salon
- Being self-employed/freelance hairdresser
- Hair product companies require product designers
- Educator - promoting technical training and product knowledge
- Session stylist, i.e. fashion shows & photo shoots
- Teaching and training; State or private academies
- Owning or managing a salon
- Hairdressing on TV and film sets
- Working on board in cruise ship salons

**Further information can be accessed through.**

[National Careers Service  
gov.uk/apprenticeships](https://www.nationalcareersservice.gov.uk/apprenticeships)