



Fife College

SCHOOL  
COLLEGE  
PARTNERSHIP

# School College Partnership Guide 2024



## What is the School College Partnership?

There's no need to wait until you finish school to start thinking about what you want to do afterwards – you can get a head start on your future by studying one of our School College Partnership (SCP) courses as part of your school timetable.

Through our School College Partnership, we help bridge the gap between school and college/university or employment, working with industries and employers to develop relevant and meaningful courses to ensure you have the appropriate skills and qualifications that link to where we know demand for jobs will be in the local economy in the future.

All our courses are designed to help you develop skills needed for both Higher Education and employment, and help you become an independent, self-motivated and creative critical thinker. You could even get ahead of the game on your degree studies by completing the first year of a degree while you are still at school!

In many cases you can come to our campus and experience college life, learn new skills in our state-of-the-art facilities, and study in vocational areas – like hospitality, digital technologies, care, engineering, construction and loads more.

Your time at Fife College will encourage you to grow and develop confidence, initiative and independence that you can take forward into your life and future career.

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
Studying at Fife College while you're at school is a great way to gain qualifications and improve your job prospects.



## 8 Reasons to choose a School College Partnership course with Fife College

- 1 Learn the skills and gain the qualifications that employers really want and need
- 2 Pick up real-life work experience
- 3 Experience college life
- 4 Increase independence and self-motivation
- 5 Choose from an exciting range of subjects
- 6 Meet interesting people and make new friends
- 7 Take your first step to a degree
- 8 Learn in first-class facilities and real-life training environments



## Is it for me?

You can choose a School College Partnership programme while in S4, S5 or S6 and it will support you in studying qualifications at SCQF Levels 4 to 7 that complement the Curriculum for Excellence, whilst also studying your school subjects.

All our courses are designed to help you develop skills needed for both Higher Education and employment, and allow you to be an independent, self-motivated and creative critical thinker.

This means that you don't have to wait until you finish school to start thinking about what you want to do afterwards. You can start your pathway to a degree at school through Higher National Certificate (HNC) courses which are equivalent to year 1 of a university degree.

## How does it work?

Fife College programmes are delivered as part of your school timetable in school, college or a combination of both, ensuring that you have access to the best available resources to learn and achieve in your chosen subject.

Most young people travel independently to campus for their course. This helps you develop work-ready skills and supports your transition onto full-time education, training or work. Where transport is required, your school can provide any advice or support you may need.

All necessary equipment that you need for your course will be supplied including uniform and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

## What qualifications can I study?

You can study for a wide range of qualifications including:

-  Vocational qualifications including national units and college certificates
-  Foundation Apprenticeships
-  Highers
-  National Progression Awards
-  Higher National Certificates (HNCs)
-  Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs)
-  Industry-recognised qualifications



## What subjects can I study?

Within the School College Partnership Programme there are over 30 courses you can study across our four main areas.

### 1 Business, Enterprise and Tourism

Within this faculty, courses are available in the following subject areas: Culinary arts, tourism, events, hospitality, business, accounting, admin, IT and legal services

### 2 Care, Social Science and Education

Within this faculty, courses are available in the following subject areas: Childhood studies, health and social care, social sciences

### 3 Creative Industries

Within this faculty, courses are available in the following subject areas: Hair, beauty and make-up, visual arts, sports and fitness, media and performing arts, computing and digital technologies

### 4 Engineering, Science, Technology and Built Environment

Within this faculty, courses are available in the following subject areas: STEM, construction, built environment, science, mathematics, engineering

On our website you can find out which courses are offered through your school. Once you have chosen, you should note your interest with your School Guidance Teacher who will then liaise with the college.

Visit here: [fife.ac.uk/schools](http://fife.ac.uk/schools)

## What's a Foundation Apprenticeship?

A Foundation Apprenticeship (FA) is another option that could help you kick-start your career while still at school.

This innovative career pathway provides S4, S5 and S6 pupils with a winning combination of real-life work experience and learning the skills that employers are looking for.

These 1-year or 2-year practical courses lead to an industry-recognised qualification at SCQF Level 4, Level 5 or Level 6 (which is the same level of learning as a Higher) - all of which adds to your CV for future college and job applications.

There are 14 Foundation Apprenticeships available in partnership with Fife Council and Skills Development Scotland (SDS) and you can choose from a range of courses which provide a pathway to careers in sectors such as food and drink, creative and digital media, accountancy, engineering and business.

An FA is also a recognised entry requirement for a Modern Apprenticeship or degree level study, so it can help you progress on to a career or further study.

Visit here: [fife.ac.uk/foundation](http://fife.ac.uk/foundation)





“I am 18 years old, and I am a Modern Apprentice for Fife Council. I started a Foundation Apprenticeship in Accountancy with Fife College in August 2020 when I was in my fifth year at high school.

I completed the National Progression Award and a unit of AAT. I studied my way through the course and got plenty of support from my lecturer as they ensured I was getting my qualifications. This course also entailed work experience where I worked alongside an accountant from Fife Council.

Since completing my FA, I then decided to progress onto a Modern Apprenticeship at Fife Council. I do analytical work and studying more AAT units, I’ve completed my first exam and I’m currently working towards my second exam.

I enjoy doing a variety of work from team members as they help me with my core and professional skills.”

**- Mark Waddell**



**DID YOU KNOW?**  
You could study the first one or two years of your degree at Fife College before progressing to university to complete your degree.



## How can I progress to a degree at Fife College?

There are several different routes to getting a degree and it’s important that you choose the one that suits you and your learning style and future career goals best.

If you want to continue studying but have doubts about moving to university, the cost of living away from home, or committing to four years of continuous study, you can keep it local and study at Fife College.

Attending Fife College is the ideal starting point, and still gives the option of progressing to university to complete the rest of a degree.

Fife College offers defined routes to degree programmes in partnership with a wide range of universities. This is known as an ‘articulation route’ and is a pathway between a full-time HNC or HND and a degree course which has been formally agreed between the College and a university.

Where an articulation route is in place it means that you can get a direct entry onto a degree; HNC to year 2 or HND to year 3.

Unlike going straight to university, studying an HNC and/or HND at college means that after each year a recognised qualification is awarded, with each year potentially contributing towards a degree. Studying for an HNC/D at college provides more options than going straight to university. If a job opportunity comes along that is too good to pass up, you will have the qualifications you need to go for it already in the bag.

Some courses also offer the opportunity to do a work placement as a part of the qualification. What’s more, class sizes at college tend to be smaller and provide a bit more personal support, helping you to achieve your qualification and progress to your next step, whether that be further study or a job.

Fife College also offers some degree courses which are delivered entirely at college in partnership with Scottish universities.

## What happens after I complete an SCP course?

Our SCP courses, alongside your school qualifications, allow you to move on to further SCP courses and/or a full-time college course, a degree (with us or at university) an apprenticeship or into employment.

Working with our partners, we aim to ensure that if you join our School College Partnership programme you will have access to educational experiences that are work-relevant and support continuous skills development.

The course content raises awareness of the industries and the skills and knowledge necessary to appropriately equip you for the school to work transition.

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
We have experienced staff available on all campuses who can help you on your journey from school to college and beyond.



# SCQF Table

Like all Scottish universities and colleges we use the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) to describe our courses. It shows you where you are currently and what steps you can take to get to where you want to be.

SCQF Level	SQA Qualification		Qualifications of Higher Education Institutions	Apprenticeships/ SVQs
12			Doctoral Degree	Professional Apprenticeship
11			Masters Degree, Integrated Masters Degree, Post Graduate Diploma, Post Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship SVQ
10			Honours Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship
9			Professional Development Award	Bachelors / Ordinary Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate
8		Higher National Diploma	Diploma of Higher Education	Higher Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
7	Advanced Higher Scottish Baccalaureate	Higher National Certificate	Certificate of Higher Education	Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
6	Higher	National Certificate Advanced Certificate		Foundation Apprenticeship Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
5	National 5 Intermediate 2	National Certificate Intermediate Certificate		Foundation Apprenticeship Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
4	National 4 Intermediate 1	National Certificate Certificate	National Progression Award	Foundation Apprenticeship SVQ
3	National 3 Access 3			
2	National 2 Access 2			
1	National 1 Access 1			

For more information visit [scqf.org.uk](http://scqf.org.uk)

## Meet the School College Partnership team



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**How do I find out more?**  
Visit our website and click on your school to find information on the courses available, and for an outline of the course content. You can also contact the School College Partnership team – [scp@fife.ac.uk](mailto:scp@fife.ac.uk)



For more information  
Call: 0344 248 0115  
Email: [scp@fife.ac.uk](mailto:scp@fife.ac.uk)  
Visit: [fife.ac.uk/schools](http://fife.ac.uk/schools)  
Scan: QR code



The information published in this guide was correct at the time of print. For the most up-to-date information, you should always check our website.

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