

What does this mean for me?

Potentially, a college course in construction, or engineering could offer experience in the broad areas of manufacturing, construction, etc. Similarly, one of the biggest employers is the health sector. A course in Human Body Structure could help young people to gain the experience necessary to work in this broad area of employment.

School's Vocational Programme

West College Scotland has used the results of this survey, alongside additional research, to shape the courses provided in 2015-16.

The courses offered by West College Scotland are ideal if learners wish to explore subjects and possible career choices which may not be on offer at school. West College Scotland courses are designed to give a whole new learning experience which is different from school. The courses aim to help develop new skills which are relevant to future employment in the wider world and to provide opportunities to progress to further education or higher education and employment.

What courses are on offer?

- Childcare
- Higher Psychology
- Construction Crafts
- Car Mechanics
- HNC Engineering Systems
- Interior Architecture
- Computer Games
- Hairdressing
- Beauty Therapy
- Higher Dance
- Higher Photography
- HNC Hospitality
- NPA Professional Cookery
- Preparing and Presenting a Business Plan
- Chartered Management Institution Introduction to Management
- Higher Leadership: An Introduction
- Human Body Structure and Function

Overall, we hope you will be pleased with the courses now on offer. They have been planned to best serve the interests of learners, their families, our local community, and our economy—ensuring that we can provide the most rewarding education for S5/S6 learners, both in terms of interest and employment.

Want more information?

For more information about courses available to you in West College Scotland, please contact:

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West College Scotland and Renfrewshire Council have a well established and effective partnership which helps provide young people with a well structured route into further education and employment.

We would like to thank staff at West College Scotland for their involvement in this consultation. We have been delighted to work together on this project, which stands as a successful example of what can be achieved through such partnership working. We will continue to develop this partnership in coming years.



Next steps

A consultation on
further education
by Renfrewshire Council
and West College Scotland

In January, West College Scotland and Renfrewshire Council asked parents and learners in S3 to S5 for their views on the Renfrewshire Senior Phase school/college vocational programme. The results are being used to help plan the curriculum for 2015-16 and beyond. Here they are.

Thank you to the 861 people who responded to our survey.

Who took part?

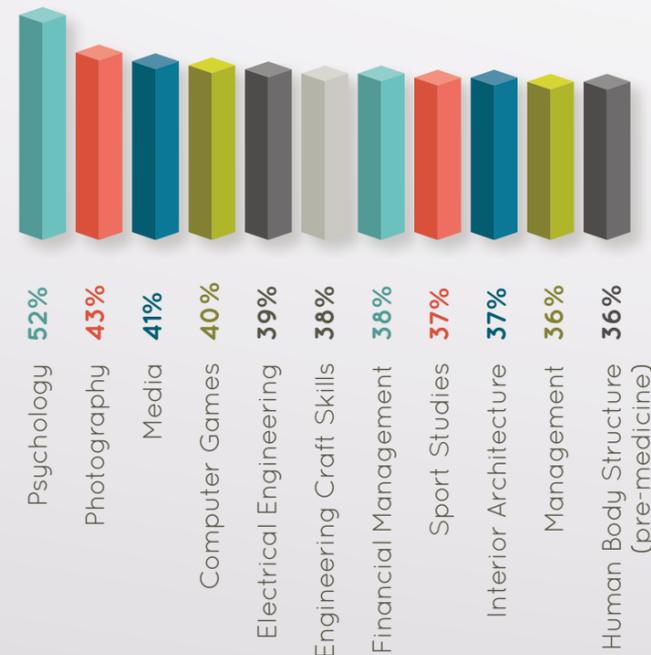
Learners, parents, carers and guardians from across Renfrewshire gave their views on future college opportunities. The responses were almost evenly split between learners (55%) and parents/guardians or carers (45%) and between male (48%) and female (52%) respondents.

Which year groups responded to the survey?



What are you interested in?

Of all the potential courses that West College Scotland offers, you said the most appealing courses are:



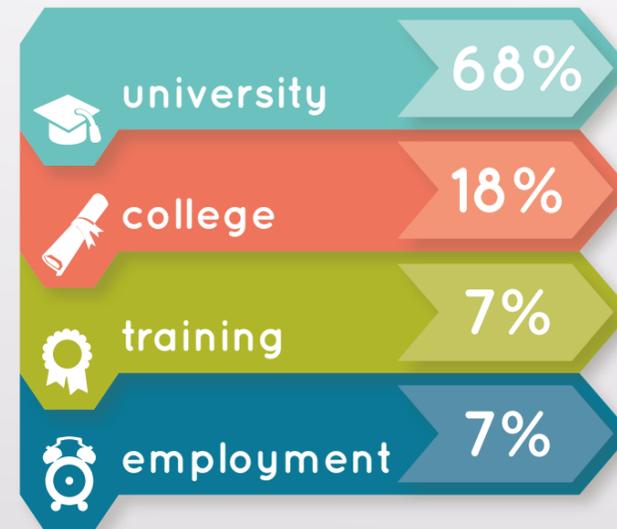
Which level of study would be most appropriate?

You said that Higher, National 5 and HNC would be the most appropriate levels of study.

Labour Market Information

Ok, so you've told us which courses you're interested in, but what's out there after school? Our survey tells us that a lot of learners (68%) will look towards attending university, or plan to undertake a college course (18%). Other learners however, will be focused on seeking training opportunities (7%) or employment (7%).

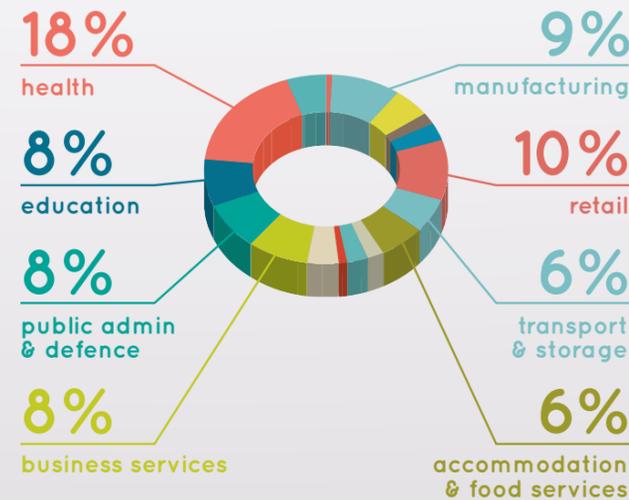
What's out there after school?



So what does the labour market tell us about the jobs that are available after school?

Taking everyone's views into account is a high priority. However, we are also aware that there are fewer jobs available in some fields compared to others. So we need to consider the local and national picture.

The table opposite looks at job opportunities across Renfrewshire and the neighbouring authorities, and compares these to the rest of Scotland. As we can see, there are opportunities in a variety of areas such as: health, retail, manufacturing, education, defence, transport, etc. These are the areas where jobs currently exist across Renfrewshire, West Dunbartonshire, Inverclyde, and East Renfrewshire. However, these patterns also reflect job opportunities across Scotland.



Employment by broad industry sector 2012 (SDS, Regional Skills Assessment. West Region, Nov 2014)

Industry Sector	West Region		Scotland	
	Total	%	Total	%
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	-	-	82,400	3%
Mining, quarrying & utilities	800	1%	64,800	3%
Manufacturing	12,600	9%	183,400	8%
Construction	7,400	5%	125,000	5%
Motor trades	3,000	2%	39,800	2%
Wholesale	4,200	3%	73,600	3%
Retail	15,300	10%	240,900	10%
Transport & storage	8,100	6%	96,300	4%
Accommodation & food services	8,500	6%	167,100	7%
Information & communication	3,600	2%	58,100	2%
Financial services	3,900	3%	91,300	4%
Property	1,800	1%	33,300	1%
Professional, scientific & technical	6,300	4%	172,500	7%
Business services	12,300	8%	182,700	8%
Public admin & defence	11,700	8%	145,500	6%
Education	12,200	8%	179,700	7%
Health	26,600	18%	376,200	16%
Arts, entertainment & other services	7,800	5%	113,200	5%
Total	146,400	100%	2,425,900	100%

(Source Skills Development Scotland, Regional Skills Assessment, West Region, Nov 2014)