

What is an Occupational Certificate?

The Occupational Certificate is a two year qualification, for students who after their GCSEs, are clear about the type of work they want to move into and need job-focused preparation.

Occupational Certificates provide students with practical, job-focused learning that builds the skills and knowledge needed for specific roles, aligned to employer standards.

Occupational Certificates will be available from 2027.

What can you do with an Occupational Certificate?

After studying an Occupational Certificate, a student could progress into related skilled work or an apprenticeship.

AVAILABLE
FROM
AUGUST
2027



Guide to the Occupational Certificate

SUBJECTS AVAILABLE IN 2027:

Early Years Practitioner
Culinary Skills
Hospitality

The Occupational Certificate prepares students for specific careers, offering job-focused training and a clear route into skilled work or apprenticeships.

What do Occupational Certificates offer?

- **Designed for real jobs and practical skills:** Occupational Certificates focus on the knowledge and hands-on skills needed for specific roles, with content aligned to employer-defined occupational standards.
- **A clear route into employment or apprenticeships:** these qualifications prepare students for skilled work or progression into apprenticeships, giving them the experience and confidence to enter the workplace.
- **In-depth learning over two years:** studied as part of a two-year programme, they allow students time to build technical skills, alongside English, maths, wider employability and personal development.



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**OCCUPATIONAL
CERTIFICATES**