

Hairdressing

Curriculum Intent

At Carnforth High School we recognise the need to offer vocational courses as an alternative to the purely academic pathway. Hairdressing and beauty therapy has been and remains an extremely popular vocational area that many young people are enthused by and aspire to.

The VTCT Level 1/2 Technical Award in the Study of Hair and Beauty is a Technical Award that has been designed to use the context of hairdressing and beauty therapy as a vehicle to support learners to develop broad and comprehensive understanding of the sector and related industries but, more importantly, of core academic knowledge and study skills that will support progression into post-16 and higher education. It is a vocational qualification equivalent to GCSE grades 9-1. The content of the qualification is designed to engage learners through the context of hair and beauty due to its popularity and aspirational career pathways.

As a department we provide access to a wide range of resources and equipment all within an industry standard working environment. Our aim is to equip students with vocational skills and underpinning knowledge within a vocationally relevant qualification, for the next stage in their education or future careers.

Learners will also develop a range of transferable skills including: Critical thinking and being reflective on self-performance and work produced, use of initiative, planning and researching skills, self-management, self-motivation and the ability to work independently, innovation and creativity, application of knowledge and understanding to real life examples and businesses, problem solving and communication skills - verbal, written and visual.

Implementation

Key Stage 4

Year 10 Throughout Year 10 learners will cover all the qualification criteria across the three mandatory units which are as follows;

UCO90 – Business and entrepreneurship in the hair and beauty sector.

This unit will enable learners to develop knowledge and understanding of business principles, types of businesses, marketing and entrepreneurship and different business opportunities within the hair and beauty sector.

UCO91 – Anatomy, physiology and cosmetic science

This unit will enable learners to develop knowledge and understanding of cosmetic chemistry, the role of the integumentary system and the development of hair and beauty products.

UCO92 – Design in the hair and beauty sector

This unit will enable learners to develop knowledge and understanding of the purpose, principles and development of design briefs for the hair and beauty sector, including how to present and communicate design brief ideas and concepts to a range of audiences and develop analytical, reflective and evaluative skills.

Due to synoptic assessment being at the heart of this qualifications assessment strategy, the assessment components will be undertaken towards the end of the qualification after the delivery of the knowledge and skills from within the unit content. However, across year 10 a range of formative and summative assessment will take place including mock exams.

Year 11 Within the second year of delivery of the VTCT Technical Award in the study of hair and beauty, students will complete the externally set synoptic assignment which will be launched in December and submitted in the April of the same academic year. This externally set synoptic assessment will cover criteria from all three mandatory units and students will be given approximately 20 hours to complete



this task. This assignment accounts towards 60% of the overall qualification grade.

In the May of Year 11 students will sit an external exam which contributes towards the remaining 40% of the overall qualification grade.

This external exam will cover criteria from units UC090 and UC091. The exam will be approximately 80 marks and will take 2 hours to complete. Students will get 2 opportunities to sit this exam, however, it will be the grade from the final sitting of the exam that will count towards students' overall grade.

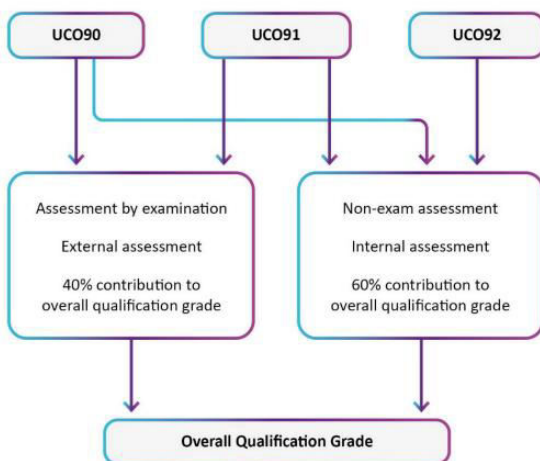
2 Mock assessments will be conducted to prepare learners for this exam.

Impact

KS4

Assessment

The overall qualification grade is calculated using a rigorous synoptic assessment method. This consists of an externally set and marked assessment by examination (external written exam) and an externally set, internally marked non-exam assessment (synoptic assignment). The assessment method will assist learners to make connections between the units, increase the level of learner engagement and provide teaching staff the opportunity to adopt a holistic approach to delivering the units.



Assessment by examination

A written theory exam, externally set and externally marked by VTCT, will contribute 40% to the overall qualification grade and will be undertaken by learners simultaneously. The assessment by examination will assess the knowledge and understanding from the unit content and provide appropriate stretch and challenge.

Terminal assessment

The assessment by examination must be taken at the end of the learner's programme and in the assessment series when the learner will be certificated.

Non-exam assessment

The synoptic assignment brief, externally set, internally marked and externally moderated by VTCT, will contribute 60% to the overall qualification grade. The synoptic assignment brief will be undertaken independently by learners in controlled assessment conditions. The non-exam assessment will provide valuable evidence of the attainment of knowledge and understanding by the learners.

Practice written tasks and internal exam questions will be set at various points in order to prepare learners for different components/ units of the course and to enable them to apply the knowledge and skills learned. Written feedback will be provided to learners with strengths and areas to improve identified in order to allow them to make further progress.

VTCT Level 1/2 Technical Award	Weighting	Assessment	When
Assessment by examination (external written exam)	40%	Externally set and externally marked	Feb 2025 (winter series)



		online exam	
Non-exam assessment (synoptic assignment)	60%	Externally set, internally marked, externally moderated synoptic assignment	May 2025 (Summer series)

Department

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