

What is Hairdressing?

Hairdressing involves the cutting and styling of men and women's hair. It will include: shampooing, Blow drying, colouring, perming and straightening.

What qualities will I need?

Hairdressers are on their feet all day and you will need the stamina for this. They also deal with many chemicals and substances that may cause an allergic reaction. Anyone with a skin complaint would need to speak to a GP before enrolling (The allergies are from colouring to which the learners always wear gloves when applying and rinsing off and contact dermatitis which is caused when you shampoo and do not dry hands thoroughly. If anyone has asthma face masks will be offered when mixing colours. Hairdressing is a very personal service and you must be able to talk with all types and ages of people. Hairdressers are not shy people.

What will I need to wear?

You will need to look smart but not dress in clothes that will stop you from getting 'stuck into the work'. Many salons and trainers have a uniform policy that gives the customers confidence in the staff but allows them to work in comfort, this is usually closed in shoes, black and white clothing or uniform provided. If there is a policy you must follow it.

What range of courses are available?

Through the PLT there is a wide range of hairdressing courses depending upon your achievements when you start the course. There are:

Entry Level courses for those with few GCSE passes and need to develop basic skills.

Level 1 courses to qualify you to do a basic job but may lead to an apprenticeship. There is also an annual hair show/competition as this is one of the units towards the qualification.

Level 2 courses qualify you to do a skilled job once you have had a little more experience. You will need to have completed Level 1 and impress at interview to be accepted on to this level course. There are multiple choice exams which are computer based and you will need Level 2 communication skills to cope with this. There is also an annual hair show/competition as this is one of the units towards the qualification.

What opportunities will this course open for me?

Most Hairdressing students will progress on to an apprenticeship or work with a salon that will offer further training. Some with Level 2 will find work in salons in a junior position until they have gained experience.