

What is plumbing?

Plumbers fit and maintain the pipes and equipment that supply our water tanks and central heating systems. They repair leaks and sometimes work outside the usual working day to carry out emergency repairs.

What qualities will I need?

Essentially you will need to develop good accurate skills in measuring, cutting and joining plastic and copper pipes. You will need to be able to make waterproof joints and diagnose faults in pumps and heaters. You will need to know how and when to fit replacements. There will be many calculations involved and good mathematical ability is essential. Working in sometimes very confined spaces is something you will need to be able to cope with.

What will I need to wear?

You will need to wear overalls and at times, safety boots and hats.

What range of courses are available?

Plumbing is a highly skilled occupation and you will eventually need a Level 3 qualification. Through the TVC you can access a Level 2 Course that will enable you progress to Level 3 opportunities. This is most likely to be through an apprenticeship but it may be through a course at a College of Further Education. You will need to have completed Level 1 course in plumbing or engineering to be accepted on to this Level 2 course.

What opportunities will this course open for me?

Plumbing students will progress on to an apprenticeship or work with a company that will offer further training. It must be stressed that is very difficult to progress into plumbing without training to Level 3. You will need to find an apprenticeship or continue into full time Further Education to achieve this.