

# PETROC NEWS LETTER

November 2023



## TEAM INTRODUCTION

Petroc's School Liaison Team provides information, advice and guidance to pupils currently in secondary school and those who are home-schooled. We can answer questions on all aspects of college life, including courses and study programmes, applying for college, transport, funding and course progression.

Choosing a college course and starting your first year at college is a big step. There are now so many options and different ways of studying that it can be hard to decide which is the right course for you. But don't worry, our trained team can help guide you through your options, apply for college, and give you all the information you need as you prepare to start your college course.

Meet the team - Cirby, Heather and Nikki.



## PLEASED TO MEET YOU

Our team has enjoyed meeting students since the start of term for assemblies, careers events and also at our college open events. We look forward to seeing you again soon and working with you to help you make the right choices for your future.

## SPOTLIGHT ON APPLYING

### Applications are now open for courses starting in September 2024

With a wide range of courses at all levels and for all industries, we are here to help you make the right decision for you.

#### Remember:

- Try to apply by Christmas
- You can apply for more than one course if you are undecided to keep your options open
- You can apply for a number of different colleges
- If you are interested in an apprenticeship and do not have an employer, please contact us to register for our Apprenticeship Talentpool
- If you apply for a course and then change your mind - don't worry, just contact us and we can amend your application.

Applications can be made online at [petroc.ac.uk](https://petroc.ac.uk) by selecting your study programme or course(s) and adding them to your course 'shopping basket'.



## OVERVIEW OF POSSIBLE ROUTES

If you are aged 16-18, there are lots of options for you to choose from, which can sometimes feel a little overwhelming! Here is an outline of the four main paths available to you:

**A Level:** A Levels are a Level 3 programme and are suitable if you enjoy a more academic style of learning and are considering going on to university. You can choose three subject areas which you will study over two years and be assessed by end-of-year exams.

**Vocational:** Vocational programmes are available at Levels 1, 2 or 3 and blend practical learning and classroom-based teaching. You will also be expected to carry out work experience or industrial placements.

**Apprenticeships:** Apprenticeships are a great way to earn while you learn by receiving a salary whilst also studying at college. An apprenticeship is a genuine job with an accompanying skills and knowledge development programme with 80% of your time on work placement and 20% at college. It gives you the perfect combination of hands-on experience whilst understanding behaviours expected at work.

**T Level:** T Levels are two-year qualifications that are suitable if you want a more practical, employer-led study programme. They offer a mixture of classroom learning and an industry placement of at least 315 hours. You will spend approximately 80% of your time on college-based learning and 20% of your time on work placement.

## COMING UP



Our next open event takes place on Saturday 25 November so come along and visit our amazing facilities and meet our teaching staff. If you are unable to make our open event and would prefer a private tour of our campus, please get in touch to arrange a date and time that works best for you.

Best wishes

Heather, Nikki and Cirby.

School Liaison

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