

Higher National Certificate qualification in Sustainable Business (HTQ)

Course Overview

The level 4 and 5 units lay the foundations of learning. They provide a broad introduction to sustainability and various business functions. You will build core skills which will help you prepare for level 5 study or jobs that need some personal responsibility. Students will gain a wide range of knowledge in sustainable business management. They will also gain skills through research, independent study, and workplace scenarios. Students take part in vocational activities. They help them develop vocational behaviours and transferable skills. Vocational behaviours are the attitudes and approaches needed for competence. Transferable skills include communication, teamwork, and research. They hold significant value in education and the workplace.

What you will learn

By the end of level 4, you will know the basics of sustainable business management. You will develop skills in sustainability business management. This includes both general and specific areas. After the one-year HNC course, you can progress to a level 5 HND in Sustainable Business. It will give you more advanced knowledge and employability skills. Completion of the Level 4 and Level 5 units gives students the opportunity to gain knowledge, skills and behaviours aligned to the occupational standard (OS) for Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability Practitioner Level 4. The units will prepare students to enter employment with the qualities and abilities necessary for roles that require a practitioner with a social conscience to to drive social and environmental change, for example:

- corporate social responsibility officer
- environmental social governance officer
- responsible business officer

The units also prepare students to progress to Level 6 higher education study, including higher apprenticeships and professional body qualifications. Students will be able to develop and apply their own ideas to their studies, deal with uncertainty and complexity, explore solutions, demonstrate critical evaluation and use both theory and practice in a wide range of sustainable business management situations. By the end of Level 5, students will have a sound understanding of the principles of sustainable business management and will know how to apply those principles more widely in the business world.

Entry Requirements

Standard entry to this course requires references, and four GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English and maths (or level 2 Functional Skills). A minimum of grade 4/5 for maths would be an advantage due to course content. Consideration will be given to all applicants for 19 who hold equivalent English and maths qualifications. Due to the nature of this programme, you may be invited to attend an interview. Where necessary other means of an interview (i.e. telephone, web-based) can be arranged.

Course Fees

0.00

Course Progression

As a successful graduate from this programme, you can then progress from year one (HNC) to year two (HND) (HTQ). Many of our students choose to go straight into employment and have successfully gained roles in management, especially in business, marketing, events management, supervisory, team leader or deputy roles. Our independent careers advisors are available on campus and can give you information, advice and guidance on your next steps.

What Happens Next

Applications to our full-time undergraduate courses must be made through UCAS and apply for a student loan. After completing year one, You can continue the study with us on a level 5 higher technical qualification. This course will give you further insight and knowledge on business-related topics that can then be further pursued at either university or within the world of work. Alternatively, you may decide to pursue an apprenticeship or employment.

Course Details

Course Code	P00702
Start Date	29/09/2026
Study Hours	Full time, full year
Duration	30
Campus	Abbey Park Campus
Level	4

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