



# **Access 2 Practical Craft Skills — draft Course rationale and summary**

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# Course rationale

## Background

All new and revised National Courses reflect Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles. They offer flexibility, provide more time for learning, more focus on skills and applying learning, and scope for personalisation and choice.

In this Course, and its component Units, there will be an emphasis on skills development and the application of those skills. Assessment approaches will be proportionate, fit for purpose and will promote best practice, enabling learners to achieve the highest standards they can.

This Course provides learners with opportunities to continue to acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities as well as skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

All Courses provide opportunities for learners to develop breadth, challenge and application, but the focus and balance of the assessment will be appropriate for the subject area.

## **Relationship between the Course and Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles**

This Course sits within the technologies curriculum area<sup>1</sup>. This relates particularly to contexts that provide learners with opportunities for developing technological skills, knowledge and understanding, and attributes which can be applied to everyday life. The Course is largely workshop-based and provides a broad introduction to practical craft skills, which can include working with wood, metal, plastics, glass and textiles.

The Course provides opportunities for learners to develop practical skills in using a range of tools, equipment and materials in a workshop context, and to apply knowledge, understanding and skills to a range of practical tasks. Learners will develop skills in working with drawings and diagrams, measuring and marking out, as well as cutting, shaping and finishing materials to produce items to a given standard and to a set pattern. They will also learn how to work effectively and safely alongside others in a shared workshop environment and appreciate the importance of using materials efficiently.

This Course also allows learners to develop other skills, attributes and capabilities, including perseverance and resilience.

Course activities also provide opportunities for learners to enhance generic and transferable skills in working independently, in teams, and communicating, all in a workshop context. They will find that the skills they acquire by successfully completing this Course will be invaluable for learning, for life and for work.

This Course provides skills that are complementary for learners in other curriculum areas, such as mathematics, science and IT, and also provides progression from experiences and outcomes in the expressive arts and craft.

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<sup>1</sup> Technologies:

<http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/learningteachingandassessment/curriculumareas/technologies/principlesandpractice/index.asp>

## **Purpose and aims of the Course**

The Course provides an introduction to the correct techniques and practices associated with making items from a range of common materials (which can include wood, metal, plastics, glass, and textiles). Learners will follow a series of activities to achieve the completion of a finished item to given standards and to a set pattern.

The aims of the Course are to enable learners to:

- ◆ identify and use a range of tools and equipment safely and correctly in a workshop
- ◆ select and use a range of materials safely and correctly
- ◆ apply knowledge and skills to produce craftwork items
- ◆ use media and technology as part of the production process

Course activities also provide opportunities for learners to develop generic and transferable skills in: appreciating safe work practices; problem solving; collaborating and interacting with others; working independently; decision making; and effective communication.

The design of the Course will help learners experience the links between ideas, use of tools, equipment, materials, media and technology and the craftwork items produced. The Course will also help learners to develop important skills, attitudes and attributes that are transferable to other contexts.

## **Information about typical learners who might do the Course**

This Course is suitable for all learners with an interest in making craftwork items and developing practical skills for use in day-to-day living, with an awareness of health and safety issues. It is suitable for learners with a general interest in working with common materials (which can include wood, metal, plastics, glass, and textiles) in a workshop environment and for those wanting to progress to higher levels of study.

The Course may also be suitable for those wishing to study craft skills for the first time.

The practical crafts offered by centres can include woodworking, metalworking, working with plastics, working with glass and working with textiles. Centres can offer learners one of the practical crafts as the focus for the development of their practical skills. Alternatively, centres can allow learners to develop experience in a range of practical crafts. Either approach will allow learners to fulfil the aims of the Course.

Learners may want to focus on one particular craft due to local resources or expertise. Alternatively, they may want to develop a broader range of craft skills.

*successful learner, confident individual, responsible citizen, effective contributor*

This allows scope for personalisation and choice within the Course for each learner.

The Course takes account of the needs of all learners by providing sufficient flexibility to enable learners to achieve in different ways and at a different pace.

On completing the Course, learners will have followed a series of practical activities and achieved the completion of a finished item to given standards and to a set pattern, using tools, equipment and materials safely and correctly.

On successful completion of this Course, the learner could progress to:

- ◆ other Units, Awards and Courses at Access 2
- ◆ Access 3 Design and Technology Course
- ◆ Access 3 Fashion and Textile Technology Course
- ◆ Access 3 Practical Craft Skills Course

# Course summary

**Course title: Access 2 Practical Craft Skills**

**SCQF level 2 (18 SCQF credit points)**

## Course outline

### Mandatory Units

Working with Craft Tools: An Introduction (Access 2) (6 SCQF credit points)

Working with Materials (Access 2) (6 SCQF credit points)

Making a Craft Item (Access 2) (6 SCQF credit points)

## Course structure and conditions of award

This Course consists of three mandatory Units. The Units provide both breadth and depth and, through their open context for learning, offer opportunities for personalisation and choice. Learners will focus on practical crafts techniques and standard practices to develop a range of practical skills, and will be provided with opportunities to explore, develop and practice these skills in different contexts.

The structure of the Course allows learners to cover fundamental practical craft skills in a progressive fashion. Each Unit covers a set of craft skills and together they provide an introduction to the main stages of any practical crafts activity.

In each of the Units, learners will develop an appreciation of safe working practices in a workshop environment. They will also gain an awareness of good practice in the efficient use of tools and materials in a practical crafts context and appreciate the importance of using materials efficiently.

The Course enables learners to develop skills in: using a range of tools, equipment and materials safely and correctly in a workshop environment; applying knowledge and skills to produce craftwork items; and using media and technology as part of the production process.

Units are statements of standards for assessment and not programmes of learning and teaching. They can be delivered in a variety of ways.

Units can be taught sequentially or in parallel to each other. However, learning and teaching approaches should provide opportunities to integrate skills where possible.

### **Working with Craft Tools: An Introduction (Access 2)**

The aim of this Unit is to develop learners' knowledge of the range of tools available and their uses in working with common materials (which can include wood, metal, plastics, glass, and textiles). Learners will develop skills in measuring and marking out, as well as preliminary cutting and shaping of materials. Learners will also develop an appreciation of the value of tools and equipment generally, and the importance of using tools and equipment correctly and safely.

### **Working with Materials (Access 2)**

In this Unit, learners will develop skills in working with different common materials (which can include wood, metal, plastics, glass, and textiles) used separately or in any combination. Learners will focus on developing skills such as cutting and shaping materials. This can include the production of a finished item. The learner will also develop an appreciation of the value of materials generally with particular reference to sustainability and recycling.

### **Making a Craft Item (Access 2)**

The aim of this Unit is to provide an opportunity for learners to manufacture a craft item, including the selection of appropriate tools, equipment and materials, using media and technology as appropriate within the production process. If appropriate, basic finishes may be applied to the finished item. The item can be entirely of one material, or alternatively can be made of a combination of materials. Materials can include wood, metal, plastics, glass, and textiles.

To achieve the Access 2 Practical Craft Skills Course, learners must pass all of the required Units. The required Units are shown in the Course outline section.

Access 2 Courses are not graded.

## **Assessment**

All Units are internally assessed against the requirements shown in Unit specifications.

They will be assessed pass/fail within centres.

SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgements are consistent and meet national standards.

Exemplification of possible approaches for Units will be provided in the *National Assessment Resource*.

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