

The equine industry is an international business with many job opportunities, enabling students to experience life and work around the world. Enniskillen Campus currently provides the widest range of equine programmes in Ireland. Courses have been developed which meet the needs of the industry and students alike, producing graduates with the capability to succeed in a wide range of careers. Through the courses, the College aims to help develop a competitive equine industry and aspires to give students an insight into many different equine related careers.

Facilities

Equine courses offered at Enniskillen Campus involve a strong practical dimension and the theme of 'learning by doing' is incorporated into all courses.

Enniskillen Campus has excellent equestrian, classroom and residential facilities. Specialist equine breeding, racing, equitation and farriery units provide students with hands-on experience in the routine care and management of horses and young stock.

The equine facilities include an extensive range of stables, horse walkers, riding simulators, indoor and outdoor arenas, all-weather turnout facilities, schooling gallops and hacking tracks.



"I particularly enjoyed the racing based modules, improving my knowledge of the industry both in Ireland and internationally..."

Career profile: Stephen Farrell

"After completing my GCSEs at school I decided to go down a vocational route and complete a National Diploma in Horse Management instead of doing A Levels. I completed my National Diploma and then progressed onto the Bachelor of Science Honours Degree in Equine Management, all at Enniskillen Campus. Graduating with First Class Honours in June 2010 and hungry for adventure I spent a month living and working in Beijing, China, undertaking a marketing internship awarded by CRCC Asia. This was an unforgettable experience working in a country with customs and cultures so different from our own in the United Kingdom and Ireland. During my time at Enniskillen Campus I particularly enjoyed the racing based modules, improving my knowledge of the industry both in Ireland and internationally with field trips to Punchestown racecourse and Aidan O'Brien's training operation at Ballydoyle. These modules and visits inspired me to pursue a career in the fast paced horse racing industry and I shall be completing an internship with Jockey Club Racecourses in London as part of the prestigious British Horseracing Authority Graduate Programme."

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Horse Management (formerly known as National Diploma in Horse Management)

This course provides excellent preparation for those wishing to pursue a career in the equine industry or progress onto higher education. The course is taught using the practical facilities at Enniskillen Campus.

Course content

The main areas of study are:

- Anatomy and physiology
- Breeding and young horse handling and training
- Business management
- Equitation - flat and jumping
- Horse behaviour and welfare
- Horse husbandry, stable and yard management
- Horse rehabilitation and therapy
- Working horses from the ground

Work placement

Students complete ten weeks of work experience on an approved work placement within the two years of the course. Typically students work in a range of yards depending on their area of interest, for example breeding, racing, eventing, show jumping and dressage.

Entry requirements

Normally four GCSE passes at Grade C or above including English and Mathematics or four C3s at Irish Leaving Certificate Ordinary Level including English and Mathematics. Competency in horse riding is essential for those wishing to undertake riding options. Applicants must also demonstrate that they have a minimum of 40 hours of industrial experience in the equine industry, which can be acquired prior to leaving school.

Progression opportunities and career destinations

This course provides students with an opportunity to progress onto the Equine Foundation Degree or Honours Degree programmes. Students are ideally suited to find employment of a practical nature in a wide range of equine businesses. Examples of careers include: managing own business, breaking and schooling horses and/or livery; work riders in racing yards; stud grooms; competition grooms and sales representatives.

Fact file:

Course duration:

Two years full-time including a ten-week work placement.

Course location:

Enniskillen Campus.

Contact details:

Course Manager:

Sharon McLaren

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BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma



Graduate profile:
Patrick Garvey

"I've always been interested in the equine industry and wanted to be a part of it. I learnt a lot in the two years of the National Diploma and really enjoyed the riding modules. During my time at the college I competed in Intervarsities competitions which were a great opportunity for me. I spent my work placement at an eventing yard near Banbridge. During my placement, I got to further my experiences in a range of activities, including schooling young horses and grooming at events. It was a challenge but I thoroughly enjoyed it. I am progressing onto the BSc (Hons) Degree course in Equine Management at Enniskillen Campus to help secure my goal of a career in the equine industry."

BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Horse Care (formerly known as First Diploma in Horse Care)

This practical course in horse care offers young people the opportunity to develop a wide range of skills required for jobs within the equine sector. The course is taught using the practical facilities at Enniskillen Campus.

Course content

The main areas of study are:

- Estate maintenance
- Feeding and watering horses
- Horse handling
- Principles of horse biology
- Riding horses
- Work related experience in the horse industry

Work placement

A minimum of five-weeks approved work placement is an integral part of this course. Students are encouraged to find work in their area of interest such as breeding, racing, competition yards or riding schools.

Entry requirements

Normally two Grade Cs or three Grade Ds at GCSE or equivalent, including English and Mathematics. Basic skills in horse riding are essential for those wishing to undertake the riding module. Students who have not attained a Grade C in English and Mathematics at GCSE or equivalent have to complete Essential Skills in Literacy and Numeracy. Applicants must also demonstrate that they have a minimum of 40 hours of industrial experience in the equine industry, which can be acquired prior to leaving school.

Progression opportunities and career destinations

This course provides an opportunity for students to progress onto the BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in

Horse Management. Students are well positioned to find employment in a diverse range of sectors within the equine industry including: racing, show jumping, eventing, dressage and showing, riding schools, livery yards and studs.

Graduate profile:
Ashleigh Meredith



"I chose this course as I always wanted to learn more about horses and the equine industry. The early morning yards and the practical classes gave me a good insight into what would be expected when working in the industry. Another reason I chose this course was because we had the opportunity to work for five weeks in the industry. I completed my work placement in a riding school near my home. This gave me an excellent opportunity to find out about running a riding school and also the work which is involved. I thoroughly enjoyed the placement, even though it was hard work! I would like to progress onto the Level 3 Extended Diploma in Horse Management."

Fact file:

Course duration:

One year full-time, including a five-week work placement.

Course location:

Enniskillen Campus.

Contact details:

Course Manager:

Sharon McLaren

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028 6634 4842

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Level 2 Diploma in Work-based Horse Care/Racehorse Care/ Level 2 Apprenticeship in the Equine Industry*

This course is a work-related, competence-based qualification. It reflects the skills and knowledge needed to do a job effectively and shows that a learner is competent in basic horse care work.

Course content

The main areas of study are:

- Carry out routine care and monitor the health and well-being of horses
- Clean and maintain stables
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with others
- Maintain and develop personal performance
- Monitor and maintain health and safety
- Provide feed and water to horses
- Restrain horses using specified methods

Entry requirements

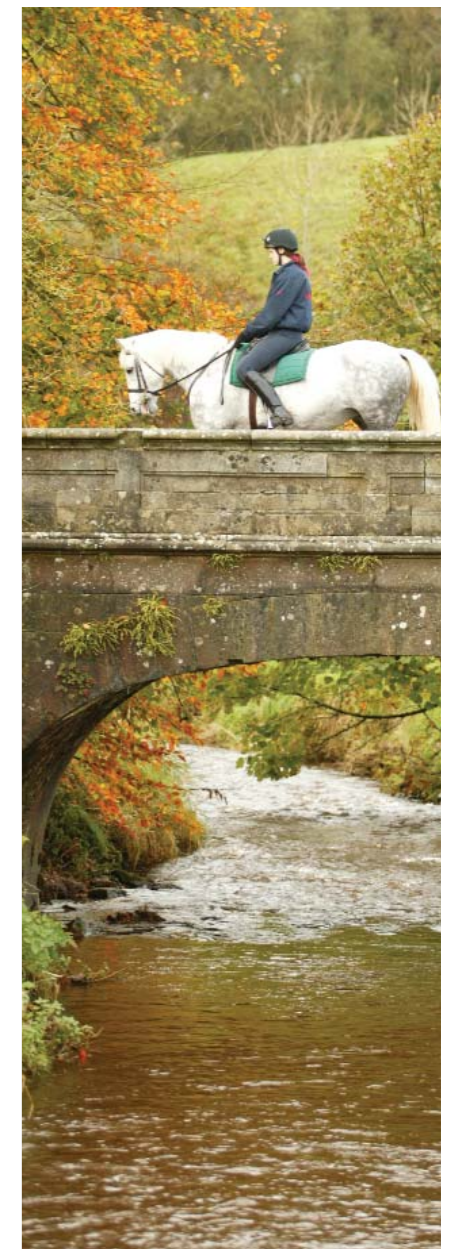
Normally two Grade Cs or three Grade Ds at GCSE or equivalent, including English and Mathematics. Basic skills in horse riding are essential for those wishing to undertake the riding module. Students who have not attained a Grade C in English and Mathematics at GCSE or equivalent have to complete Essential Skills in Literacy and Numeracy.

Start earning now

As an apprentice you will be in paid employment with an employer from the beginning of the programme. The hours worked and the amount paid will be agreed with your employer before you start employment.

Progression opportunities and career destinations

This course provides an opportunity for students to progress onto a Level 3 qualification or are well positioned to be employed in a diverse range of roles including: horse grooms, horse riding centre and racing yard employees.



*subject to numbers and approval

Fact file:

Course duration:

78 weeks, day-release.

Course location:

Enniskillen Campus.

Contact details:

Course Manager:

Jane Elliott

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Farrier Upskilling Programme

The Farrier Upskilling programme at Enniskillen Campus is designed for those already working in the industry and seeking to achieve the Diploma award of the Worshipful Company of Farriers (WCF).

Course content

The course covers the principles of equine anatomy, physiology, conformation, dynamics and movement, injuries and ailments/diseases affecting the foot and limb and the fundamentals of farriery.

Practical skills include making different types of shoes from steel stock, using coke and gas forges.

As part of the final assessment, students are required to produce a portfolio of hand made horseshoes for the Diploma of the Worshipful Company of Farriers (DipWCF) examination.

Entry requirements

Suitable for farriers already practicing in the industry, with two years of practicing experience.

Progression opportunities and career destinations

This course provides an opportunity for students to progress onto an appropriate Foundation Degree. Through the course farriers have the opportunity to gain a recognised qualification and from there they can apply to the Farriers Registration Council to become registered.

Fact file:**Course duration:**

Two days per month for approximately two years.

Course location:

Enniskillen Campus.

Contact details:**Course Manager:**

Sam Nelson

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Graduate profile:
David Gorey DipWCF

"I was attracted to the course in Farrier Upskilling at Enniskillen Campus, as it offered good, solid training in both practical horseshoe making and the theoretical aspects of the horse's foot and leg. My initial impressions soon proved correct and I enjoyed every aspect of the course and felt that my skills were improving. A lot of hard work finally paid off when I passed the examination for the Diploma of the Worshipful Company of Farriers (DipWCF). This is a very well recognised qualification for farriers and my success has given me a lot of confidence for the future and already has been a great help in the development of my business."

Farriery is the shoeing of horses and similar animals. A farrier is a skilled craftsman who is able to make shoes for all types of horses' feet according to the needs and welfare of the animal. This course provides the knowledge and skills required to progress to a farriery apprenticeship.

Fact file:**Course duration:**

One year full-time including a five-week work placement.

Course location:

Enniskillen Campus.

Contact details:**Course Manager:**

Sharon McLaren

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028 6634 4842

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Pre-Farriery Programme

Course content

- BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Horse Care
- NPTC Level 2 Certificate in Forgework

Work placement

Students spend five weeks working with an approved farrier or in an approved work experience equine establishment to improve their horse care skills.

Entry requirements

Normally two Grade Cs or three Grade Ds at GCSE or equivalent including English and Mathematics. Students who have not attained a Grade C in English and Mathematics at GCSE or equivalent have to complete Essential Skills in Literacy and Numeracy. Applicants must also demonstrate that they have a minimum of 40 hours of industrial experience in the equine industry, which can be acquired prior to leaving school.

Progression opportunities and career destinations

This course provides an opportunity for students to progress onto the Modern Apprenticeship in Farriery, ultimately sitting the Diploma of the Worshipful Company of Farriers and becoming a registered member or study for the BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Horse Management.



Graduate profile:
Stephen Harte

"I really enjoyed the time we spent working in the forge learning skills such as shaping the metal. As part of the course I was able to do a work placement with a farrier. This gave me a great insight into the industry and the work involved. I was very pleased to be presented at the Campus Awards Day ceremony with the Forging Cup for the best performance in the Certificate in Forgework examination. I thoroughly enjoyed my time at Enniskillen Campus. There were several events organised by students such as the barbeque and fun night which took place at the start of the academic year which was great to help us new students get to know each other. There was also a Christmas formal which all the students really enjoyed. I am now hoping to get an apprenticeship and keep working towards gaining the full farriery qualification."