

Course title	SCQF level	Venue	Days of Delivery	Times	Local Authority area
HNC Cyber Security (infill) - (Level 7)	Level 7	Kilwinning Campus	Tuesday and Thursday	9:00 – 4:00	East Ayrshire North Ayrshire South Ayrshire

Who is the Course for?

We live in a digital age where the demand for ICT and digital technology is growing at an incredible pace. With good computing and IT systems now central to every business, organisations are set to become even more driven by technology and data. In addition, modern organisations hold large amounts of data – about their customers and about themselves. But they face many threats to the security of this information, and they have many legal obligations to take care of it. This course will give you many perspectives about data breaches and how to protect against them.

In this dynamic and continually evolving sector, there's already a skills shortage and it's predicted there could be as many as 11,000 job opportunities each year in Scotland alone; by investing in digital and IT skills now, you could find yourself highly sought after in the future!

If you're interested in a career in computing and IT systems or the cyber security industry, this course can help you on your way.

This course will give you the skills you need to design, implement, and support IT systems in a wide range of industries. It focuses on the key areas of software development, databases, and interface design, troubleshooting and cyber security.

What is the Course About?

In present day Scotland, the majority of businesses are small to medium sized enterprises many of whom lack the funds to employ a number of specialists, they could, however, employ an individual with good general computing skill; this award covers both the technical and professional skills required for working within the computing industry. A computing professional has to be aware of contemporary legislation, ethical considerations, codes of conduct and professional bodies which would provide opportunities for personal development and support in their career. This qualification covers these topics. The development of software has become a necessary part of many job functions within the industry and is no longer the remit solely of programmers. For example, technical support and networking, this HNC provides all candidates with the basic skills to design, implement and test simple programs and produce technical documentation.

Although hardware and software are continually changing, an understanding of the physical, software and logical elements of a computer is required along with the basic skill of installing and configuring various types of software. This qualification provides this knowledge and experience as well as an appreciation of the interaction between hardware and software and the impact various elements may have on system performance.

What do I Need?

For entry to this course, you'll need a real interest in Computing Science:

- A minimum of 1 Higher, but preferably two
- Higher Maths, although we'll consider a relevant group of National Units in Maths at SCQF Level 6

How will I be assessed?

Assessment will cover a variety of knowledge and practical skills as well as the more intellectual skills of planning and evaluating. These together with the Core Skills mean that a large number of different methods are employed to ensure that you can do what you are supposed to do as well as know what you are supposed to know.

Next Steps?

You may progress to:

- HND Cyber Security, HND Computer Science or HND Technical Support (SCQF Level 8)
- Relevant degree course at university
- Start your career with employment in the computing industry

Course title	SCQF level	Venue	Days of Delivery	Times	Local Authority area
NPA- Computer Games Development	Level 5	Kilwinning Campus	Tuesday and Thursday	2:00-4:00	East Ayrshire North Ayrshire South Ayrshire

Who is the Course for?

This course will interest you if you enjoy gaming and want to start making your own. You should have a keen interest in a variety of games genres and have an eye for detail and analysis. If you're interested in discussing and investigating new emerging technologies, this is the course for you.

What is the Course About?

The National Progression Award (NPA) in Computer Games Development at SCQF Level 5 is intended to prepare you for progression to further study in Computer Games Development, Digital Media Studies, Computing Science and IT subjects. These courses will give you the opportunity to:

- Design your own narrative for a computer game
- Design and create your own characters, objects and levels
- Create and capture sounds and graphics
- Design how the user interacts with your game
- Undertake an activity to promote your game
- Improve your core skills

SQA Course Units

- Computer Games: Design
- Computer Games: Media Assets
- Computer Games: Development

What do I Need?

You need to have a basic level of skills in Microsoft Word and understand the general operation/navigation of a Windows based PC. You must possess an interest in at least one of the following: art, programming, audio or design. It would be good if you have played different games and consoles/platforms but not essential as we will discuss a variety of examples throughout. Some previous experience of coding using platforms like Scratch and AppInventor would be advantageous though not essential.

How will I be assessed?

You will be expected to create a portfolio of your work. The portfolio may be paper or electronic (digital). The portfolio should be completed over the period of the course, with you contributing material to the portfolio on an ongoing basis.

Next Steps?

Successful completion of the Level 5 course may allow you to progress to:

- NC Computer Games and Software Development
- NC Computing Level 6
- Digital Media Production

Partly depending on your other qualifications.

What do current students say?

"Honestly, the College turned out to be much more enjoyable than I expected it to be. Very flexible but I'm still able to work on and complete tasks. The very flexible approach allows me to work at my own pace and still get it completed in time. But it's a lot more than just playing games".

Course title	SCQF level	Venue	Days of Delivery	Times	Local Authority area
NPA Software Development (level 4)	Level 4	Kilmarnock Campus	Tuesday and Thursday	2:00 – 4:00	East Ayrshire North Ayrshire South Ayrshire

Who is the Course for?

This course will interest you if you enjoy working with computers, creating digital content or generally enjoy solving problems. The NPA in Software Development is suitable for a wide range of candidates with basic computing ability who wish to develop the fundamental knowledge and skills required to solve problems by developing computer programs in a high-level language.

What is the Course About?

The NPA in Software Development at SCQF Level 4 is intended to prepare you for progression to further study in a variety of computing disciplines.

During the award you will learn all about the basic programming concepts and how to write short programs using a software development language and environment. After the basics are covered you will develop further programming skills and eventually the knowledge and understanding required to devise a solution to a problem in software development. By the end of this course you will have developed practical skills in software development through the use of a high level language.

These courses will give you the opportunity to develop:

- Understanding of the principles of software development, software development languages and environments
- Entry level skills using a high level programming language
- Industry-standard software and principles
- Core Skills in problem solving in relation to software development.
- Analytical and other transferable skills.

The Course includes the following Units:

- Computing: Programming in a High-level Language: Fundamentals SCQF level 4
- Software Development SCQF level 5
- Problem Solving SCQF level 4

What do I Need?

You need to have a basic level of skills in Microsoft Word and understand the general operation/navigation of a Windows based PC. You must possess an interest in at least one of the following: art, programming, audio or design. It would be good if you have played different games and consoles/platforms but not essential as we will discuss a variety of examples throughout. Some previous experience of coding using platforms like Scratch and AppInventor would be good though not essential.

How will I be assessed?

You will be expected to create a portfolio of your work. The portfolio may be paper or electronic (digital) and should be completed over the period of the course, with you contributing material to the portfolio on an ongoing basis.

Next Steps?

Successful completion of the Level 4 course may allow you to progress to:

- NPA Software Development level 6
- NC Computing at level 5
- NC Games and Software Development

What do current students say?

"Honestly, the College turned out to be really enjoyable. Very flexible but I'm still able to work on and complete tasks. The very flexible approach allows me to work at my own pace and still get it completed in time."

Course title	SCQF level	Venue	Days of Delivery	Times	Local Authority area
NPA Software Development (level 6)	Level 6	Kilmarnock Campus	Tuesday and Thursday	2:00 – 4:00	East Ayrshire North Ayrshire South Ayrshire

Who is the Course for?

This course will interest you if you enjoy working with computers, creating digital content or generally enjoy solving problems. The NPA in Software Development is suitable for a wide range of candidates with basic computing ability who wish to develop the fundamental knowledge and skills required to solve problems by developing computer programs in a high-level language.

What is the Course About?

The NPA in Software Development at SCQF level 6 introduces learners to techniques that are important in the IT sector such as Computing Applications Development, Computing: Authoring a Website, and Software Design and Development. The principal aim of the qualification is to provide learners with programming skills and prepare them for employment as entry-level computer programmers. As the title indicates, this NPA is entirely focused on software development, including applications and websites.

As part of this qualification you will:

- Develop knowledge and skills relating to software development
- Develop computational thinking skills including problem solving
- Develop transferable skills including Core Skills
- Develop employment skills
- Develop an appreciation of the contemporary IT sector

You will study the following units:

- Computing: Applications Development
- Computing: Authoring a Website
- Software Design and Development

What do I Need?

You need to have a basic level of skills in Microsoft Word and understand the general operation/navigation of a Windows based PC. You must possess an interest in at least one of the following: art, programming, audio or design. It would be good if you have played different games and consoles/platforms but not essential as we will discuss a variety of examples throughout. You should have completed the NPA in Software Development at SCQF level 4 or be able to demonstrate a similar skill level in coding.

How will I be assessed?

You will be expected to create a portfolio of your work. The portfolio may be paper or electronic (digital) and should be completed over the period of the course, with you contributing material to the portfolio on an ongoing basis.

Next Steps?

Successful completion of the Level 6 course may allow you to progress to:

- NC Computing at level 6
- NC Games and Software Development

What do current students say?

"Honestly, the College turned out to be really enjoyable. Very flexible but I'm still able to work on and complete tasks. The very flexible approach allows me to work at my own pace and still get it completed in time."

