



Senior Phase | A Step Ahead

UHI | INVERNESS + UHI | NORTH, WEST AND HEBRIDES
A TUATH, AN IAR IS INNSE GALL



Welcome

Do you want to explore your options for the future and experience campus life while still at school? The Senior Phase courses at UHI Inverness provide S4 to S6 pupils with industry specific qualifications while offering an excellent taster of the student experience.

Choosing one of our Senior Phase courses as part of your school options will allow you to learn from our expert lecturers who will help you develop a range of vocational, practical and academic skills. Most of our Senior Phase courses are taught on campus on Fridays, where you will have access to our modern facilities and resources. Other courses are delivered virtually or online.

You can choose from a broad range of qualifications and subjects, including arts, performance, science, construction, computing, engineering, childcare, sport, health care and beauty. This will provide you with a greater choice when it comes to picking your options for the next academic year.

Studying on campus at UHI Inverness as part of your school timetable can help you build your confidence, develop new skills, boost your CV and get a step ahead in your chosen career. It will also help ease the transition from school to college or university, as you will already be familiar with a campus environment.

In this booklet, you will find the information you need to help you make the right choice for you:

- + **Benefits of choosing a UHI Inverness course.**
- + **Summary of the subjects on offer.**
- + **Details of the qualifications you could gain.**
- + **Course delivery.**
- + **Application process and what you need to submit.**
- + **Application deadlines and the date of our Taster Day for applicants.**
- + **Testimonials of current Senior Phase students.**

We hope the information provided will help you make an informed decision.

Don't hesitate to get in touch with us at schools.ic@uhi.ac.uk if you have any questions.

Case Study



Emma Hutchison,
Charleston Academy
Beauty

“ Coming to UHI Inverness is different from school in a good way. The lecturers are very supportive and friendly and are always there to talk to. I enjoy meeting a diverse range of people and it has taken me out of my comfort zone to allow me to progress in my beauty skills. I hope to work in the make-up industry and the course will help me develop the necessary skills I need and set me up for what I want to do. Making friends is easier because we are all interested in the same thing. ”

Why should I choose UHI Inverness?

Our Senior Phase courses offer:

- + **Wider choice – pick from a range of subjects beyond what's available in school.**
- + **Deeper understanding – study a subject to gain an industry specific qualification that could be the basis of future study or a career.**
- + **Build relationships – study alongside pupils with the same interests from other secondary schools.**
- + **Supportive learning environment – full access to academic.**



Stephen Anderson,
Nairn Academy

NPA Costume:
An introduction to cutting,
sewing and surface decoration

I wanted to study a Senior Phase course because I knew the campus was welcoming and close to my home. I'm interested in a career in fashion and textiles, and this has allowed me to explore more courses and given me more knowledge. The teaching style is great, welcoming and comforting.

What subjects can I choose from?

We work closely with local secondary schools and employers to ensure our relevant courses can lead to progression in employment, training or continued education. Below is a summary of just some of the subjects you can study with us.



Business and Creative Industries

The many course options include professional cookery, bakery, hairdressing, beauty therapy, costume, finance, photography, visual media art, performance, creative writing, film and a variety of business courses.

Care, Sport and Humanities

Childcare and psychology can be studied at various levels, there are also options to study social science, sports development, health care, social services and sociology.

Science, Computing and Education

Choose from Esports, networks and cyber security, aquaculture, insight into teaching, computing science, lab skills, software, uniformed and emergency services and core subjects such as maths and English.

Construction, Engineering and Forestry

These practical courses cover motor vehicle, rural skills, engineering operations and graphics, construction, civil engineering and architectural technology and more.

Case Study

Seamus Dougherty,
Millburn Academy

NPA Acting and Performance

I chose to study a Senior Phase course at UHI Inverness to gain extra experience and to get used to the campus for when I attend after S6. It's the right course for me because I have a huge interest in creative writing and entertainment, and I enjoy the practical assignments and the creative freedom. The teaching style suits me very well; the respect is mutual, and it is both relaxed and engaging. Overall, it's a great way to develop your skills, boost your confidence, provide opportunities for a fresh start and make new friends.

What qualifications can I gain?

We offer a range of qualifications including:

- + **Foundation Apprenticeships (FAs) are available to S4 - S6 pupils studying at National or Higher level. Foundation Apprenticeships can be studied over one or two years depending on your preference and timetable availability.**
- + **Nationals 4s, National 5s and Highers are exactly the same as school qualifications.**
- + **National Progression Awards (NPA) prepare you for employment, career development or further study in a variety of specialist vocational areas.**
- + **Skills for Work courses are designed to prepare you for the world of work. They offer practical experiences linked to careers.**
- + **Higher National Certificate (HNC) and degree modules provide S6 pupils with a taste of what it's like to study at first-year university degree level and strengthens your UCAS applications.**



How will I be taught?

Our Senior Phase courses are taught in a variety of different ways, depending on the course you pick.

F2F

Face-to-face

Attend timetabled classes at UHI Inverness or your school for all learning and assessments.

O

Fully online

Access all of your learning or assessments via Brightspace, and virtual learning environment, or Google classrooms, using a mixture of self-directed study and online discussion boards.

B

Blended

Attend timetabled classes at college, your school or online for some of your learning and assessments. You will also access Brightspace, our virtual learning environment, or Google classrooms for self-directed study.

O

Virtual

Attend timetabled classes for all learning and assessments via Brightspace, our virtual learning environment, or Google classrooms. These courses are aligned to the Highland Council Virtual Schools timetable.



Case Study

Leah Baarda,
Fortrose Academy

Professional Cookery

I wanted to learn to cook and opted for this course to gain experience and now I have applied for the full-time professional cookery course after I leave school. I enjoy making new friends and the free food! The lecturers are very helpful and friendly – our chef is amazing and very funny.





How do I apply?

All our Senior Phase courses should be applied for online and applications are now open. Only one application per person is accepted. To view the full range of courses visit our 'For Schools' section on our website.



- + **On The Senior Phase: A Step Ahead website page click on the 'Applications are now Open' tab.**
- + **Click on your school badge, virtual studies badge or advanced studies badge and browse the courses available to you. Depending on the course you want to do, you may have the option to choose how you want to study the course and which partner you want to study with.**
- + **If you are home educated, click the 'home educated' logo to see your course choices.**
- + **Each course listing will give the entry requirements, course details and an application link.**
- + **Discuss your course choice with your guidance teacher and your parent/guardian.**
- + **You may be required to write a personal statement, which is your chance to tell us about yourself and why this course interests you. Be clear, confident, enthusiastic and check for typos.**
- + **If you attend school, your application will need to be supported by a reference from your guidance teacher. Please select the name of your guidance teacher in the reference section. They will receive an email reference notification once you have submitted your application.**
- + **When applying you will need 2 email addresses. Please use your school email address and a personal email address and make sure they are both accurate.**
- + **Make sure to include which subjects and levels you are planning to study as well as your current qualifications.**
- + **You will receive an email from our admissions staff to let you know whether you have been successful in gaining a place. Please ensure you check your emails, including your junk mail folder, so that you don't miss out on important information.**

For more guidance on applying please visit our application page



Ruth, mother of former Senior Phase pupil.

"Senior Phase was a really positive experience for my daughter. Overall, it gave her a chance to do things she probably wouldn't do at school. I've already recommended it to other parents as a good stepping stone between school and university and college. When my daughter wrote her personal statement for her UCAS application a lot of what she mentioned was related to her experience through the UHI Inverness course."

What else do I need to know?

To ensure that your application runs smoothly, it is important to be aware of key dates and events.

Wednesday, 28 February 2024

Come along to the UHI Inverness Taster Day from 6pm to 8.30pm to explore our campus and speak to staff to discover for yourself why a Senior Phase course is right for you.

Wednesday, 13 March 2024

Come along to the UHI Inverness Open Evening from 5pm to 7pm to explore our campus, meet employers and speak to staff about our range of Senior Phase courses and full-time courses starting in August 2024.

Monday, 25 March 2024

Fully completed applications, including guidance teacher references, must be submitted by this deadline.

Monday, 6 May 2024

Application decisions and offers will be emailed to you throughout this week.

What can I study after moving on from school?

We've lots of options for you when the time is right.

UHI Inverness is different from a traditional college or university, as we offer college courses, apprenticeships and degrees all in one place. To find out more about the courses we offer visit our website inverness.uhi.ac.uk/schools/

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To view the full range of courses visit our 'For Schools' section on our website




The Schools Team can be contacted via schools.ic@uhi.ac.uk

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