

National 5 Practical Cookery (Course Code: C877 75)

SCQF Level 5 (24 Credit Points)

Why study Practical Cookery?

Healthy, tasty food is crucial to our wellbeing. The course will suit you if you love food and cooking and want to develop your skills in this area.

Being able to cook for yourself and others is a valuable life skill and can lead to a range of careers, including working in hotels and restaurants, the health sector and the food industry.

Career Pathways

To see what career areas this subject could lead to and the routes to get there, download and view these career pathways:

[Hospitality, Leisure and Tourism](#)

[Manufacturing Industries](#)

[Sport](#)

What do I need to get in?

Entry is at the discretion of the school or college but you would normally have achieved one of the following:

- **National 4 Practical Cookery**
- **National 4 Health and Food Technology**

What will I study?

This course is practical and relevant to the world of work. You will develop your skills in choosing ingredients, preparing dishes and presenting them appropriately. You will learn more about the importance of safety and hygiene when preparing and presenting food.

The course comprises **three** areas of study.

Cookery Skills, Techniques and Processes

You will:

- enhance your cookery skills, food preparation techniques and ability to follow cookery processes
- further develop your understanding of the importance of safety and hygiene and your ability to follow safe and hygienic practices at all times.

Understanding and Using Ingredients

You will:

- enhance your knowledge and understanding of ingredients from a variety of different sources
- learn about the importance of sustainability, the responsible sourcing of ingredients and of current dietary advice
- further develop your ability to select and use a range of appropriate ingredients in the preparation of dishes and to do so safely and hygienically.

Organisational Skills for Cooking

You will:

- extend your planning, organisational and time management skills
- further develop your ability to follow recipes; to plan, produce and cost dishes and meals; and to work safely and hygienically
- gain more experience in evaluating the product.

How will I be assessed?

Course Assessment

The course assessment has **three** components **totalling 130 marks**:

- Component 1: question paper – worth 30 marks (scaled to 25 marks towards overall total)
- Component 2: assignment – worth 18 marks (scaled to 13 marks)
- Component 3: practical activity – worth 82 marks (scaled to 62 marks).

Component 2 and component 3 are inter-related and will be assessed using one activity. You will carry out one task — planning and producing a meal — which will provide evidence for both components.

Both the assignment and the question paper will be set and externally marked by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA).

The practical activity will be set by SQA and will be assessed internally, with external quality assurance by SQA.

The grade awarded is based on the total marks achieved across all course assessment components.

The course assessment is graded A-D.

Study Materials

- [SQA Past Papers Practical Cookery National 5](#)
- [SQA Understanding Standards Practical Cookery](#)
- [Ushare Study Resources](#)

What can I go on to next?

Further study, training or employment in:

- Hospitality, Leisure and Tourism
- Manufacturing Industries
- Sport