

Extended Diploma in Uniformed Protective Services

Ofsted Outstanding Provider

Course Level: Level 3 | **Campus: Newcastle** | **Subject Type: Sport & Public Services**

Course Overview:

If you're interested in joining one of the uniformed public services, such as the Police Service, Ambulance Service, Fire and Rescue Service, British Army, Royal Navy, Royal Air Force, Prison Service or Maritime and Coastguard Agency, National Highways, UK Visa and Immigration, our Protective Services course will prepare you for the mental and physical demands of life in the services.

What's Covered:

You'll be taught by professionals with years of service in the uniformed protective services so you'll benefit from outstanding expertise and vast knowledge as they guide you towards your chosen career in the industry.

In the first year, you will study units including: Behaviour and Discipline in the Uniformed Protective Services, Citizenship and Diversity, Custodial Care, Physical Preparation, Skills for Outdoor Activities for the Uniformed Protective Services, Teamwork and Leadership.

Year two units include: Criminal investigation, Global Affairs, Government and the Protective Services, Police Powers and the Law, Planning and Responding to Emergency Incidents, Expedition Skills, Research Skills, Developing Fitness programmes, Professional Development in the UPS and Introduction to Criminology.

You will have the option of choosing a more practical or more theoretical pathway throughout the two year programme.

Whether you plan on progressing to university, a higher apprenticeship or employment, by the end of the course you will be equipped to make informed choices about your next career step.

There will also be opportunities to take part in outdoor activities such as climbing, kayaking or expedition skills as part of your studies with enrichment trips and excursions planned across the two year course. You will develop practical skills such as map work and navigation skills whilst at the same time developing the confidence to lead groups, whether in the classroom or on the hills of the Peak District.

The course uses a blended learning approach, mixing classroom theory with hands on experience and from time to time you will work together with classmates to produce group work as well as working on individual projects throughout.

73.4%

achieved DMM+ in 2026

Entry Requirements:

You will need a minimum of four or more high grades at GCSE in subjects relevant to the course you'd like to study, including maths and/or English Language at grade 4 or above. Alternatively, you'll need a Level 2 Diploma with overall Merit in a relevant subject and maths and English at appropriate levels.

You'll also be asked to attend a college interview to establish that the course is suitable for you. It's worth remembering that the course includes fitness testing, physical activity and outdoor activities.

Assessment Information:
The course is accredited by BTEC. Although the programme is mostly assessed through continuous assessment throughout the two years, you will have two externally assessed units, in the form of written exams. In the first year you will be examined in the unit 'Behaviour and Discipline in the UPS'. The second exam falls in year two for the unit 'Government and the Protective Services'. The remainder of units will be assessed in a variety of forms, including written assignment work, project work, presentations, group work, and practical-based assessments. It is demanding and you will need to be organised and be able to work independently from time to time. Throughout the course you will collect evidence of your competence in each unit. The work completed in each unit is graded as Pass, Merit or Distinction.

Fees and Financial Support:

This course is free for anyone aged 16 – 18.

College Maintenance Allowance (CMA):
Anyone with a gross household income under £35,000 can receive financial support to cover college related costs such as transport, meals, course equipment and uniform. Bursary support is based on individual circumstances and will be allocated to best suit your individual needs. A range of other financial support is available depending on your personal circumstances. For more details visit nscg.ac.uk/finance

Progression:

On completion of this uniformed protective service course many students continue to study in some aspect of public services (e.g. Criminology, Law, Forensics, Policing) on a Higher Education course at university or Newcastle College. The college offers a Higher National Certificate and Diploma in Public Services, which many students progress onto from the Level 3 course. Other students go straight into employment in one of the uniformed protective services (e.g. Armed Forces, Fire and Rescue, Probation Service). Past students, for example, have been successful in their applications to the RAF, Fire and Rescue Service, Army and Navy.

How do I find out more?

If you wish to find out more you can contact Josie Grey, Curriculum Leader in Uniformed Protective Services, by emailing josie.grey@nscg.ac.uk