

FALMOUTH MARINE SCHOOL GUIDE 2026




Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider

What Ofsted says...

“ Teachers prepare learners and apprentices extremely well for their next stage of education or employment. ”



YOUR LOCAL OUTSTANDING COLLEGE



ANDING

Welcome to Falmouth Marine School

We're delighted that you are considering studying with us. We're really excited to welcome you into the Falmouth Marine School family and help make your career dreams a reality. I'm really looking forward to meeting you soon. In the meantime, please feel free to get in touch with any questions you may have.

Rory Mason
Principal of
Falmouth Marine
School



**A wide range of virtual and
sustainable equipment and facilities**

Marine engineering workshops

**Practical watersports training
delivered at Stithians Lake**

**Industry days, with employment and
networking opportunities**

WHAT'S ON CAMPUS



With marine life at its heart, Falmouth holds a wealth of opportunities for you to get the skills needed for a rewarding career. Whether you want to be a traditional boatbuilder, marine engineer, or to become a pioneer in sustainable practices, this is the place for you.

Close relationship with National Maritime Museum Cornwall

Sails Café

Vibrant common room

Dedicated student support services

Designated bike shelters

Located in the heart of Falmouth

Go beyond your course with varied student enrichment options

**TOUR
THE
CAMPUS**



Pick your pathway

We have lots of different courses to choose from, but how do you know which is the right one for you?

Don't worry, we can help you narrow down the option that is best suited to you. Here's a quick rundown of the different pathways on offer.



Full-time study programmes

What are they?

- They typically last between one and three years and lead to qualifications such as vocational certificates, diplomas or extended diplomas
- They focus on the practical skills and knowledge linked to a range of subjects, such as art and design, business, health and social care, engineering and many others
- They are offered at different levels depending on your experience
- You'll be assessed through coursework, practical observations, and external exams
- After completion, you can either progress to a higher level study programme, enter the world of work or move on to study at university level

Choose this if...

- You're looking for work skills to enter a particular industry, such as healthcare or construction
- You learn best by getting hands-on
- You want to progress to the workplace, further study or onto university



T Levels

What are they?

- T Levels last two years and are centred on one subject
- They focus on vocational skills linked to the specific career path you've chosen
- One T Level is the equivalent of three A-levels and has UCAS points, which support applications to higher education
- They combine college study with a significant industry placement working with a real employer

Choose this if...

- You already know what job you want to do
- You want to get practical, knowledge-based learning and on-the-job experience
- You want to progress to the workplace, further study or onto university

T-LEVELS



Apprenticeships

What are they?

- An apprenticeship lets you gain work-based skills while earning a real salary
- The majority of the time will be spent learning on-the-job with an employer, with additional training at college
- You'll be assessed at both college and in your workplace

Choose this if...

- You already know what job you want to do
- You prefer to learn in the workplace rather than the classroom
- You want a professional qualification to support your work experience
- You want to earn while you learn

APPRENTICESHIPS



FIND
OUT
MORE



Course levels and entry requirements

It is important to choose the correct level of course after your GCSEs. The choices available to you will depend on whether you meet the entry requirements, how you like to study and what you would like to do after your time with us.

Please use the table opposite as a general guide to our entry requirements. Some courses may require further specific qualification grades due to the nature of their content. Acceptance on a course will also depend on a successful interview.



Please note:

- Some specialist courses may have extra entry requirements; please see website for details
- If you are considering taking on an apprenticeship, we'll ask you to complete an initial assessment in English and Maths, along with a Skills Scan. This will help us to determine your current skills and knowledge, and chose the right level of apprenticeship for you
- If you do not achieve your expected grades, please don't panic. Contact us, and we will help you find an alternative course, normally in the same subject area of interest

Entry level

Study Options: Entry Level qualifications

Typical Entry Requirements: No formal qualifications are required

Progression: Next Entry Level or Level 1 course

Level 1

Study Options: Level 1 qualifications, including certificates and diplomas

Typical Entry Requirements: Two or more GCSEs at grade 2 or above, or successful completion of Entry Level qualification

Progression: Level 2 course, an apprenticeship or employment

Level 2

Study Options: Level 2 qualifications, including diplomas and apprenticeships

Typical Entry Requirements: Three or more GCSEs at grade 3 or above, or successful completion of a relevant Level 1 qualification.

Progression: Level 3 course, an apprenticeship or employment

WHAT LEVEL
IS RIGHT
FOR ME?

Level 3

Study Options: Level 3 qualifications, including diplomas, apprenticeships and T Levels. Our programmes are delivered as two one-year courses: Year 1 – Diploma, and Year 2 – Extended Diploma

Typical Entry Requirements: Four or more GCSEs at Grade 4 or above including English and/or Maths, or successful completion of a relevant Level 2 qualification and a grade 4 or above in English and/or Maths

Progression: University study, an apprenticeship or employment

Engineering & Marine Engineering



Our industry-leading virtual reality suites will help you gain the most relevant skills for employment. A career in marine engineering or boatbuilding will open opportunities for careers across the world, serving in the merchant navy, in dockyards, or on superyachts.

We offer a variety of Level 2 and Level 3 courses, offering pathways to employment, university or a higher-level apprenticeship.

Subjects we offer

- Lean Manufacturing Operative
- Marine Technology
- Marine-based Engineering
- Maritime Mechanical & Electrical Mechanic
- Marine Electrician
- Marine Engineer
- Surface Finisher



Why study with us

- Learn a range of engineering principles and skills
- Get hands-on with hand-tools, power tools and a variety of machinery
- Gain digital skills, including CAD and hydraulic simulation software
- Learn how to carry out fault-finding and diagnostic tasks
- Become proficient in lean manufacturing principles



SEE OUR
FULL RANGE
OF COURSES

CHINECHELUM IKEDIGWE

Maritime Mechanical
and Electrical Mechanic
Apprenticeship Level 2

“During this apprenticeship, I've learned so much and I have improved in certain skills such as communication, teamwork and leadership. This has contributed to progress in my personal and work life.”

F Full-time study **T** T Levels **A** Apprenticeships

A young man with curly brown hair and glasses, wearing a dark blue work jacket, is smiling while working on a wooden boat frame in a workshop. The background shows various workshop tools and equipment. The image is decorated with colorful wavy shapes in pink, yellow, and white.

**JACK
WELLINGS**

**Boatbuilding Diploma
(Advanced) Level 3**

“ The course has enabled me to achieve my dream of becoming a boatbuilder and gaining a job here in Falmouth. ”



Full-time study



T Levels



Apprenticeships

Boatbuilding



We offer Level 2 and Level 3 courses, offering pathways to employment, university or higher apprenticeships.

Subjects we offer

- Boatbuilding



Why study with us

- Learn traditional and modern boat construction methods
- Understand systems integration, including electrical, plumbing and mechanical systems
- Gain woodworking skills and composite construction techniques, including fibreglass, resins and moulds
- Use industry-standard equipment and tools
- Industry connections and employment opportunities

SEE OUR
FULL RANGE
OF COURSES



Watersports

Dive into an exciting career as a watersports instructor, with a course that will provide you with all the skills you need to excel in this exciting industry. With close partnerships with leading outdoor providers, and the picturesque Stithians Lake as your classroom, you'll develop your personal and instructing skills in a range of watersports.

SEE OUR
FULL RANGE
OF COURSES



We offer both Level 2 and Level 3 courses, offering pathways to further study, apprenticeships or employment.

Subjects we offer

- Watersports Instructor

F

Why study with us

- Get practical experience in windsurfing, dinghy sailing, paddlesports and more
- Develop your personal and leadership skills
- Learn the theory behind sports development and coaching
- Gain additional instructor qualifications
- Amazing facilities in a beautiful location
- Excellent industry links





LARK BRIDGES

Chief Instructor,
South West Lakes

“ My course encouraged me to enjoy being outside, being in the sunshine, being active, being hands-on and working with lots of people from different backgrounds. ”

F Full-time study **T** T Levels **A** Apprenticeships



Did you know?
There are 20 beaches in and
around Falmouth alone!



Did you know?
Falmouth's harbour is the
third deepest natural harbour
in the world, and measures up
to 34 metres in depth!

Supporting you at college



Transport

If you are aged 16-18, and need help with transport to college, it's really important to apply for your bus pass during the months of June and July. This will guarantee that you'll have your pass in time for the start of term in September.

Depending on where you live, your bus pass could be provided by Cornwall Council, Devon Council or through the College's own transport network.

We do have bursaries available that can support eligible learners with the cost of travel. If you have any questions about travelling into college, please email bursaries@cornwall.ac.uk

FE Bursary funding

If you are under 19 years old on 31 August, your course won't cost you anything. For students aged 19 and over who may have to pay fees towards their tuition, guidance is available.

We offer a FE Bursary to support eligible students financially with access to transport, childcare, equipment and free college meals. If you have any further questions regarding financial support with your studies, please email bursaries@cornwall.ac.uk



Student Support

The College provides a supportive learning environment focused on student success and personal growth. Engagement and Progression Officers (EPOs) help with academic and personal challenges, and staff in learning centres offer study support and resources.

Students can take part in personal development activities such as trips, guest talks, and skill-building sessions. Health and wellbeing are also prioritised, with tailored activities across campuses to support mental and physical wellness.

Career guidance is available year-round through Careers Officers, who support university progression, job opportunities, and further training. Students also have access to online tools like Moodle and Teams.

The College values inclusivity and safety, offering SEND support, financial aid, and accommodation options. The Students' Union helps shape the student experience through representation and events.

Campus map



Our amazing alumni

- 1 Reception
 - 2 Learning Centre
 - 3 Sails Cafe
 - 4 The Cove (Student Union)
 - 5 Marine Science
 - 6 Marine Engineering
 - 7 Boatbuilding
 - 8 Marine Engine Room
-  Visitors Parking



Neil was a director at a social media company before following his passion and developing his boat repair and maintenance skills. He loved all of the course, and his standard of woodworking has reached a whole new level.

George completed a Marine Engineering Diploma Level 3 before progressing on to the HNC Professional Super Yacht Engineer programme at Falmouth Marine School, where he also gained Coastal Skipper and Approved Engine certificates.



After completing the Level 3 Diploma in Marine Engineering at Falmouth Marine School, **Liam** discovered his passion for engineering. Now volunteering with Mercy Ships, he supports medical missions and aims to qualify further as an MCA Engineer.

How to apply

So you've decided which course is for you:

**NOW IT'S
TIME TO
APPLY**

1

Apply

Complete an application form

You can apply through the relevant course page on our website using an online form. If you'd prefer a paper copy of the application form, call us and we can send one out to you.

2

Interview

We can't wait to meet you

You'll receive an invitation to meet with the course lecturer at an interview. This is likely to be at one of our scheduled interview events on a weekday evening. It's a perfect opportunity to talk about the course you're interested in and find out how it can help you achieve the goals you have for the future.

**3**

Accept your offer

You made it! Your college place is waiting

Exciting! Reserve your place as soon as possible. Please note, the offer you get may be conditional on you gaining certain GCSE grades. If you end up not getting the results you expected, there's no need to panic. Just get in touch and we'll help you to look into any other options available to you.

4

Start course

Welcome to your local, outstanding college

We'll see you in September for your induction week!

GET IN TOUCH

If you have any other queries, please contact our main enquiries line on **0330 123 2523** or email **enquiries@cornwall.ac.uk**



SCAN THE CODE TO VISIT
FALMOUTHMARINESCHOOL.AC.UK

**Join us @ our next
FALMOUTH MARINE
SCHOOL**

OPEN EVENT

(includes Taster Session)

A great starting point for you and your family. Tour the campus, meet staff and students, and find out more about courses and college life.

Sat 18 Oct 2025

10am - 12pm

Sat 31 Jan 2026

10am - 12pm

Tue 19 May 2026

5pm - 7pm

**FIND
OUT
MORE**



**Scan the code to visit
[falmouthmarineschool.ac.uk/
events](https://falmouthmarineschool.ac.uk/events)**