

Course Information

The Tilhill Diploma is split into 2 distinct stages, beginning at level 3 and progressing onto level 5. Entry is possible at either stage, depending on experience and qualifications.

Stage 1 Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Forestry and Arboriculture

Duration: 2 years
4 days per week in college
1 day per week work experience

Level 3 is equivalent to A level standard, but includes a mixture of both practical and theory, with a substantial proportion taught in the forest. Subjects covered include: tree identification, planting and aftercare, forest machinery operation, health and safety, felling and chainsaw use, habitat management, plant and soil science, estate skills, and much more.

Stage 2 (Level 5) HND/FdSc in Forestry and Woodland Management

Duration: 2 years
2 days per week in college
Tilhill Forestry work experience placement

The Level 5 course sits between A levels/further education and university degree level; providing the ideal progression from either A levels or the Level 3 course, and leading either directly into work or to a university top-up degree.

Course modules are varied, including: woodland ecology and conservation, tree and soil science, silviculture, tree production and establishment, surveys and mensuration, harvesting, forest management, economics, timber utilisation, tree health, business management, emerging technologies, arboriculture.

Additional qualifications

As part of your learning programme, depending on experience, may include: First Aid at Work, Use of Chainsaws, Felling Windblown Trees, Brushcutter, Pesticide Application, Woodchippers, Forest Machine Operations (costs may apply).

Entry Requirements

For Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Forestry and Arboriculture:

A minimum of 5 GCSE's at grade 4 or C's, including English, Maths and Science.

Students with significant practical experience would be considered on an individual basis, depending on experience.

For the Level 5 HND/FdSc, in Forestry and Woodland Management:

Level 3 Extended Diploma in Forestry & Arboriculture, Countryside Management or similar at High Merit / Distinction.

Or 3 A Levels at grade C or above, including one science. Practical experience desirable.

Next Steps

Students completing the Level 3 Diploma with a good merit or distinction will progress to the HND/FdSc stage of the programme, subject to interview.

Successful students have a significant advantage when applying for positions with Tilhill Forestry, BSW Timber or other forestry employers.

Direct entry to the second or third year of a university forestry degree may be possible with the HND/FdSc.

HND/FdSc Students are eligible to join the Institute of Chartered Foresters (ICF), as student members. Progression to full chartered status of the ICF requires the accumulation of relevant professional experience and further examination.



Diploma in Forestry and Woodland Management

Level 3 Extended Diploma in Forestry and Arboriculture

HND/FdSc in Forestry and Woodland Management

in partnership with



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What are the key benefits?

- Industry-ready training for employment.
- Industry tailored training for a successful career in forestry and forest management.
- Training to manage trees and woodlands safely, sustainably, efficiently, economically and to high environmentally responsible standards.
- Training in forestry technical skills, knowledge and understanding.
- Skills in business management, behaviours, and people management.
- Taught at Coleg Llysfasi, in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, in partnership with Tilhill/BSW.
- Guest speakers, site visits and study tours, with input from Tilhill professional foresters.
- Industrial work experience at level 3, and professional work placements with Tilhill, at level 5.
- Mentoring from Tilhill professional foresters.
- Designed to meet the changing needs of the countryside, urban and rural environments, business and society.
- Opportunities for social, intellectual and physical integration and challenges.
- Foundation for a range of careers and the ability to transfer skills to different working environments.
- Building upon previous achievements and promoting progression.



Why should I apply?

The Tilhill Diploma in Forestry and Woodland Management is an exciting opportunity to be part of the future of forestry.

Tilhill Forestry is UK's leading forestry and timber harvesting and marketing company.

Tilhill Forestry is part of BSW Timber, which is the largest integrated forestry business in the UK, including forestry, sawmilling, timber manufacturing and energy.

BSW Timber has 7 UK sawmills and one in Latvia, employing over 1300 people, offering a range of employment opportunities.

The new Tilhill Diploma is a unique qualification leading the field in forestry training due to start in September 2019. The partnership between Tilhill Forestry and Coleg Llysfasi gives students access to the latest cutting edge technology, equipment and machinery. Training in management of both commercial and amenity woodland throughout the production cycle from seed to wood products. Unique concept to gain a outstanding career pathway in forestry.



How do I apply?

Please contact Coleg Cambria via our website, by phone, or speak to the admission tutor directly at Coleg Llysfasi, or contact your local Tilhill office.

Course co-ordinator:

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Coleg Cambria Llysfasi

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Tilhill Forestry

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