



Hair & Beauty

Job Information Sheet

Beauty therapists treat clients' bodies and faces to improve their appearance. Trained professional beauty therapists carry out beauty treatments on most areas of the body. Some treatments are well known, waxing and facials, others less so such as lymphatic massage and non-surgical facelifts.

Hairdressers work with clients of all ages, cutting and styling their hair. They use techniques such as blow-drying, colouring and perming. Some salons specialise in particular styles and clients, for example Afro-Caribbean hairdressing, traditional barber shop services for men or fun funky styles at the fore front of fashion. There are also opportunities in related jobs, such as nail technicians, body artists (or tattooists), make up and skin care consultants and in alternative therapies.

How can I train for hair & beauty?

You can train as a hairdresser either full-time or part-time at a college, or by working as a trainee/apprentice, learning on the job and attending college on day-release. Whichever option you choose, you can complete Level 2 NVQs in Hairdressing and Barbering.

To start work as a fully qualified beauty therapist you would need at least a level 3 qualification. Most train through college courses but it is possible to start as an apprentice or trainee therapist by completing qualifications such as NVQ Certificate/Diploma in Beauty Therapy at Levels 2 before progressing to a higher level. Nail Technicians also usually need Level 2 qualifications that can be obtained either by completing a college course or learning on the job.

Are there jobs for 16-19 year olds?

There are plenty of opportunities for people within this age group to train and work within this industry. You will need stamina, have to be an excellent communicator, diplomatic, creative and fashion-consciousness. For hairdressing formal qualifications are rarely required and apprenticeships are often available. Apprenticeships are less common in nail services or beauty therapy and employers are more likely to ask for good GCSEs or equivalent qualifications for beauty therapists.

What are the prospects?

As a qualified hairdresser, you could complete training in the use of more advanced colouring, perming, assessing and remedial techniques. In beauty therapy you could develop your career by training to offer a wider variety of treatments, or to move into fashion, theatre or media make-up.

With experience you could progress to jobs such as senior stylist or salon manager. For many trained and experienced workers in beauty and hairdressing it is possible to go it alone and work from home as a freelancer. Others may choose to work for a local salon or go for the pace and glamour of working in the West End, department store or as part of the travel industry.

Many young people are interested in working as a make-up artist in fashion, film or TV. Although some college courses contain an element of make-up artistry, this is a highly competitive area of work and to find work experience is essential. For those without experience volunteering or working on amateur or college productions might be the first step. For further information go to www.skillset.org/film/jobs/hair_and_makeup

Jobs for 16-19 year olds in hair & beauty

Below is a selection of jobs that could be available to 16-19 year olds living in Central London. Further details of these and many other jobs go to nextstep.direct.gov.uk and click on *Browse our job profiles*.

Beauty Therapist's treat clients' bodies and faces, improving their appearance. They give body massages, apply makeup, give facials, remove unwanted hair. They also give advice on, and sell beauty products. There are opportunities to move into more specialised areas such as holistic therapy, electrology, or cosmetic tattooing.

Nail Technicians perform manicures and pedicures as well as applying nail extensions. They also decorate nails on both the hands and feet. They work in beauty or hairdressing salons, nail salons or nail bars in large department stores, airports and shopping malls. Training may be available in local salons or by a short college course.

Body Artists or **Tattooist** use electrically-operated needles which inject coloured ink just under the skin. They use this to decorate the skin or for cosmetic purposes. Tattooists have to keep up to date with the latest fashions and must maintain a high standard of hygiene in their parlour. Training will normally be with a local registered tattoo artist and qualifications in art or related subjects can be useful.

Hairdressers or **Barbers** shampoo, cut, colour, perm, set and dry hair, using a range of products and techniques. They may also take their turn at reception duties, booking appointments, greeting clients & taking payments. Barbers specialise in cutting and styling the hair of men and boys.

Make up and **Skincare consultants** are employed by cosmetic companies. Qualified beauty therapists are sometimes preferred, as they have background knowledge, which is an asset when selling makeup and skin ranges within a retail market. Targets are generally high, so experience in sales and working to targets is preferable. Employment and training is normally with manufacturers and retailers of beauty and skincare products.

Alternative/Holistic Therapy includes reflexology, aromatherapy and massage techniques. Holistic therapy looks at treating the person as a whole (mind, body and spirit). For some therapies a university course or professional qualification are needed. For other therapies, such as aromatherapy or massage, it is possible to train part-time while working in a job such as beauty therapy. Many people train in a number of different aspects of holistic to expand their practice.

Spa Therapists help to improve their clients' overall wellbeing by providing a variety of body treatments, from facials to water treatments. They can offer relaxation treatments or focus on health and fitness by working alongside nutritionists. Spa therapists will normally have a background in other areas of hair and beauty, such as beauty therapy or hairdressing before, before training in spa treatments.

This information sheet covers jobs for 16-19 year olds in Central London. It does not cover graduate jobs or jobs that are rare in Central London. For details of the whole range of jobs in business and finance go to nextstep.direct.gov.uk and click on *Browse our job profiles*.

Hair & beauty Apprenticeship vacancies (on 1st December 2011)



For more details and to apply go to apprenticeships.org.uk and select Search for vacancies under Apprenticeship Vacancies. Search by vacancy reference number using the Ref No from the first column in the table. When this information sheet was published the following vacancies were available:

Ref No	Apprenticeship Framework	Business	Borough	Weekly Wage	Qualifications Required	Closing Date
111399	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Lambeth	£95	None	9 Jan 2012
111319	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Kensington & Chelsea	£95	None	9 Jan 2012
118324	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Lambeth	£95	None	12 Jan 2012
118398	Hairdressing	Mens' Hairdressing	Camden	£95	None	12 Jan 2012
122859	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Lambeth	£95	None	12 Jan 2012
120445	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Camden	£104	None	20 Jan 2012
120491	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Islington	£104	None	20 Jan 2012
127707	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Islington	£85 32 hours	None	20 Jan 2012
120491	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Islington	£104	None	20 Jan 2012
126519	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Wandsworth	£104	None	31 Jan 2012
129373	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salons	Throughout London	£104	None	31 Jan 2012
127835	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Kensington & Chelsea	£97.50 30 hours	None	1 Feb 2012
127955	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Lambeth	£97.50 30 hours	None	1 Feb 2012
129959	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Lambeth	£97.50 30 hours	None	1 Feb 2012
127965	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Camden	£97.50 30 hours	None	1 Feb 2012
128040	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Kensington & Chelsea	£97.50 30 hours	None	1 Feb 2012
128211	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Southwark	£97.50 30 hours	None	1 Feb 2012
129673	Beauty Therapy ^{AA}	Training	Westminster	£120	None	3 Feb 2012
129599	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Kensington & Chelsea	£97	None	27 Feb 2012
120491	Hairdressing	Hairdressing Salon	Islington	£97.50 30 hours	None	1 Feb 2012

Any vacancies marked ^{AA} are Advanced Apprenticeships leading to Level 3 qualifications, all others are Intermediate Apprenticeships leading to Level 2 qualifications.

To apply for any of these vacancies you will need to register (if you have not already) at apprenticeshipvacancymatchingservice.lsc.gov.uk/navms/forms/candidate/PreRegisterCandidate.aspx (you will need a valid email address in order to register). You can get further help on using the site and making applications at apprenticeships.org.uk/sitecore/content/avtm/Candidate.aspx

Other Vacancy Sites

Hair-Recruitment.com www.hair-recruitment.com	These site deals with hairdressing only but often have apprenticeships as well as jobs for experienced staff.
Hairdressing Jobs www.hairdressingjobs.org.uk	
Hair and Beauty Jobs.com www.hairandbeautyjobs.com	This site has links to current jobs in both hair and beauty, but most of these jobs require qualification and relevant experience.
Hairdressers Journal www.hji.co.uk	Most jobs advertised are for experienced staff but good for keeping up-to-date with trends in the industry.
University of the Arts www.arts.ac.uk/careers/creativeopportunities	This site has extensive links to employment site for beauty therapy, hairdressing, makeup and cosmetic science.