

Army Foundation College, Harrogate

CUSTOMER REQUIREMENT

Each year up to 1,600 school leavers commence their initial career training at the Army Foundation College (AFC) Harrogate, before they go onto further training as an adult entrant and from there to full time positions across the Army.



“I disliked being at school and got kicked out, so never sat my final exams. I came to Harrogate with zero qualifications and now I am leaving with my English, Maths and ICT at Level 2. Education in the Army is important as without it I will not be able to promote.”

Junior Soldier - AFC Harrogate

THE PEARSON TQ PROGRAMME

On March 1st 2015, Pearson TQ was appointed as the service providers responsible for delivering the vocational education and other parts of the skills training to learners at the AFC.

Pearson TQ holds the responsibility for ensuring that the content of courses being taught is up to date and tailored to the future career needs of the students.

The courses provided at the AFC range from practical skills such as DVLA driver theory and leadership skills to physical education and Functional Skills qualifications in English, Maths and ICT.

Pearson TQ also advises the AFC in improving the training resources and learning technologies available to all staff and students at the campus.

Pearson TQ provides the following educational services at the AFC:

- 35 teachers and educational managers who deliver Functional Skills to both the Junior Soldiers (JS) and the adult military staff
- Additional learning staff to give in-class specialist learning support.
- A library service with library and additional learning staff.
- Exam and funding qualification and administration staff.

“Education at Harrogate has really helped me. I came with nothing and now I have the grades to get to Corporal... it’s more than I ever expected from education.”

Junior Soldier - AFC Harrogate

In addition to Functional Skills delivery and administration, Pearson TQ also provides specialist staff who deliver elements of the military training:

- Physical development training (fitness, endurance, strength and swimming skills).
- Leadership training (to develop initiative, military behaviours and character in the outdoor environment).



MEASURING SUCCESS

Our learners undertake the Functional Skills programme at AFC each year. The average Junior Soldier improves by 1 level and some 2 levels in 240 hours of education.

Over 90% of Junior Soldiers at the Army Foundation College gain **Level 1** in English, Maths & ICT whilst more than **60%** achieve **Level 2** in all three Functional Skills.

Data shows that learners at AFC:

- **Stay longer** in the Army than other recruits.
- **Promote faster** than other recruits.
- **Do better** (“first time pass rate” measure) in subsequent Phase 2 training courses than other Army recruits.

Following success at AFC, Pearson TQ have delivered further programmes to the JS including Challenge Weekends and from November 2016 the delivery of BTEC Public Services Level 2 and 3 courses.