



2026 Trades Academy

Academy programmes provide opportunities for students to engage with learning in both the secondary and tertiary learning environments throughout a year-long programme. This builds on existing knowledge, exposes students to the tertiary learning environment and provides credits towards NCEA qualifications as well as a nationally transferable qualification.

Places on Academy programmes are limited and students are required to complete an expression of interest form and meet the tutor before being accepted onto the programme.



NorthTec
TAI TOKERAU WĀNANGA

Automotive Academy – Whangārei

A combination of Level 2 and Level 3 unit standards that will allow students to progress into one of the following automotive roles:

- Vehicle repair servicing
- Motor industry apprenticeship
- Further specialist apprenticeship

Student Profile:

- Y12 and Y13
- Career pathway in Automotive/Engineering.

Programme:

- 60 Level 2/Level 3 NCEA credits
- February start, end of October finish (58 days tbc)
- Two days a week
- Students will be provided with all appropriate course materials.

Qualifications:

- Students who competently complete this course may be eligible to gain the Vocational Pathways Award for Manufacturing and Technology
- An 80% attendance requirement will be essential to ensure students have the best chance of completing the programme.

Interviews will start this Term 4 with the programme commencing February 2026.

To learn more about trades academy opportunities, see your school's Careers Advisor or Trades Academy Coordinator.

Students must be enrolled in a secondary school to qualify for the programme.

If you have any questions please contact Gareth Edwards:
gedwards@northtec.ac.nz



Mechanical Engineering Academy – Whangārei

This program will provide students with the necessary skills and knowledge to pursue a career in:

- Welding
- Fabrication
- Mechanical Engineering

Student Profile:

- Y12 and Y13
- Career pathway in Mechanical Engineering.

Programme:

- 52 Level 2 credits (approx)
- February start, end of October finish (29 weeks)
- Two days a week
- Students will be provided with all appropriate course materials.

Qualifications:

- Students who competently complete this course may be eligible to gain the Vocational Pathways Award for Manufacturing and Technology
- An 80% attendance requirement will be essential to ensure students have the best chance of completing the programme.

Interviews will start this Term 4 with the programme commencing February 2026.

To learn more about trades academy opportunities, see your school's Careers Advisor or Trades Academy Coordinator.

Students must be enrolled in a secondary school to qualify for the programme.

If you have any questions please contact Simon Phelps:
sphelps@northtec.ac.nz



Construction Academy – Whangārei

This programme aims to provide students with general construction and maintenance knowledge. It provides training across a wide range of construction and maintenance areas by giving students practical experience on small building projects. This programme is also an ideal starting point for further study in the construction sector.

Student Profile:

- Year 12
- Interested in following the construction and infrastructure pathway.

Programme:

- 40 Level 2 credits (approx)
- February start, late October finish (32 days tbc)
- One Day a week (Thursday) with a 2 to 3 day block course in term 1
- Students will be provided with all appropriate course materials.

Qualifications:

- Students who competently complete this course will gain Level 2 BCATS Qualification
- An 80% attendance requirement will be essential to ensure students have the best chance of obtaining the qualification.

Interviews will start this Term 4 with the programme commencing February 2026.

To learn more about trades academy opportunities, see your school's Careers Advisor or Trades Academy Coordinator.

Students must be enrolled in a secondary school to qualify for the programme.

If you have any questions please contact Roger Rhodes:
rrhodes@northtec.ac.nz



Cookery Academy – Whangārei

This programme will give students the basic skills needed to actively participate in commercial kitchen operation. The expectation is that students, after completing the extended programme, would be eligible and given preferential entry to apply for the Level 4 Cookery Programmes. This is a programme that requires commitment and dedication from students to attend all classes. An attendance of at least 80% will be essential to ensure completion of the programme.

Student Profile:

- Year 13 (Year 12 at the discretion of the tutor)
- Interested in following the hospitality pathway with the possibility of becoming a chef.

Programme:

- 45 Level 3 credits (approx.)
- Early February start, late September finish
- One day a week (every Thursday) and one 4-day block course during the school holidays.
- Students will be provided with all appropriate course materials (including basic knife set)

Qualifications:

- Students wishing to progress to L3 Cookery and gain the equivalency of NZ Certificate in Cookery L3 will be required to complete a further block course of 15 credits, in order to achieve this.

Interviews will start this Term 4 with the programme commencing February 2026.

To learn more about trades academy opportunities, see your school's Careers Advisor or Trades Academy Coordinator.

Students must be enrolled in a secondary school to qualify for the programme.

If you have any questions please contact Lisette Buckle:
lbuckle@northtec.ac.nz



Hair and Beauty Academy – Whangārei

This course is for students who are wishing to pursue a career in Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy and to have a qualification which would allow them to pathway to NZC in Hairdressing L3 or NZC in Beauty Therapy L4. Graduates will have gained skills which would then allow them to further their study or to be employed in the Hair and Beauty industries.

Student Profile:

- Year 11 and Year 12 Students
- Interested in following the Hairdressing and/or Beauty Therapy pathway.

Programme:

- 54 Level 2 / Level 3 Credits (approx.)
- Early February start, mid-September finish (30 days tbc)
- One day a week (every Friday)

Qualifications:

- This course will allow the student to pathway to NZC in Hairdressing Level 3 or NZC in Beauty Therapy L4.
- An 80% attendance requirement will be essential to ensure students have the best chance of completing the programme.

Interviews will start this Term 4 with the programme commencing February 2026.

To learn more about trades academy opportunities, see your school's Careers Advisor or Trades Academy Coordinator.

Students must be enrolled in a secondary school to qualify for the programme.

If you have any questions please contact Lisette Buckle:
lbuckle@northtec.ac.nz



Health Academy – Whangārei

This pathway will link students at secondary school with careers in the health industry and pathways through tertiary to those health career opportunities.

Student Profile:

- Year 12
- Engaged with other Science and English subjects at school to ensure transition to Level 3 UE approved subjects related to a health pathway (desirable but not essential) .
- Interested in pursuing a career in health as a carer, paramedic, doctor, midwife etc.
- **Programme:**
26 credits (approx.) – where a total of 20 Level 2 Social and Community Services sector related credits would be achieved contributing to NCEA and a Vocational Pathway Award.
- Practical components of learning will include nursing simulation as well as field trips (subject to Covid restriction policies) to industry.
- Terms 1-3 (early March start, early September finish) - total of 24 days
- One day a week (Wednesdays)
- An 80% attendance requirement will be essential to ensure students have the best chance of completing the programme.

Interviews will start this Term 4 with the programme commencing March 2026.

To learn more about trades academy opportunities, see your school's Careers Advisor or Trades Academy Coordinator.

Students must be enrolled in a secondary school to qualify for the programme.

If you have any questions please contact Lucie Quantrill:
lquantrill@northtec.ac.nz



Hospitality Service Academy (F&B) – Whangārei

This programme is for those wishing to pursue a career in Hospitality and to have a qualification which would allow them to pathway to NZC in Food and Beverage L4. Graduates will have gained skills which would then allow them to further study or to be employed in the service industry, particularly in Hospitality.

Student Profile:

- Y13 (Year 12 at the discretion of the tutor)
- Interested in following the hospitality pathway

Programme:

- 55 Level 2 / Level 3 credits (approx.)
- Early February start
- One day a week (every Monday) and a 3-day block course during term 1
- Students will be provided with all appropriate course materials
- An 80% attendance requirement will be essential to ensure students have the best chance of completing the programme.

Interviews will start this Term 4 with the programme commencing February 2026.

To learn more about trades academy opportunities, see your school's Careers Advisor or Trades Academy Coordinator.

Students must be enrolled in a secondary school to qualify for the programme.

If you have any questions please contact Amanda Turner:
aturner@northtec.ac.nz



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Trades Academies are for domestic students only. The information was correct at the time of printing (July 2025), however, courses and programmes may be cancelled, postponed or have their content or configuration changed from time to time (including during the academic year) at the discretion of NorthTec.

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