The Prince’s Foundation provides holistic solutions to challenges facing the world today. We champion a sustainable approach to how we live our lives and build our communities, we run a diverse programme of education and training for all ages and backgrounds, and we regenerate and care for places where communities thrive and that visitors enjoy.

We work nationally and internationally but at the heart of our organisation is the heritage-led regeneration of the Dumfries House estate and its wider community, where our principles and philosophies are explored and put into practice.

The work of The Prince’s Foundation is inspired by The Prince of Wales’s philosophy of harmony: that by understanding the balance, the order and the relationships between ourselves and the natural world we can create a more sustainable future.

For more than 40 years His Royal Highness has been at the forefront of championing sustainability. During the last decade the impact of natural resource depletion, climate change and rapid urbanisation has become evident and widely understood. The work of The Prince’s Foundation is inspired by the belief that only by taking a holistic view can we create a sustainable future to meet the needs of our world.

The Prince’s Foundation was created through the merger, in 2018, of The Prince’s Foundation for Building Community, The Prince’s Regeneration Trust, The Great Steward of Scotland’s Dumfries House Trust and The Prince’s School of Traditional Arts.
BUILDING CRAFT PROGRAMME 2022 - 2023

THE BUILDING CRAFT PROGRAMME SUPPORTS THOSE WORKING IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR TO PUSH THEIR SKILLS TO THE NEXT LEVEL AND CONTINUE ON THEIR JOURNEY TO BECOMING THE NEXT GENERATION OF MASTER CRAFTSPEOPLE.

INTRODUCTION

The Prince’s Foundation believe that it is crucial to preserve the wisdom and knowledge that embodies many of the traditional building skills which have shaped our historical built environment. As many workers in the sector now reach retirement age it is vital that these skills are passed on to the next generation of master craftspeople. Ensuring that we can continue to restore and conserve our history, but importantly demonstrate the significant role that traditional craft skills can play in creating new spaces and places. The Building Craft Programme provides an opportunity to keep many of these traditional skills alive, and ensure they continue to play a role in conserving our past, and importantly defining the role that they can continue to play in the 21st Century.

The Prince of Wales Building Craft Programme was established by The Prince’s Foundation for Building Community in 2006, and each year brings together 12 students on a full time 8-month course, providing opportunity to gain practical experience in traditional building skills as well as the opportunity to work towards an Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Heritage Skills (Construction).

Each year the Programme brings together a diverse and skilled cohort of individual craftspeople who demonstrate a passion for their particular trade. Many of our candidates have followed pathways through college programmes, or have acquired significant practical experience working within the sector. The Building Craft Programme aims to galvanise this experience, providing participants the opportunity to work alongside like-minded individuals, expand their portfolio of skills, and build networks across the UK.
At the time of writing the Building Craft Programme 2022-23 will run to the above time frame. As there continues to be uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic these dates are subject to change.

The Building Craft Programme is a full-time course.

The course is generally delivered Monday – Friday, however, you may occasionally be required to attend additional hours during particular aspects of the course such as the Introductory Programme and Live Build. Placement providers will advise on your hours on-site.

Breaks are scheduled throughout as per the course timetable. No holiday leave can be taken outside of this period.

Public Bank Holidays are not observed during the Building Craft Programme and as such these are considered as Normal Working Days.
The Building Craft Programme is an 8-month course which supports those working in the construction sector to push their skills to the next level and continue on their journey to becoming the next generation of master craftspeople.

**PROGRAMME STRUCTURE**

The course starts with an intensive three-week Summer School, delivered in London and Scotland. The Summer School is an opportunity to introduce participants to the broader teachings of The Prince’s Foundation and will include activities such as drawing classes, geometry and structure exercises, as well as architectural tours. During the second week, at the Dumfries House Estate in Scotland, you will take part in a series of hands-on craft workshops with master craftspeople, gaining an appreciation for the many different skills and materials which make up our built environment.

The Live Build is an opportunity to work alongside your fellow participants and construction professionals to gain first-hand experience while completing a project on-site. Tackling the project together provides the opportunity to understand how your trade area fits into the wider built environment – to learn from and with craftspeople from other disciplines. The Live Build aims to strike a balance between being both an educational programme whilst highlighting many of the realities of a commercial, time-sensitive build.

Following the Live Build, participants will undertake 12 weeks of industry placements with craftspeople around the UK. Placements are tailored towards your specific trade area and provide an excellent opportunity to build your practical skills, and gather vital evidence towards gaining the NVQ qualification. Participants will typically take place in 2 or 3 different placements with different organisations enabling you to build new networks throughout the sector.

The programme concludes with a week-long Business Skills course designed to introduce participants to many of the core skills required when setting up and running a business in the construction sector.
FURTHER INFORMATION

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The Building Craft Programme is geared towards those with experience in craft areas such as: stonemasonry, carpentry and joinery, bricklaying, blacksmithing, plastering, thatching, roofing and tiling, painting and decorating.

In addition to practical experience in a building craft discipline, applicants should have an interest in developing their craft with a focus towards heritage and traditional methods whilst striking a balance with 21st Century ways of working. The Building Craft Programme aims to highlight the holistic nature of our built environment and as such promotes multidisciplinary learning, providing exposure to elements of architecture, design and a range of craft skills.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate at least one of the following:

• NVQ/SVQ Level 2 or 3 or equivalent in a building craft/construction subject from a Centre of Vocational Excellence.

and/or

• Qualification in a building craft/construction subject from a recognised authority.

and/or

• Significant working experience in your chosen craft/trade area.

Please note, you will required to submit a digital portfolio containing examples of work / projects you have undertaken in relation to your craft / trade area.

FUNDING & BURSARIES

The Building Craft Programme is a fully funded course.

All participants of the Building Crafts Programme 2022-23 will be awarded a full scholarship covering the course fees, as well as being provided with a monthly bursary of £1,000.

Participants will be required to arrange and pay for their own travel, accommodation and living costs while on the course. The majority of materials needed for the course will be provided.
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The Prince’s Foundation is proud to offer educational opportunities to students from all around the world. Should you require a visa to study or work in the UK, it is important to note that whilst The Prince’s Foundation is a licensed student sponsor, this sponsorship does not extend to those undertaking the Building Craft Programme. Therefore, acceptance onto the Building Craft Programme alone is not sufficient to obtain the appropriate visa. Please note that The Prince’s Foundation cannot assist you in obtaining a visa.

In most cases you will be required to hold one of the following in order to be eligible for the Building Craft Programme:

- UK Passport Holder
- Settled Status / Indefinite Leave to Remain in the UK
- Pre-settled Status

If you require a visa to work or study in the UK, please contact the Programme Manager prior to submitting an application.

STORIES FROM PREVIOUS YEARS

GENERAL:
- Lily’s Story
- Ben’s Story
- Reflections on our Building Arts and Building Craft Programmes in 2020
- The Next Steps for Craft Build Student Esme Walker

SUMMER SCHOOL:
- The Prince’s Foundation Summer School

LIVE BUILD:
- The Prince’s Foundation Live Build Projects

PLACEMENTS:
- Student gets opportunity to work on grade II* Grade Listed Coventry landmark

“EVERY DAY OF THE SUMMER SCHOOL INTRODUCED ME TO ACTIVITIES, SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE THAT I HAD NEVER ENCOUNTERED BEFORE.”

- PARTICIPANT 2021-22
Applications for the Building Craft Programme 2022-23 are now open. To apply, download the application form at:

princes-foundation.org/education/building-craft-programme

Send your completed application form and accompanying portfolio via email (preferred) or post to:

michael.goodger@princes-foundation.org

or

The Prince’s Foundation,  
c/o Michael Goodger,  
Dumfries House, Cumnock,  
East Ayrshire Scotland,  
KA18 2NJ

Interviews will take place at the Dumfries House Estate, Cumnock, Scotland, KA18 2NJ week commencing 9th May 2022.

For more information please contact Michael Goodger,  
michael.goodger@princes-foundation.org  
+44(0)1290 425 230

Deadline for applications: Monday 28th March 2022, 12 noon

If you want regular updates, sign up for our newsletter via our website, follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter:

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If you want to find out more about us, visit our website at www.princes-foundation.org

or contact us
email: enquiry@princes-foundation.org
phone: 01290 42 5959 / 020 7613 8500

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The Prince’s Foundation is a registered charity in Scotland number SC038770