

### 3. What is a **Foundation degree**?

**Foundation degrees were introduced in 2001 and have been developed to meet skills gaps and combine work based learning with academic study. They are delivered by colleges and universities working in partnership with employers and professional bodies.**

Employers are consulted to ensure that courses meet current employment needs. Students on Foundation degrees will learn essential transferable skills and gain the knowledge to respond to future developments in the workplace.

Courses are delivered by colleges and universities and have flexible teaching arrangements including work based, on-line and distance learning modes on a full or part-time basis. They are equivalent to the first two years of a Bachelor degree and students who successfully complete their Foundation degree can, if they wish, progress to a related Honours degree.

#### **Who studies on Foundation degrees?**

- School or college leavers who have completed Level 3 qualifications
- People in work wishing to upgrade their skills
- People wishing to embark on a career change

Traditional academic qualifications are not necessarily required to gain entry to a course. Existing experience, achievements and motivation to learn are taken into account.

There are over 2500 Foundation degree courses available covering a huge range of subjects, from Classroom Support to Animal Management.

Applications for entry to full time Foundation degree courses are made via UCAS at [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com). Part time applicants are made directly to the institution offering the course.

For more information on Foundation degrees see the Foundation Degree Forward website at [www.fdf.ac.uk](http://www.fdf.ac.uk).