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Automotive at The Manchester College



Get career ready from day one

Our courses are designed with employability in mind, giving you realworld skills for roles in vehicle maintenance, repairs, mechanics and more - all linked to Greater Manchester's innovative automotive sector.



Learn from industry experts

You'll be taught by experienced tutors who bring real automotive knowledge into the classroom, helping you understand what employers are looking for right now. Find out more about your tutors on our website: tmc.ac.uk/automotive.



Experience automotive in action

Through work placements, employer-led projects and visits to top organisations, you'll build practical experience that looks great on your CV.



Discover what inspires you

Start with a solid automotive foundation, then specialise in areas that match your goals and interests as you progress - from vehicle accident repair to automotive maintenance.



Go beyond the classroom

Take part in enrichment activities, enterprise challenges and networking events that develop your confidence, leadership and problem-solving skills - all key for success in the automotive sector.









There were approx. **22,975** employees working in the Automotive sector in Greater Manchester in 2025. This is predicted to increase by **0.9**% by 2028.



Average earnings

The average wage in Greater Manchester is £40,746 per annum (2024).



Replacement demand

4,709 of the current workforce will be reaching retirement in the next 10 years, meaning those jobs will need replacing.

Types of jobs
Auto Electrician
Garage Manager
MOT Tester
Motor Mechanic
Motor Vehicle Breakdown Engineer
Motor Vehicle Fitter
Motor Vehicle Parts Person
Paint Sprayer
Tyre, Exhaust and Windscreen Fitter

Vehicle Body Builder and Repairer

Data sourced from Lightcast April 2025.

Skills needed
Communication
Customer service
Detail orientated
Industry knowledge
Management
Mechanics
Paint Spraying
Sales
Vehicle inspection
Vehicle maintenance

Examples of GM Employers
Arnold Clark
Auto Trader
CarShop
Direct Line Group Auto Services
Halfords
Jaguar Land Rover
National Tyres and Autocare
RRG Group
Stagecoach Manchester
Volkswagen

Careers information





The engineering elements really fascinate me and show how much goes into making a vehicle. The tutor's support is great and means we can learn at the best pace for us.



BradleyLevel 2 Vehicle Accident Repair



Where to find us

Our Automotive courses are delivered at our Openshaw and Wythenshawe campuses. By studying with us you'll be giving yourself the opportunity to benefit from our state-of-the-art training facilities.



- An MOT testing bay
- An auto-electrical workshop
- A painting workshop
- A mechanical workshop
- A machine workshop
- An electrical diagnostic area
- Electric, Hydrogen and Hybrid vehicles
- 30-station gym and strength and conditioning room
- Bookable sports hall and 3G pitch with spectator seating
- Dedicated coffee bar serving Starbucks
- Street food-style lunch options.





- Industry-standard mechanical garage including tyre machines, tracking gauge and diagnostics equipment
- Student-run restaurant
- Spacious library with IT access and study areas
- Starbucks coffee shop and on-site refectory
- Discounted hair and beauty treatments at our salon.

Get career ready with us

We're here to help you achieve your goals and get career-ready. Our courses are designed with top employers to focus on in-demand skills.

From day one, you'll gain hands-on experience to build confidence. By the end, you'll have the qualifications, knowledge, and experience to stand out and take the next step in your career.



Building your employability

To get you career-ready, you'll take part in activities that boost your skills and understanding of the world of work. You'll be supported by a dedicated Employability Co-ordinator who will support you to develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours you'll need to thrive in the workplace.

Real-world experience that counts

As part of your course, you'll complete work experience with an employer. We'll help you find a placement where you can:

- Shadow professionals and see how the job is done day-to-day
- Contribute to real projects that develop your skills and strengthen your CV
- **Grow in confidence** as you put learning into action.

Many of our students make such a strong impression that they even secure parttime or full-time jobs with their placement provider!

We work with leading employers to deliver our placements, including:



















Discover where automotive can take you

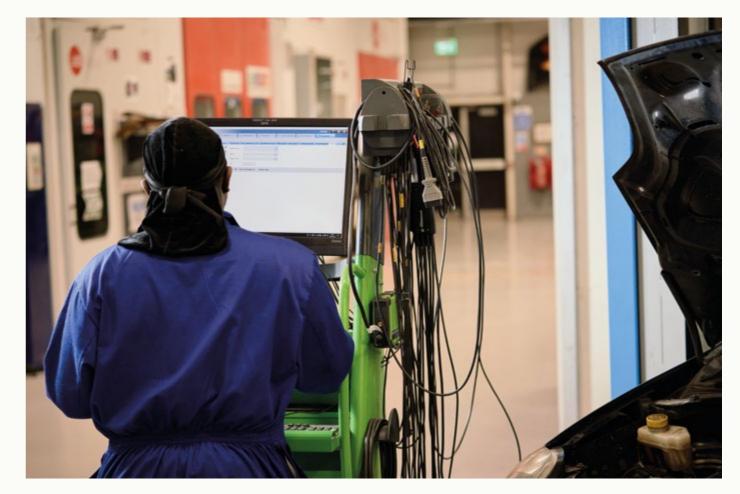
We'll introduce you to a wide range of career options in the automotive sector through:

- Visits from employers in the industry
- Masterclasses from leading employers
- Industry trips both locally and nationally
- Career and trade fairs.



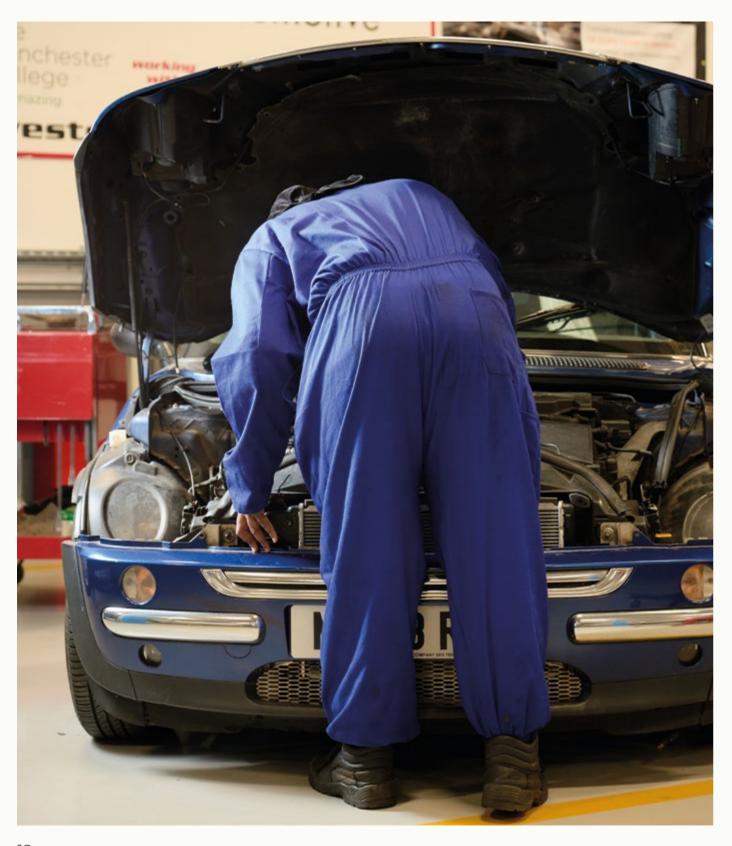


This will help you decide which path to take after your course — whether that's progressing to degree-level study with our higher education partner UCEN Manchester, starting an apprenticeship or going straight into employment.



Courses

We offer qualifications from Level 1 to Level 3, including T Levels. If you haven't already obtained a Grade 4 GCSE in English or maths, you'll study to work towards achieving this qualification.



T Level Maintenance Installation and Repair (Light and Electric Vehicles)



Level 3 | Openshaw | 2 years

Our T Level prepares you for a career in the automotive industry, including roles like accident repair or maintenance technician. You'll study engineering principles, materials science, core health and safety and essential maths and science. With input from industry experts, you'll gain real-world experience through guest talks, site visits and industry placements. You'll also build business and commercial awareness, supported by an employability tutor to guide your progression into the workplace.

Light Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Principles

Level 3 | Openshaw | 1 year

Take your automotive skills to the next level with this advanced course focused on modern vehicle maintenance and repair. Building on previous Level 2 learning, you'll deepen your knowledge of engine management systems, electrical faults and chassis repairs through classroom theory and hands-on workshop sessions. You'll also strengthen your understanding of health and safety and explore the roles within a dealership or garage. This course equips you with the specialist skills and insight needed to succeed in today's automotive industry.

Motorsport Vehicle Maintenance and Repair

Level 2 | Openshaw | 1 year

Fuel your passion for motorsport with this exciting qualification, designed to give you hands-on experience and technical knowledge of the industry. You'll explore everything from engines, transmissions and chassis systems to electrics, tyres and vehicle inspection during competition. Alongside this, you'll gain valuable insights into electric vehicle technologies, low-carbon innovations and workplace health and safety. This course opens the door to progression onto a T Level in Maintenance, Installation and Repair or straight into the motorsport industry.

Motor Vehicle Maintenance and Repair

Level 2 | Openshawe and Wythenshawe | 1 year

If you've completed a Level 1 in Motor Vehicle Maintenance and Repair, this Level 2 course is the ideal next step. You'll build on your skills in maintaining and repairing components such as brakes, steering, suspension, engines and chassis systems. With a strong focus on hands-on learning in the workshop, you'll develop advanced techniques like engine replacement and exhaust repair. This course also prepares you for future automotive technologies with the skills needed for modern vehicle maintenance and repair.

Vehicle Accident Repair sponsored by Tetrosyl

Level 2 | Openshaw | 1 year

Learn how to repair vehicles after accidents with this hands-on Level 2 course, designed to develop the skills employers are looking for in body, paint and Mechanical, Electrical and Trim (MET) repair. If you've completed our Level 1 in Vehicle Accident Repair, this is your next step. Sponsored by Tetrosyl, you'll benefit from industry input, employer engagement and real-world experience through placements. You'll cover key skills like paint mixing, welding, detailing, and accident inspection. This vocationally related qualification (VRQ), awarded by the Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI), prepares you for a career in vehicle accident repair.

Pathway to Motor Vehicle Maintenance and Repair

Level 1 | Openshaw and Wythenshawe | 1 year

Kick-start your career in the automotive industry with this hands-on, full-time Level 1 course. Ideal for anyone interested in vehicle maintenance and repair, you'll develop practical skills in key areas like brakes, suspension, steering, tyres, exhausts and electrical systems. You'll also build knowledge of engines, drivelines and chassis components, explore different job roles in the sector and learn essential health and safety practices. Taught in industry-standard workshops, this IMI-accredited course prepares you for further study and a future in motor vehicle technology.

Pathway to Vehicle Accident Repair

Level 1 | Openshaw | 1 year

Our exciting Level 1 course is the perfect introduction to the motor vehicle accident repair industry, covering key areas including Body, Paint and Mechanical, Electrical and Trim (MET). You'll develop practical skills in areas like brakes, steering, suspension, tyres and exhausts, while gaining knowledge of engines, drivelines and chassis components. With hands-on training in state-of-the-art workshops, you'll also learn essential health and safety practices.

The advice I'd give to women looking to study Automotive would be 'don't be afraid





Chelsea Level 1 Motor Vehicle Maintenance and Repair

Courses for Adults

Are you aged over 19 and looking to upskill, retrain or progress your skills in automotive? We've got a wide range of courses for you to help strengthen your CV, start a new career or go further in your current role.

We believe finances shouldn't be a barrier to your success, so if you have any questions about course fees, finance or funding, then get in touch with us.



Light Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Principles

Level 3 | Openshaw

Vehicle Accident Repair

Level 3 | Openshaw

Vehicle Accident Repair – Multi-Skill

Level 2 | Openshaw

Vehicle Fitting Principles

Level 2 | Openshaw

Automotive Maintenance and Repair

Level 1 | Openshaw

Vehicle Accident Repair

Level 1 | Openshaw



careers&welfare@tmc.ac.uk



tmc.ac.uk/funding







SUPPORTED LEARNING

Promoting independence through accessibility and inclusion.

Have you received learning support in the past? Do you have an Education, Health and Care Plan or an identified Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND) need? Our Supported Learning team can help students with SEND to achieve their aspirational career goals.

We provide a highly personalised offer for students to create a supportive learning environment for all. Whatever course you choose to study, our provision is specifically designed to support you on your journey to independence and into further education or employment.

Find out more about how we can help you: tmc.ac.uk/supported-learning







Additional Learning Support Team: specialistsupport@tmc.ac.uk
Transition Team: transitionteam@tmc.ac.uk





DEGREE LEVEL

Once you've completed one of our Level 3
Diplomas you'll have the opportunity to progress
onto a degree-level qualification through our
higher education partner – UCEN Manchester.

You can study one of our construction HNCs part-time:

HNC Construction Management for England - 2 years

or our engineering HNCs, either full or part-time:

- HNC Civil Engineering 1 year
- HNC Engineering for England 1 year
- HNC Automotive Engineering 2 years



For more information or to apply visit ucenmanchester.ac.uk



How to apply

Applying to study at The Manchester College is really easy. Just follow these steps and you'll be on your journey to amazing in no time.



What's next?

You've explored what's possible, now it's time to take your next steps.

To discover more about Automotive, and to start your application, scan the QR code or visit: **tmc.ac.uk/automotive**.





Visit us

There's no better way to get a feel for college than visiting in person.

Join us at one of our open events to:

- Learn more about our courses
- Tour our industry-standard facilities
- Meet our expert tutors
- Ask any questions you may have.

Secure your place now: tmc.ac.uk/events











Contact Us

Got a question about one of our courses, about The Manchester College or just need to get in touch? Contact us:

enquiries@tmc.ac.uk

03333 222 444



The Manchester College is committed to equality of opportunity, non-discriminatory practices and supporting individual learners. This information is also available in a range of formats, such as large print, on request.