



# Fisher Traineeship

## Is this the right course for me?

The broad purpose of the fisher traineeship is to give those interested in a career in the fishing industry, to give a taste of life as a fisher involved in the sustainable harvesting of fish and shellfish ahead of an apprenticeship. Fishing methods range from static gears such as shellfish pots through to modern, selective, high-tech trawl equipment.

A fisher works as part of a team, both onshore and at sea. They are involved in the entire end-to-end process, through to transporting the catch to market to enable it to be sold. They set up the fishing gear and fit it to a boat and gear a catch on a navigational passage to and from fishing grounds. They deploy and retrieve gear and keep on process, store and land the fish (or shellfish).

Fishers also help look after the marine environment in which they operate. They collect data for scientists and help inform future policies. This data informs fishing plans, catch limits and technical measures to ensure stocks are harvested sustainably. A fisher adapts and improves processes to improve sustainability. They adapt to seasonal changes and vary their approach to catch different types of fish. They also adapt their approach in response to the sea, tides, and weather conditions.

## What will I learn?

- ☐ Sea Survival
- ☐ Fish identification
- ☐ Handling and grading fish
- ☐ Knife skills
- ☐ Net mending and fishing gear construction
- ☐ Financial management
- ☐ Introduction to sustainable fishing

## How will I learn?

The traineeship is 7 weeks in duration, including 3 weeks at College and 4 weeks' work experience onboard a variety of commercial fishing vessels. You will also complete SEAFISH Sea Survival training and obtain an ENG1 medical certificate.

## What are the entry criteria?

You will need to have achieved a Level 1/GCSE grades 1-3 or D-G in English and maths.

## What could I progress onto?

After completing the Fisher traineeship you could progress onto the Level 2 Fisher apprenticeship, which could lead you into job roles such as:

- ☐ Deckhand
- ☐ Fish cutter
- ☐ Boat rigger
- ☐ Fishing boat captain
- ☐ Distribution specialist
- ☐ Fisherman

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