

# Hair and beauty training in prison

## A match for any high street salon

by **Rachel Hutt**, hairdressing tutor,  
HMP Bronzefield

Our salon would fit perfectly on any high street. It has six hair stations, four manicure stations, a pedicure chair and four massage tables. And while they're in use, there's another 10 people learning right in the middle. For the Level 2 NVQ Diploma in either hair or beauty, it's full time, five days a week, and you're hands-on from day one. It's a level of practical experience you'd struggle to find in a college.

### What you need to know

- 1 They're the same qualifications that colleges offer.** From colour and cutting techniques to waxing and facials, the units we cover are identical.
- 2 It's perfect preparation for a job in a salon.** We use the same products, follow the same industry timings for cuts and treatments and offer a friendly greeting on arrival.
- 3 Our learners work at a high intensity.** It's a noisy, fast-paced environment because we're always busy. We serve prisoners and sometimes prison staff, if they're lucky enough to get in!
- 4 We're externally assessed.** We have two qualified assessors here, but City & Guilds come in too, like they would anywhere else.
- 5 There are written exams too.** The Beauty Therapy course covers the structure of muscles and bones as well as all the different treatments. It's a huge amount to cover.



**“Our in-prison salon has a reception, uses professional products and is always in high demand.”**

### Hair and Beauty at HMP Bronzefield

City & Guilds Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Hairdressing

City & Guilds Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy

Unit-based, so any units completed in one prison can be transferred to the next

Intensive courses that involve client-facing work from day one

### Learning in numbers

2 tutors

20-25 finishers each year

10 people learning at any one time

14 treatment stations