

Visit us

SERC have 8 campuses: Ballynahinch, Bangor (SPACE), Downpatrick, Holywood, Lisburn, Newcastle and Newtownards.

Upcoming events

Come along and see our state-of-the-art facilities, meet your tutors and check out courses on offer.

Event	Date / Time	Location
Full Time Open Evening	4th June 2026 4pm – 7pm	Bangor, Downpatrick, Lisburn, Newtownards
Restart and Access Open Day	21nd May 2026 10am – 2pm	Ballynahinch
Restart and Access Open Day	20st May 2026 10am – 2pm	Newcastle

Can't make one of these? Check out our campus tours

Campus tours are a great way to see all the fantastic facilities that SERC has to offer.
Booking is essential via community@serc.ac.uk

Contact us

Email on:
community@serc.ac.uk

Telephone:
0345 600 7555 or 07584167529

Subscribe to our newsletter:
www.serc.ac.uk/newsletter

A Guide for Adults Returning to Education



For more information visit

www.serc.ac.uk

Study with us

If you need help filling in your online application our friendly Customer Services staff are always happy to help.

Free Restart Education

Restart Education is a free, part-time course and requires no previous qualifications, studying 9 hours per week.

Having fun while you learn and making new friends, this course focuses on improving your English, Maths, Science, Social Science and Study Skills.

You'll gain an OCN Level 2 Extended Certificate in Further Study Skills on completion which equates to 3 GCSEs.*

Qualifications explained*

The table below explains what each qualification means.

Level	Qualification
6	Degree
5	Foundation Degree HND
4	HNC
3	AS/A2 Level Access Award / Diploma
2	GCSE A-C Restart+, Restart Education
1	GCSE D-G Level 1 Certificate
0	No qualifications

Your qualifications on entry lead to different starting points.

Why not?

Return to Education

It can be daunting to return to education, however SERC is there to support you every step of the way.

Independent Careers Advice

Our Careers Officers can provide you with information and guidance on choosing suitable courses, and what qualifications you'll need to land your dream job! The service is impartial and available to everyone.

Learning Support

If you have a disability, long-term medical condition or learning difficulty you may be eligible for additional help and support while you study at SERC.

Counselling

Our free personal counselling service is always here to help.

Finance

Our Student Finance team are available to assist with any queries and advice on financial support options that may be applicable to you.

We also offer

Free Restart+

Restart+ is delivered over 9 hours per week and designed to provide learners with the skills necessary to work in a range of sectors including but not limited to offices, social care and early years settings. You'll also develop your employability skills. On completion you'll gain OCN L2 Diploma in Vocational Skills which equates to 3 GCSEs*.

Access Award in Foundation Studies**

This course prepares adults who have been out of education an opportunity to return to study with a view to progressing onto higher education. You'll study Biology 1, Study Skills and one further module from Psychology, Sociology or American Literature depending on your choice of campus. On completion learners will progress to the Access Diploma course.

Access Diploma in Foundation Studies**

Depending on your career pathway, you can choose from subjects in science, humanities or social & biological science. The Access Diploma is validated by Queen's University, Belfast and is equivalent to 3 A 'Levels*

**This 1-year course is offered on both a Full and Part-time basis.



For advice on applying phone 0345 600 7555
or email community@serc.ac.uk