

## Henley College Coventry

Henley College Coventry has been appointed a Centre of Vocational Excellence by the Learning and Skills Council for the delivery of courses in computing and e-skills technologies.

Henley College offers a comprehensive selection of NVQ level 1, 2 and 3 courses for students wishing to enter the ever evolving beauty industry, including Beauty Therapy, Spa Therapy, Reflexology, Body Massage, Indian Head Massage, Hairdressing, Nail Extensions and more. Their 370 full and part-time students benefit from the experience of four training salons situated within the college as well as two fully operational off-site salons including one at Ricoh Arena, the home of Coventry City Football Club.

### Salon Management Systems as part of the curriculum

Henley College firmly believe in training students for every of aspect of their future career. For this reason they decided to install **Premier College**, a complete management software programme from leading spa, salon and leisure management software developers, Premier Software. Kerry Bedford, Salon Manager, explains, "Increasingly salons are becoming computerised, installing **Premier College** in our training salons provides an excellent opportunity for the students to gain working experience of a computerised salon management system". As the beauty industry continues to evolve, colleges are striving to keep up with the change of pace by updating their teaching methods and resources to ensure students graduate ready to face the modern demands of the industry. Robert Miles, Managing Director of Premier Software commented, "Colleges are recognising the importance of salon management systems, and the need to include them as part of their training courses."



### Premier College allows the students to gain valuable knowledge of a working salon environment

An aspect of the student's courses at Henley College involves reception and stock control training. "We feel it is beneficial for our students to learn the basics of working in a salon, such as booking treatments, managing stock and so forth, alongside learning how to perform the treatments." commented Bedford. **Premier College** allows the students to gain valuable knowledge of a working salon environment, which will aid them in their future careers within the industry, whether they decide to open their own salon or work for an existing salon business.

### **“Premier College is a failsafe booking system”**

Unlike ordinary working salons, college training salons often have large numbers of therapists working and many treatments taking place at any one time. “In one of our training salons at Henley, we have four treatment rooms with ten treatment couches in each room. That’s a total forty treatments taking place at the same time. Part of the reason we chose **Premier College** over other salon management systems is its ability to manage large numbers of treatments and therapists with its failsafe booking system. When we were operating a manual booking system we often had days where we were overbooking certain treatments and didn’t have the correct equipment available. **Premier College** books appointments by treatment, therapist and equipment so this can no longer happen” commented Bedford. “As our students aren’t fully qualified therapists, it is great to have a system that flags up the medical contra-indications for a treatment. This not only stops students booking people in for unsuitable treatments, but also helps them to learn what the contra-indications are for each treatment.”

### **“Premier training and support is really good”**

All of **Premier Software’s** systems have been designed to be user friendly and straightforward to operate. “When we first introduce the students to the system, they are a bit daunted, but the training we received from **Premier** was so good that we find it quite easy to show the students how to use it. The back up support offered by **Premier** is also really good so if we ever do have a problem or query they help us out immediately.” explained Bedford.

### **“The college is seen as a flagship”**

“Henley College Coventry has been appointed a Centre of Vocational Excellence by the Learning and Skills Council for the delivery of courses in computing and e-skills technologies. The College is seen as a "flagship" for computing and e-skills technologies and is one of only nine colleges throughout the UK to gain the much sought after status for computing and IT related training.” commented Sarah Horner, Deputy Head of the Department.

