

The Tailoring Academy

Level 5 Diploma in Bespoke Tailoring



"The Tailoring Academy is the benchmark for Bespoke Tailoring education, and this should be celebrated as the exemplar in the UK."

Alan Cannon Jones MSc. F.FCDE, Chairman of the Judges

[The Golden Shears](#) competition



RECOGNISED CENTRE

The Tailoring Academy

Level 5 Diploma in Bespoke Tailoring

Alternative to the Apprenticeship

Developed by the Savile Row Bespoke Association, the stand-alone qualification embodies the highest standards in UK tailoring training.

The UK Fashion and Textiles Association (UKFT):

“The Ofqual-regulated qualification ensures that specialist skills can be accessed through Higher Education (HE) delivery.”



Savile Row Bespoke
ASSOCIATION

The Tailoring Academy

Level 5 Diploma in Bespoke Tailoring



Key Facts:

- Ofqual - regulated
- [UKFT](#) - approved dual Qualification (Bespoke Cutter & Tailor)
- Full-time, Monday to Thursday 10am to 5pm | Fridays voluntary practice
- 34 weeks September 2023 to July 2024
- Course fee £9,995 | Payment schedule available



The Tailoring Academy

Two Qualifications

Bespoke Cutter AND Tailor

A Holistic Approach:

- Apprentices must typically choose between pathways to become either trouser/coat makers OR cutters.
- The Tailoring Academy delivers the ENTIRE skill set to all our students, for male and female figure types.
- Graduates leave the course with TWO acknowledged qualifications, as fully rounded crafts- and businesspeople.



The Tailoring Academy

The Academy



Staff & Workshop:

- Dedicated, state-of the art workshop for 16 full-time students.
- Three full-time tutors, all fully qualified cutters and tailors.
- Training under the supervision of a master tailor of 35 years.
- Accredited by the British Accreditation Council ([BAC](#)).



The Tailoring Academy

The Academy

Mill & Hills:

- Based in Macclesfield, historic market town and heart of the UK silk industry.
- In the foothills of the Peak District and only a short drive from West Yorkshire's woollen mills.
- Affordable accommodation is available in walking distance.
- Lively cultural scene, home of the award-winning [Treacle Market](#) and independent shops.
- Fast train links to Manchester (25 min) and London (1h 40min).



treacle
market
macclesfield

The Tailoring Academy

The Founder

Brita Hirsch

Master Tailor
Textile Engineer (Dipl-Ing FH, Germany)



2007 - 2013: AUTOLIV Global Development Group / Adv Engineering: [Patents](#)

2013: Founded bespoke tailoring house [HIRSCH TAILORING](#)

2017: Launched [The Great Northern Cloth](#) - developed British Merino wool cloth

2017: Founded [The Tailoring Academy](#)

2018: Winner of the 2018 Textile Society Personal Development [Award](#)



The Tailoring Academy

Entry Requirements

What we expect



An intensive, rewarding Programme

The Level 5 Diploma delivers the entire skills set of what would normally be an apprenticeship. By adopting a structured approach to the training in a real business environment, the course offers the best of two worlds.

Candidates are expected to have:

- Previous experience in garment making.
- Determination to make the best of their time at the academy.

The Tailoring Academy

The Curriculum

What you can expect



Practical Skills Training:

- Individual pattern construction for classic coat, waistcoat and trouser (male and female figure types).
- Complete cutting and tailoring techniques for classic coat, waistcoat and trouser (male and female figure types).
- Heritage hand finishing techniques.
- Customer and supplier relation, bespoke cost calculation.
- Material science: heritage wool cloth and tailoring trimmings.

The Tailoring Academy

Progression

Case Study I

A Career at the Opera

John joined our first cohort as a fashion design graduate from NCAD in Dublin. He was looking for solid traditional tailoring and pattern construction skills.

He knew that adding this specialist expertise to his existing skill set would enable him to follow a more ambitious career path.

John made full use of this opportunity, and following his graduation, he accepted the offer of a tailoring position at [Glyndebourne Festival Opera](#).



G L Y N D E B O U R N E

The Tailoring Academy

Progression

Case Study II



Joining a Bespoke Tailor

Victoria joined our 2021/22 cohort with a love for meticulous hand craft, a clear idea of what she wanted to take away from the course and determination to achieve that goal.

She had no formal previous experience in tailoring. Working hard throughout the course, she aced both the bespoke tailoring and cutting qualifications.

Following her graduation in July 2022, Victoria signed an employment contract with [Samuel Brothers](#), holders of a Royal Warrant and Tailors to King Charles III.



The Tailoring Academy

Admission Process

How to join

The Process

- Submit your [application](#), letting us know about your background and motivation to join.
- If your application is successful, we invite you to a personal interview.
- If we offer you a place, you secure it by signing the course agreement and settling the enrolment fee.
- Pay in three instalments throughout the academic year.

