

Ivybridge Community College

Career of the Week



Spring Term

Job Title: Costume Designer

Salary: £22,000 - £34,000 (experienced)

Working Hours: 35-42 hours per week, you could work evenings/weekends. You may work on a freelance basis.

How Can I Get There? / Routes of Entry:

- University
- Sixth Form and Local Colleges
- An Apprenticeship

Local Providers:

- Ivybridge Community College and other Sixth Forms
- Bristol University
- Arts University, Plymouth
- Exeter College (T-Level in Craft and Design)

Skills Required:

- Visual design
- Machine and hand sewing
- Tailoring garments
- Specialized design: cobbling, haberdashery, etc.
- Broad knowledge of fashion and costuming history
- Deep knowledge of fabrics and other materials
- Making design sketches and costume plots
- Excellent time management

Employers:

- Many costume designers are freelance and work on individual productions, however, some do find full time positions with large theatre or opera companies, for example, Bristol Old Vic, the National Theatre, London and the Royal Opera House

Progression:

You could manage a team of costume designers and assistants, move into set design or become a production manager. You might specialize and work on specific types of production, for example musical theatre, ballet, or historical programmes and films.