Valeting & Detailing Course

Five days, 1-to-1: from a safe wash to a full machine-polished, protected detail.

Format	1-to-1 — one trainee per week, just you and Connor
Length	5 days, 27 hours (Mon 3.5h · Tue 7.5h · Wed 4.5h · Thu 7.5h · Fri 4h)
Structure	Monday: classroom training. Tuesday–Friday: fully hands-on
Price	£1,495 (all products and equipment supplied, no starter kit)
Second week	Add a second week booked at the same time for £1,046.50 (30% off) — £2,541.50 for both weeks
Deposit	£300 once your application is approved; balance due 14 days before you start
Location	Bridgend, South Wales (CF31) — exact address confirmed on approval
Certificate	SW Car Care Certificate of Completion (not an accredited qualification)

Who it's for

- Complete beginners wanting a career or their own mobile valeting business
- People already valeting who want to add machine polishing and coatings
- Enthusiasts who want to look after their own cars properly

Tailored to you

The timetable below is the standard course. When you apply you tell us your current knowledge and experience; Connor reviews it and adjusts the content, pace and depth of each day to suit you — a complete beginner and someone already working in the trade will get a different week. The price stays the same.

Timetable at a glance

Day	Hours	Type	Focus
Monday	9:30–13:00	Classroom	Safety, chemicals, tools, paint basics and the business
Tuesday	9:30–17:00	Hands-on	Safe wash, decontamination, wheels and full interior valet
Wednesday	8:30–13:00	Hands-on	Paint inspection, clay and single-stage machine polishing
Thursday	9:30–17:00	Hands-on	Protection (wax, sealant, ceramic) and a full timed detail
Friday	8:30–12:30	Hands-on	Complete job independently, assessment and certificate

Day-by-day detail

Monday — Foundations & the business

9:30–13:00 (3.5 hours) · Classroom

Health & safety

- COSHH, safety data sheets and safe chemical storage
- PPE: gloves, eye protection, knee pads
- Working safely at customers' homes and on roadsides

Chemicals & tools

- pH explained: acidic, neutral and alkaline cleaners and when to use each
- Dilution ratios and mixing safely
- Pressure washers, snow foam lances, vacuums, extractors and steamers
- Water and power for mobile work: tanks, pumps, generators

Paint basics

- Clear coat, base coat and primer
- Swirls, scratches, holograms and why they happen
- What can be corrected and what can't

The business

- Pricing by vehicle size and condition; building packages
- Quoting, timings and travel
- Public liability and care-custody-control insurance
- Finding customers: local SEO, reviews, repeat and maintenance plans
- Customer communication and handling complaints

Tuesday — Wash, decontamination & interior

9:30–17:00 (7.5 hours) · Hands-on

Exterior

- Pre-wash and snow foam
- Two-bucket safe wash and drying without marring
- Wheels, tyres and arches: non-acid wheel cleaners, brushes
- Iron fallout and tar removal

Interior valet on a real car

- Full vacuum including seats, mats and boot
- Fabric seat and carpet shampoo with extraction
- Leather cleaning and conditioning
- Plastics, vents and door cards; streak-free glass
- Odour treatment and finishing checks

Products & equipment used

- Snow foam, shampoo, wheel cleaner, iron remover, tar remover, APC, interior cleaner, leather care, glass cleaner
- Pressure washer, wet-and-dry vac, extractor, brushes, microfibres

Wednesday — Paint correction

8:30–13:00 (4.5 hours) · Hands-on

Inspection

- Lighting and inspecting paint for defects
- Paint depth gauge readings and safe limits

Decontamination

- Clay bar and clay mitt technique with lubricant

Single-stage machine polishing

- Dual-action (DA) polisher set-up, speed and pressure
- Choosing pads and an all-in-one compound
- Test spot, then working a full panel
- Wiping down and checking results
- Edges, trims and avoiding burn-through

Thursday — Protection & full detail

9:30–17:00 (7.5 hours) · Hands-on

Protection

- Wax vs sealant vs ceramic coating: durability, price and aftercare
- Panel prep wipe and applying ceramic coating; levelling and curing
- Glass coating, trim restoration and tyre dressing

Full detail to time

- Start-to-finish detail combining Tuesday–Thursday skills
- Working to a realistic paid-job timing
- Customer handover and aftercare advice

Friday — Assessment & certificate

8:30–12:30 (4 hours) · Hands-on

Independent job

- You complete a full valet with minimal input from Connor

Assessment & close

- Practical assessment against the criteria overleaf
- One-to-one feedback and next steps
- Certificate of Completion presented

Assessment & certificate

- Safe wash with no induced marring
- Correct product choice and dilution
- Interior finish to a sellable standard
- Machine polishing technique: control, pad choice, panel finish
- Correct protection application
- Job completed within an agreed time
- Certificate awarded on reaching the standard

What's included

- 1-to-1 tuition for the full 27 hours
- All products, chemicals, consumables and equipment used during the course
- PPE for the week (gloves, eye protection, overalls)
- Practice vehicles / panels
- A recommended kit list with suggested suppliers
- SW Car Care Certificate of Completion

Not included

- Starter kit — none is supplied to take away; use the kit list to buy your own
- Travel, accommodation and meals
- Insurance for your own business after the course

Recommended kit list (to buy afterwards)

Item	Why
Pressure washer + snow foam lance	Safe pre-wash
Wash mitts, 2 buckets with grit guards	Safe contact wash
Wet-and-dry vacuum and carpet extractor	Interiors and shampoo
DA polisher, pads and compound	Paint correction
Paint depth gauge	Safe correction
Microfibre towels (various)	Drying, buffing, interiors
Core chemicals: shampoo, APC, wheel cleaner, iron remover, glass cleaner	Day-to-day work
Water tank, pump and hose reel (if mobile)	Working away from a tap

Optional second week (30% off)

Booked at the same time as your first week for £1,046.50 (30% off). The second week builds on week one and is tailored to you — typically more machine polishing (multi-stage correction), ceramic coatings, faster job timings, and working on a wider range of vehicles. The deposit stays the same; the balance covers both weeks.

Entry requirements & what to bring

- Aged 18 or over
- Reasonable physical fitness — the hands-on days involve kneeling, bending and standing

- Full driving licence preferred (essential if you plan to work mobile)
- Bring: comfortable work clothes and safety boots, a notebook, phone for photos of your work, lunch

Booking terms

- Places are by application only — applying doesn't book or charge anything
- Once approved, the deposit secures your week; it isn't refundable but can be moved to another date once
- The balance is due 14 days before your start date
- If we have to cancel (illness, severe weather affecting hands-on work), we'll offer a new date or a full refund

How to apply

- Go to **swcarcare.com/training** and choose this course
- Tick the second week if you want it, and pick up to 3 preferred start weeks
- Tell us your experience and goals, and send your application
- Connor will call you to talk it through, then confirm your week