

*Wells & White*  
Bespoke Upholstery

# HOME TO THE NEXT GEN OF UPHOLSTERERS



AMUSF UPHOLSTERY DIPLOMA



# ABOUT US



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Bespoke Upholstery

**2011**

I enrolled on my first upholstery leisure course...  
And instantly felt I had found my calling

**2015**

After numerous classes I enrolled onto the  
AMUSF diploma to follow my dream

**2018**

I created the Brexit Vote Chair  
and my AMUSF Diploma was complete

**Now**

My workshop and upholstery school is going strong.  
A great team around me and blessed to enjoy going to  
work every day, helping people design and build their  
chosen furniture. Saving landfill and inspiring people

**AMUSF**  
ASSOCIATION OF MASTER UPHOLSTERS AND SOFT FURNISHERS

*Jade*

From our workshop in Kent, Wells and White Upholstery School is a place where skill, creativity, and community come together.

We teach the next generation of upholsterers in a calm, supportive studio environment, sharing traditional techniques alongside modern, practical skills. As Kents Association of Master Upholsterers & Soft Furnishers approved training centres, we offer accredited diploma training as well as a small number of specialist and leisure classes.

Alongside teaching, Wells and White also works with private clients and designers, upholstering furniture to a high professional standard. This means students learn within a real, working upholstery studio, not a simulated classroom.

What truly sets Wells and White apart is the atmosphere. We are a small, welcoming school where knowledge is shared openly. Students learn from experienced upholsterers, gain confidence through hands on work, and are encouraged to think carefully about design, materials, sustainability, and craftsmanship.

Together, we are helping to protect the future of upholstery, while respecting the skills and traditions that built it.



# OUR APPROACH

Our approach balances clear structure with a relaxed, friendly learning environment that leaves space for creativity and individual expression. Students are supported closely, especially in the early stages, with a gradual shift towards independent working as skills and confidence grow.

Teaching is led by practicing upholsterers, so learning is always grounded in real world experience. Students regularly spend time in the workshop, seeing live client projects in progress and understanding how professional upholstery operates day to day.

We also believe learning happens beyond the bench. Visits, talks, shared discussions, and studio time together help build confidence, knowledge, and a sense of belonging.

As deadlines approach, flexibility matters. Extra studio time is offered where possible, and students are supported to manage projects realistically and professionally. Commitment goes both ways.

**Everyone learns differently, and that belief is at the heart of our teaching. Students choose their own projects giving exposure to varying techniques and extends learning.**

**STRUCTURED, SUPPORTIVE, AND CREATIVELY LED WITH EXPERT GUIDANCE**  
**REAL SKILLS, REAL PROJECTS, REAL CONFIDENCE**

**AMUSF**  
ASSOCIATION OF MASTER UPHOLSTERERS AND SOFT FURNISHERS

Founded in 1947, the Association of Master Upholsterers & Soft Furnishers (AMUSF for short) gave craftsmen & women a group voice & mutual support to tackle industry challenges.

Today, the association is highly active in training, administering the most comprehensive qualifications in Upholstery in the UK.

The AMUSF qualification is based on acquiring good practical and relevant skills. These qualifications may lead to employment within the industry or starting your own business.

The qualifications are delivered in 3 stages with each stage being a qualification in its own right and certified separately. These qualifications can only be delivered by an AMUSF approved Training Centre.

**The AMUSF DIPLOMA**  
**Consists of 3 stages**

**STAGE 1 - CRAFT CERTIFICATE**

**STAGE 2 - INTERMEDIATE CRAFT SKILLS**

**STAGE 3 - DIPLOMA**

**UPHOLDING  
THE PAST,  
PROTECTING  
THE FUTURE.**



# AMUSF DIPLOMA IN UPHOLSTERY

The AMUSF qualification is the most widely recognised upholstery diploma in the UK. It focuses on developing strong practical skills alongside technical understanding and critical thinking.

The diploma is delivered over **three stages**, each one a stand alone qualification. Students must complete Stage 1 before progressing to the next level.

## EACH STAGE INCLUDES:

- Two assessed pieces of furniture
- A series of practical skill exercises
- A written research project
- A portfolio documenting practical work

These qualifications are suitable for those aiming to work professionally, as well as those who wish to develop upholstery skills to a high standard for personal practice.



**THREE STAGES,  
ONE SOLID FOUNDATION  
INDUSTRY RECOGNISED TRAINING  
LEARN THE CRAFT PROPERLY**

## WRITTEN RESEARCH PROJECT & PORTFOLIO

Across the three years of study, students complete a series of written research projects designed to build their technical knowledge, historical understanding, and confidence in advising clients. Although these projects are completed independently outside of class time, we provide structured support through enrichment trips (such as FIRA and Gainsborough Silks) and informal lunchtime learning sessions.

Each project deepens students' understanding of materials, construction methods, and design history, enabling them to make informed decisions when working with clients and assessing original pieces.

## THE THREE ANNUAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

Students complete one project per year:

### 1. Fabrics, Fibres and Weaves

An exploration of textile composition, properties, and construction. Students learn how different fibres and weave structures influence durability, appearance, and suitability for upholstery.



### 2. The History of Upholstered Furniture

A study of stylistic periods, construction techniques, and the evolution of upholstered forms. This project helps students identify original materials and methods used in historic pieces.

### 3. 20th Century Design

A research investigation into key movements, designers, and innovations of the 20th century, with a focus on how these developments shaped modern furniture and upholstery practices.

# AMUSF STAGE 1 INTERMEDIATE CRAFT SKILLS

## Stage 1

Introduces the tools, materials, and core techniques of both modern and traditional upholstery.

### ASSESSED PIECES

#### PROJECT 1

Traditionally sprung dining chair

#### PROJECT 2

Upholstered box project, designed by the student

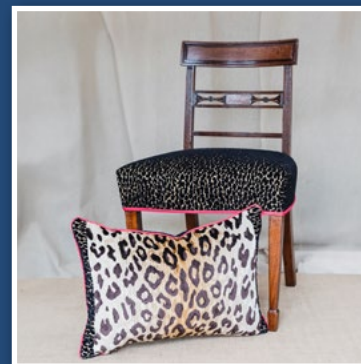
#### PROJECT 3

Written research project on the history of upholstered furniture

Students learn safe working practices, develop hand skills, and begin understanding how furniture is constructed.

### PRACTICAL EXERCISES INCLUDE

- Modern and traditional drop in seat exercises
- Sewing assessment including piped and zip fastened cushion
- Sprung arm exercise
- Deep buttoning techniques
- Sewing skills including piping, zips, box cushions
- Upholstered box project, designed by the student



Students source their own chair and top fabric, with guidance provided throughout. Fabric sourcing advice (discount available) inspirational trips support this process.

There are additional material and wood costs depending on design choices.

# STAGE 2 INTERMEDIATE CRAFT SKILLS

Teaching in stage 2 shifts towards greater independence. Students begin managing their own work flow and planning projects with increasing confidence.

## ASSESSED PIECES

### PROJECT 1

Post 1950s armchair

### PROJECT 2

Traditional armless nursing with sprung seat

### PROJECT 3

Written research project on the history of upholstered furniture

## PRACTICAL EXERCISES INCLUDE

- Traditional independent sprung edge techniques
- Caps and collars sewing
- T cushion



In Stage 2, both traditional and modern pieces are chosen by the student. This encourages a broad range of styles and design approaches, resulting in a wider variety of techniques and materials being explored and shared across the group.



# STAGE 3 DIPLOMA

## PRACTICAL EXERCISES INCLUDE

- Traditional squab exercise cushion
- An in depth business module



## ASSESSED PIECES

### PROJECT 1

Concave Backed or Egg Style Chair

### PROJECT 2

Full Traditional Armchair

### PROJECT 2

Written research project

Where appropriate, students may access work experience opportunities through the Wells and White workshop and wider professional network.

# COURSE STRUCTURE

## DURATION

Each stage runs for 36 weeks

## START DATES

September intake, one day per week

## TIME

9:30am to 4pm with a lunch break

## CLASS SIZE

Maximum of 8 students to ensure individual support

## FEES

Each stage: £3,650 including VAT

£500 non refundable deposit to secure a place.

Phased payment options available. AMUSF registration fee: £72 per stage

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Bespoke Upholstery

## OUR AIM

*We train confident, thoughtful upholsterers who understand their craft and respect the process.*

*Wells and White students are supported to develop strong technical skills, creative confidence, and a professional approach to working independently or within the industry.*

*Each year, student work is celebrated through an end of year show, marking the progress, dedication, and achievement of every cohort.*



**CONFIDENT MAKERS,  
READY FOR REAL WORK  
SKILLS THAT LAST A LIFETIME  
A CRAFT WORTH  
DOING PROPERLY**

[WWW.WELLSANDWHITE.CO.UK](http://WWW.WELLSANDWHITE.CO.UK)

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UPHOLDING  
THE PAST,  
PROTECTING  
THE FUTURE.



**READY TO JOIN US?  
SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK**

**Choose AMUSF Qualification Course Stage 1, 2 or 3**

Any questions please email us on  
[workshop@wellsandwhite.co.uk](mailto:workshop@wellsandwhite.co.uk)  
or Call us on 07810 792123

**WWW.WELLSANDWHITE.CO.UK**

