

**Welcome**



**Welcome To  
College Day**

**Student  
Guide**

**Friday 30 June 2017  
Monday 3 July 2017**

## **Welcome**

Welcome to an important day in your journey to becoming a Sixth Form College student. Today you take the first steps on a path which can take you to an exciting university place and a challenging, rewarding career. The day is designed to make sure that you get the best possible start on this journey. You need to make sure that you have really thought out your subject choices, and that you are ready for the demands advanced level study will bring. You also need to get to know the atmosphere and expectations of our College. We are not the same as school – more informal, but also more demanding. You have to make the transition from being a “pupil”, where most of your life is organised and structured for you, to being a “student”, where you need to take responsibility for yourself and work in partnership with us to achieve your goals. If you are ready to do this, the track record of the College shows that you can be really confident about reaching your targets and look forward to an exciting and productive two years with us. I look forward to working with you, and hope to talk to many of you during the day.

*Martin Sullivan*  
*Principal*

The Student Council would like to welcome you to the College today. We are here for you, the students, and we would like you to get involved with events that we organise during the forthcoming year, such as social events and charity fundraisers. In addition, we would also appreciate your input, and we are always open to any suggestions and ideas you may have about all aspects of the College. We look forward to seeing you around College or better still, why not come along and see us today in the Refectory. See you soon.

*The Student Council*

## **Competition**

Thanks go to Lendlease, who are sponsoring today’s Welcome to College Day event and providing 2 Linx 820 8” tablet devices with 2Gb Ram and 32Gb internal storage as prizes. Students who hand in their golden tickets on arrival will be entered into the prize draw and the winners will be announced at the start of the new academic year in September 2017.

## Rooms for Subject Meetings

Please see your individual timetable to know which rooms you need to go to for your taster sessions. Those students with 3 taster sessions scheduled may wish to find out more about another course in Session 4 (at 2.25pm) - the list below will tell you which rooms to go to for these courses. Those students with 4 taster sessions scheduled are requested to go to the Help Desk in the Internet Cafe (in our Refectory) **only at the end of the day** if they wish to request a change of courses.

### A Level Courses:

Ancient History	H323	Health & Social Care	A103
Fine Art	A206	History	H322
Biology	H120	ICT	K307
Business	K105	Law	K102
Chemistry	B510	Mathematics	H314
Classical Civilisation	H320	Media Studies	K308
Computer Science	K315	Music	B616
Dance	DS*	Music Technology	B616
Drama & Theatre	B601	Photography	A311
Economics	H414	Physical Education	B552
English Language	B712	Physics	H112
English Literature	B721	Politics	H424
Film Studies	K306	Psychology	K304
French	H406	Religious Studies	H321
Further Maths	H306	Russian	H407
Geography	H324	Sociology	H428
German	H406	Spanish	H407
Graphics	A309	Statistics	H304

### BTEC Extended Diploma Courses:

Applied Science	H114
Art & Design	A303
Business	H417
CACHE Childcare	A105
Health & Social Care	H304
IT Practitioners	K321
Sport	A103

\*DS - Dance Studio

See the map on the centre pages of this booklet for room locations.

# Programme

Time	Activity	
9.00am onwards	Students arrive at College	
9.30 – 9.50am	Orientation (20 mins)	
9.50 – 10.50am	Session 1	
11.00 - 11.20am	Break * (20 mins)	Session 2A
11.20 - 12.00pm	Session 2B	
12.00 - 12.20pm		Break * (20 mins)
12.30 - 1.00pm	Lunch * (30 mins)	Session 3A (including 15-min orientation)
1.00 - 1.45pm	Session 3B (including 15-min orientation)	
1.30 - 2.15pm		Lunch * (30 mins)
2.25 - 3.25pm	Session 4 (optional for students doing 3 A levels)	

Please note that not all students will follow the same timetable for the day. You must keep to the times specified on your individual programme.

Instructions:

1. Look at your individually printed timetable.
2. Check which session 2 you must attend and therefore which break you take.
3. Check which session 3 you must attend and therefore which lunch and orientation session you take.
4. You might want to transfer each subject from your printed timetable onto the programme above.
5. Do you want to investigate an alternative subject, or do you have an offer for a fourth A level subject? If so, write down the subject and room number in session 4 (2.25pm).
6. Make a note of the room numbers for each subject session (see page 2).
7. Now look at the campus map in the middle of this booklet to find out where each room is. Highlight these places and work out your routes to get from one session to another. We have added in 10-minute breaks between sessions to ensure you will have time to make it to your classroom. Please ask if you want help finding where to go, but don't worry, because throughout the day there will be staff and students around the campus to give you directions.

\* As well as getting yourself some refreshments, please use the morning break and lunch break to find out more about our exciting Additional Wider Learning in the Refectory (Hampton Building).

# Enrichment

During your time at College we strongly encourage you to broaden your experiences, develop your skills and deepen your knowledge and understanding of the world. To do this we want you to undertake Enrichment activities. These will help you to become both a better student and develop your future employability skills. Find out more about these opportunities by visiting stands in various locations around College:

## **Refectory (Hampton Ground Floor) - Student-led Societies and Enrichments:**

- Student-led Societies - e.g. the LGBT+ Society, Dumbledore's Army, the Anime & Manga Society, the Islamic Society, Christian Union, etc.
- Health Ambassadors, Subject Ambassadors and Bike User Group.
- Sports teams - basketball, cricket, football, netball, rugby.
- Specialist Academies - this will include stands on :
  - Careers & Career Passport
  - College Colours
  - Extended Project Qualification
  - Gifted & Talented
  - Subject specific Academies including Accounting & Finance Academy, Business Academy, Engineering Academy, European Languages Centre, Humanities Academy, Law Academy, Performing Arts Academy, Pre-Medical School, Psychology Research School, Shakespeare Academy, Social Sciences Academy, Teaching Academy & Wider Medical Careers Academy.

Get a copy of our Specialist Academy Guide to take home by visiting the Refectory in Hampton building (ground floor).

## **H204 (Hampton Ground Floor)**

- Student Council
- Campus tours start point at 12.30pm & 1.45pm.

Other enrichment options available include Creative Writing, Model United Nations, Serving Overseas, Creative Writing, ABC Spanish, GCSE Russian, Collision Dance Company, College Drama Production and Musical Activities - if these are of interest, get a copy of the Enrichment Guide from the Refectory to take home with you. If you have questions about any of these options, please go to the Help Desk in the Refectory or ask at Main Reception.

# Support

Success on your course will depend largely on you. We encourage our students to take responsibility for their learning and to become independent thinkers! That does not mean you will be left on your own. Your teachers guide this learning and will both teach you and support you with your independent learning as well, pointing you in the right direction to access useful resources and answering your questions.

## Online Resources

We have a virtual learning area online called Moodle, where many learning resources can be found. You can also see your teachers between lessons and contact them online by way of Tyber. This is a unique online resource to ensure good communication and clarity of information between staff, students and parents. We will take you through how Moodle and Tyber work when you start in September.

## Academic Coaching

You will be put into a coaching set and allocated a member of staff to be your Academic Coach. This person will be your point of contact for any support or advice you need. An Academic Coaching Seminar programme will take place and one-on-one appointments also arranged from time to time. These sessions are extremely useful and are a compulsory and valuable part of your programme.

## Learning Resource Centre

The Learning Resource Centre (LRC) is the hub of the College's learning environment and contains over 120 computers for student use and a well-stocked Library with over 30,000 resources. It also offers a range of e-books and online databases through the LRC's pages on Moodle. The LRC staff are friendly, knowledgeable and ready to support you in your studies, so don't be afraid to ask for help. Your induction will take you through how you can use your College ID card to access resources and make use of the computers. Your ID card will double as your printer card.

## Additional Support

The College is committed to ensuring that students with an additional need or disability are treated fairly, and all reasonable adjustments to provision are made to allow them to reach their full potential. Students with individual learning needs are offered specific support through our additional learning team.

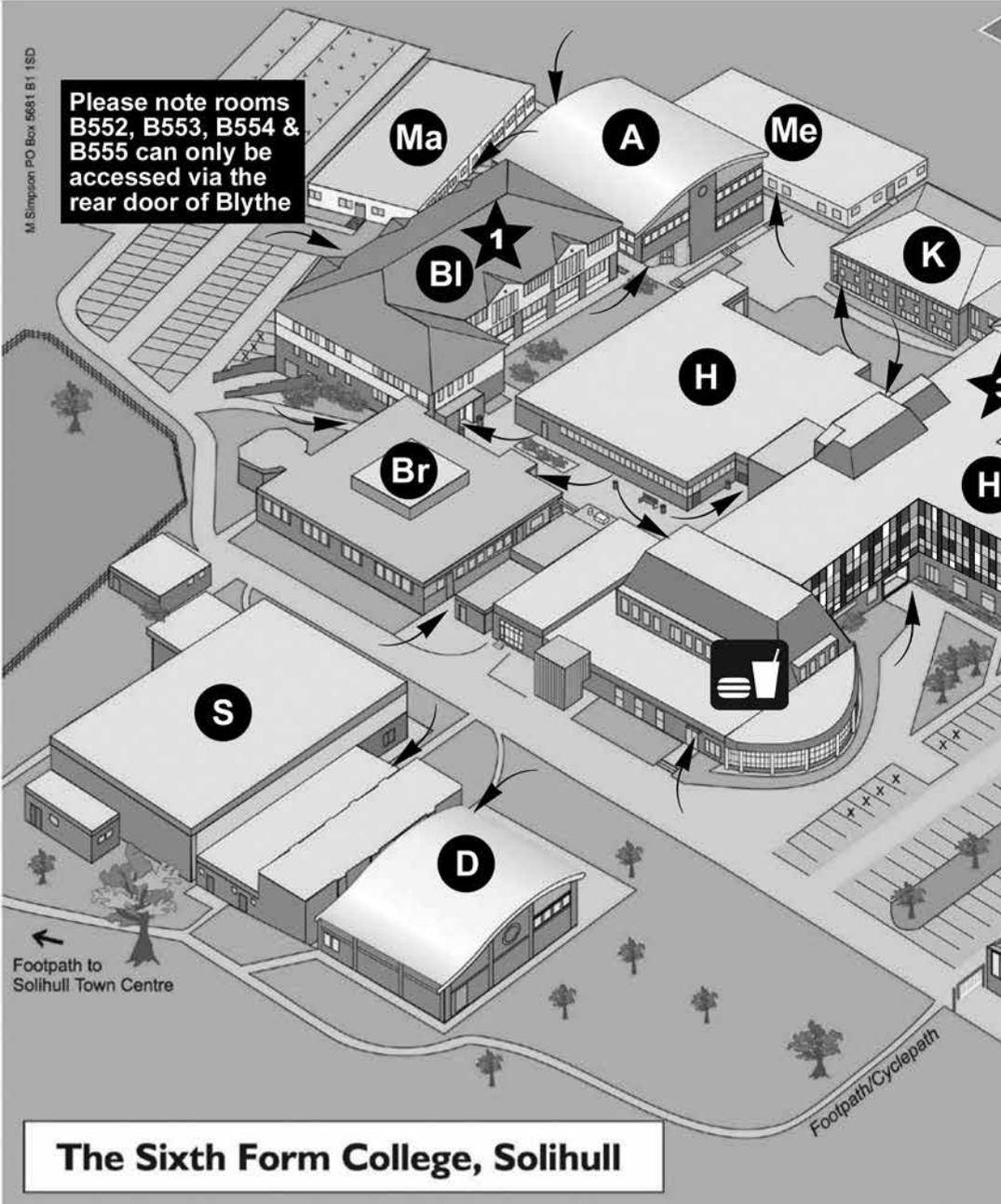
## Health & Wellbeing

Our Student Development Officers and counselling staff are here to help you with any health or welfare needs you may have, be it exam stress, anxiety, eating disorders or low mood. Advice and support regarding sexual health, smoking cessation, drugs and alcohol, accommodation, funding for higher education and health promotion within the College is also available. The service is confidential.

# Campus Plan

M. Simpson PO Box 5681, B1 1SD

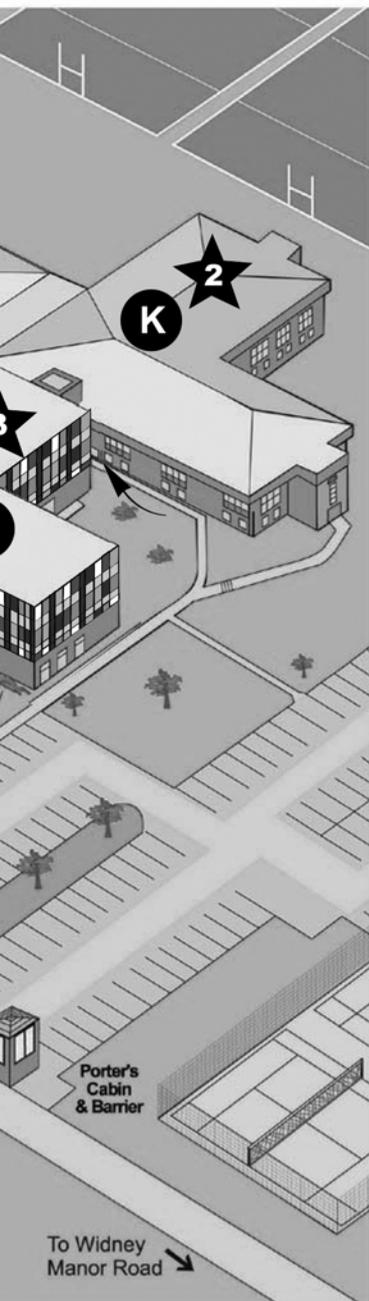
Please note rooms B552, B553, B554 & B555 can only be accessed via the rear door of Blythe



Footpath to Solihull Town Centre

Footpath/Cyclepath

**The Sixth Form College, Solihull**



## Buildings & Room Numbers:

- A Art & Design School:**  
 Lower Ground Floor: Rooms A101 – A107  
 Ground Floor: Rooms A202 – A207  
 1st Floor: Rooms A301 – A311
  - B Blythe Building:**  
 Lower Ground Floor: Rooms B552 – B555  
 Ground Floor: Rooms B503 – B513  
 1st Floor: Rooms B704 – B721
  - Br Brueton Building:**  
 Ground Floor: Rooms B601 – B616
  - D Dance Studio**
  - H Hampton Building:**  
 Lower Ground Floor: Rooms H111 – H125  
 Ground Floor: H201, Refectory & Internet Café  
 1st Floor: Rooms H303 – H326  
 2nd Floor: Rooms H401 – H432
  - K Kitson Building:**  
 Lower Ground Floor: Rooms K101 – K105  
 Ground Floor: Library & Learning Centre  
 1st Floor: Rooms K304 – K322
  - Me Meriden Building:**  
 Ground Floor: Rooms M101 – M114
  - Ma Malvern Building:**  
 Ground Floor: Rooms M201 – M213
  - S Sport Centre**
-  Refectory - food/drink  
 Student Societies  
 Enrichment & Specialist Academies
-  Meeting points:  
 1. Open Area, Blythe 1st Floor  
 2. The Learning Centre, Kitson Ground Floor  
 3. The Chill Zone, Hampton Room H204  
 Campus tours at 12.30pm & 1.45pm

**Arrows show entrances to buildings**

## Summer Homework

Students will have a piece of summer homework to complete for each of their courses, which needs to be handed in during the first lesson when the Autumn term begins in September. Don't worry! It won't be too challenging and should not take you too long, but it is to get you off to a good start with your studies and is helpful to teachers to see what you know already! You will receive this homework during your subject taster sessions. If you mislay this homework, you can download it from the College website at <http://www.solihullsfc.ac.uk/prospective-students/welcome-to-college-day/summer-homework>.

## Enrolment Interviews 2017

Interviews will be held during the week commencing 29 August 2017 (not Monday 28 August as this is a Bank Holiday). You will be notified during the summer holidays of the exact times of your interview. If you cannot attend, you must inform the College as soon as possible and arrange an alternative time, or we cannot guarantee your place or choice of subject.

When you come in to College for your enrolment interview it is **essential** that you bring the following:

- Pen and paper.
- Results slips for **all** the qualifications you have taken, including GCSE, vocational Level 2 and Key Skill courses (don't forget proof of qualifications taken early).
- Kit to attend Sports Team Trials if you wish to do team games.

If you wish to apply for a bus pass, we will help you apply for a Centro 16-18 card at enrolment. The 16-18 Centro card and term passes can be purchased online via the Network West Midlands 16-18 web portal, but you will need a Unique Validation Code, which you will be able to get online via Tyber after you enrol.

The College also asks you or your parents to pay a £50 Enrichment Payment. This allows us to offer you a range of opportunities in careers, work experience, voluntary service, higher education projects, sport, drama, music and many other areas. It also funds student-led activities like health ambassadors and student reps and it funds prizes and awards to celebrate your success. You can pay this by cash or cheque (payable to 'The Sixth Form College, Solihull with your (student) name and date of birth on the back) at Welcome to College Day at the Help Desk in the Internet Cafe during break and lunch times.

The College offers free meal tokens and bursary cash payments to students facing financial hardship and all eligible students are welcome to apply for this. Advice on this is available when you enrol in August.

You will be required at the College for approximately one to three hours in order to agree your programme of study, collect your ID card, collect a bus pass Unique Validation Code (if needed), and complete any other administration. The photograph for your ID card will be taken electronically on the day.

Your ID card is very important and you must carry it with you at all times. You will need it to gain access to the campus and to use the Library and Learning Centre and you must show your card if requested to do so by a member of staff. If you lose your card you will be charged £10.00 for a replacement.

At the end of your interview you will be enrolled as a student of the College and given information about the time and day at which you will be required to attend for Induction and the start of term.

Your first day in College after enrolment will be for induction, which takes place as follows:

<b>Induction</b>	Thursday 7 September <i>or</i> Friday 8 September <b><i>(You will be told which day you need to attend at enrolment)</i></b>
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<b>Lessons Start</b>	Monday 11 September
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Term dates are as follows:

<b>Autumn Term 2017</b>	
23 - 27 October	Half-Term
Tuesday 19 December	End of Term

<b>Spring Term 2018</b>	
Wednesday 3 January	Start of Term
19 - 23 February	Half-Term
Thursday 29 March	End of Term

<b>Summer Term 2018</b>	
Monday 16 April	Start of Term
28 May - 1 June	Half-Term
Monday 16 July	End of Term

## Your questions answered

### **What should I do if I don't get the grades I need for my course?**

Every year we have students who do better than they expected and, unfortunately, some who don't do quite as well as they had hoped at GCSE. If you find yourself in the latter situation - don't panic! There may still be a course that is suitable for you at College. So, firstly, look again at the College Prospectus/website. We offer A Level courses and BTEC Extended Diploma courses in a range of subjects. Is there anything that interests you and/or is suitable in terms of your qualifications/career intentions? Do not come into College, but rather email the College on the specific "just missed the grades" email address ([justmissed@solihullsfc.ac.uk](mailto:justmissed@solihullsfc.ac.uk)) **with** a scan of your results. We will reply within two working days to give you advice on whether you should come in to College with your results for an interview to discuss any suitable courses and the best options for you.

### **Can I change my courses before or after I have enrolled?**

We suggest you think very carefully about your choices. At today's Welcome to College Day, we need you to attend the sessions for subjects you have an offer for. After you have had a taster of your courses, if you still want to change subjects, we suggest you attend the optional final session to find out more about the course you are interested in and complete a subject change request form in this session. We will note your request but cannot confirm if a change is possible until enrolment. However, provided you meet any subject-specific entry requirements, and there is space on the course, we will try to make that change at enrolment. After you have started your studies, it is very difficult to make changes.

### **Is there somewhere to leave my books and equipment?**

At Welcome to College Day, we need you to be responsible for your belongings. However, when term starts, there are lockers available – on a first-come-first-serve basis, although there are usually sufficient to satisfy all requests. Please pay your £15 refundable deposit for a locker key at [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com) and then come along to Central Administration in the Meriden Building at the start of term.

### **Can I apply for a bus pass?**

Yes. Centro provide bus travel for students at a reduced rate. In order to qualify for this reduced price, you will first need to apply for a 16-18 Centro card, which proves you are entitled to this reduced rate. You can then pay in cash every time you use the bus or apply for a term pass. The 16-18 Centro card and term passes can be purchased online via the Network West Midlands 16-18 web portal. First you need to apply for the 16-18 card and you will need a Unique Validation Code to do this online. You will get this code from College via our online portal Tyber when you enrol. Each code is valid for one application only. It is linked to the specific school/college and confirms the students educational eligibility.

### **Is car parking available?**

Car parking space is tight at the College, but a limited number of parking permits are available to purchase. If you have a current blue disability badge, parking will be free of charge. Otherwise, parking will cost £2 per day (payable termly) and permits will be issued on a first come, first served basis. Charges are made for the whole term based on the number of teaching days per term with the exception of term 3 where a reduced cost is applied to reflect the exam period. Students can choose to pay £324 to guarantee a space for three terms or choose to pay termly (Autumn Term: £152; Spring Term: £114; Summer Term: £58). Payment can be made by Parentpay, cash or cheque. Please contact the Central Admin Office (in Meriden) for further details.

### **Can I bring my bike into College?**

Yes. The College has invested in a bike shed (in front of the Sports Centre and Dance Studio), where students can secure their bikes. Given the restrictions on the number of car parking spaces available, this is a good alternative for students.

### **Is there any financial support available?**

The College operates a Bursary Fund, which is a discretionary, means-tested award administered by the College to assist students in hardship so that they may continue with their studies. The fund is primarily for vulnerable students in care, care leavers, those in receipt of Income Support and disabled students in receipt of both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance. There will also be some funding available to help other students in hardship with course-related costs such as books and equipment as well as travel to College. These funds are limited and may only provide a contribution towards such costs.

Included in the Bursary application is an assessment for eligibility for Free Meals. The criteria for this are slightly different to the Bursary but students will be assessed for both on one application. If successful, students would be entitled to a meal per day when they attend college. Further information, including the criteria students must meet to apply for a Bursary and for Free Meals, will be sent to you in your Enrolment Guide over the summer.

### **Who should I speak to if I have questions?**

Today there is a Help Desk set up in the Refectory in Hampton building - a member of staff will be on duty throughout the day to answer any questions you may have. Once you start at College, your teachers should be your point of contact for any subject-based questions, while your Academic Coach will be able to guide you on a range of other issues. The Reception staff at the main desk in Hampton building are always available to help with information and queries as well.

# Timetable 2017-2018

## Year 12 Timetable 2017-2018

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.30	Period 1				
11.00					
11.20	Standard Y12 Break				
12.20	Period 2				
12.35	15-minute Transition				
13.35	Period 3				
14.30	Y12 LUNCH				
16.00	Period 4				

The timetable consists of 5 blocks, with morning and afternoon periods for each block. Students studying a 3 A level programme or a BTEC programme will have lessons in 3 blocks, while students studying a 4 A level programme will have lessons in 4 blocks. In the blocks where you are not being taught, time will also be scheduled for academic coaching and enrichment activities. Every student's timetable will be slightly different, depending on the courses they are enrolled on.

## **Questions I would like to ask...**

Make a note below of any questions you want to ask and speak to the teachers in your taster sessions or go to the Help Desk in the Refectory to ask.

# Competition Time!

Enrolling this summer?  
Enter our prizedraw to  
win Beats headphones!

Click to find out how! Terms & Conditions apply.



Competition open throughout  
August only to students joining  
The Sixth Form College, Solihull.



[www.facebook.com/solihullsixthform](http://www.facebook.com/solihullsixthform)  
[www.facebook.com/SFCSAdmissions](http://www.facebook.com/SFCSAdmissions)



<https://twitter.com/sfcsapply>



<http://instagram.com/sfcsolihull>



<http://www.youtube.com/user/solihull2581>