



**Solihull  
Sixth Form  
College**  
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

# **Welcome to College Day**

**Student Guide  
for A level, Single BTEC  
& Double BTEC Courses  
6 July 2023**



## **Welcome**

Welcome to an important day in your journey to becoming a Solihull Sixth Form College student, as you take the first steps on a path which can take you to an exciting university place or apprenticeship and a challenging, rewarding career. Welcome to College 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 of level 3 study. You also need to get to know the expectations of our college. You will be able to attend a lesson for each of the subjects you have an offer to study and attend a 4th subject in case as a backup option. You can also find out more about our enrichment programme which is designed not only to help you develop as a learner but also develop those skills which will help you be successful once you leave us – or just do something different for fun!

We are not the same as school – more adult, but with a strong pastoral system. You have to make the transition from being a “school pupil”, where most of your life is organised and structured for you, to being a young adult 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 confident about reaching your targets and look forward to an exciting and productive two years with us.

*Martin Sullivan*  
*Principal*

## **Student Council**

The Student Council would like to welcome you to the College. We are here for you, the students, and we would love 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 in September.

*The Student Council*

## High Expectations

### *“Be Prepared – Start as you mean to carry on”*

- 1) **Be punctual** - arrive on time for your enrolment appointment
- 2) **Be prepared** – come to enrolment with your results slips and ID
- 3) **Be involved** – make sure you have researched your choices fully beforehand. Check out our website [www.solihullsf.ac.uk](http://www.solihullsf.ac.uk).
- 4) **Be inquisitive** – ask questions. You are committing to your study programme for two full years so your choices need to be the right ones for you
- 5) **Be focused** – if you change subjects from what you had originally planned, pick up the summer homework so you are prepared for lessons in September

## Helpdesk

There will be help desk in the Refectory. Here you will be able to speak to staff about any queries you may have about all aspects of college life.

## Summer Homework

### 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. The aims of the summer homework is to get you off to a good start with your studies and is helpful for teachers to see what you know already! You will receive details about this during your subject lessons. You can also download it from the College website at:

**[www.solihullsf.ac.uk/student-zone/welcome-to-college-day/summer-homework](http://www.solihullsf.ac.uk/student-zone/welcome-to-college-day/summer-homework)**.

## Plan of the day

Time	Activity
8.30am onwards	Students arrive at College
9.00 – 10.30am	Induction and Lesson 1
10.30 - 11.00am	Break
11.00am - 12.00pm	Lesson 2
12.10 - 1.10pm	Lesson 3
1.10 - 2.10pm	Lunch (in the Refectory) and Enrichment Fair (in the Sports Hall) *
2.10 - 3.30pm	Lesson 4 and Evaluation of the day

Please note that not all students will follow the same timetable for the day - you booked your lessons and your timetable was emailed to you.

You must keep to the times specified on your individual timetable.

**You are expected to remain on site throughout the day.**

### Instructions:

1. Look at your individual timetable.
2. Double award BTEC students check that you are attending 2 lessons consecutively (one after the other) for your subject.
4. Make a note of the room numbers for each subject session (see page 4).
5. 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 lessons 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 lunch break to find out more about our exciting enrichments and student societies in the Sports Hall.

## Rooms for Subject Meetings

Please see your individual timetable to know which rooms you need to go to for your taster lessons.

### A Level or A level equivalent Courses:

Accounting	B505	Graphics	A309
Applied Science	H123	Health & Social Care	A105a
Biology	H120	History	H321
Business	B508	IT	K308
Chemistry	J104	Law	B503
Computer Science	K315	Mathematics	H306
Creative Digital Media	K307	Media Studies	K312
Criminology	H432	Music	B612
Drama & Theatre	B601	Philosophy	H322
Economics	H415	Photography	A311
English Language	B721	Physics	H112
English Literature	B710	Politics	H424
Film Studies	K306	Psychology	K304
Fine Art	A206	Religious Studies	H322
French	H406	Sociology	H418
Further Maths	H307	Spanish	H407
Geography	H324	Sport	M201
Geology	H325	Statistics	H304
German	H406		

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

## Enrichment

Do you want to stand out from the crowd? Participating in our enrichment programme alongside your academic programme will help develop your skills, knowledge and experience giving you the edge when applying for further education courses, apprenticeships or employment.

All our enrichment options fit into one or more themes, giving you an idea about what to expect. Each theme is represented by an icon, as follows:

**Enrichments that help you connect with other people**



**Enrichments that help you to be physically active**



**Enrichments that help you learn new skills**



**Enrichments that help you pay attention to the present moment (mindfulness)**



**Enrichments that allow you to give to others**

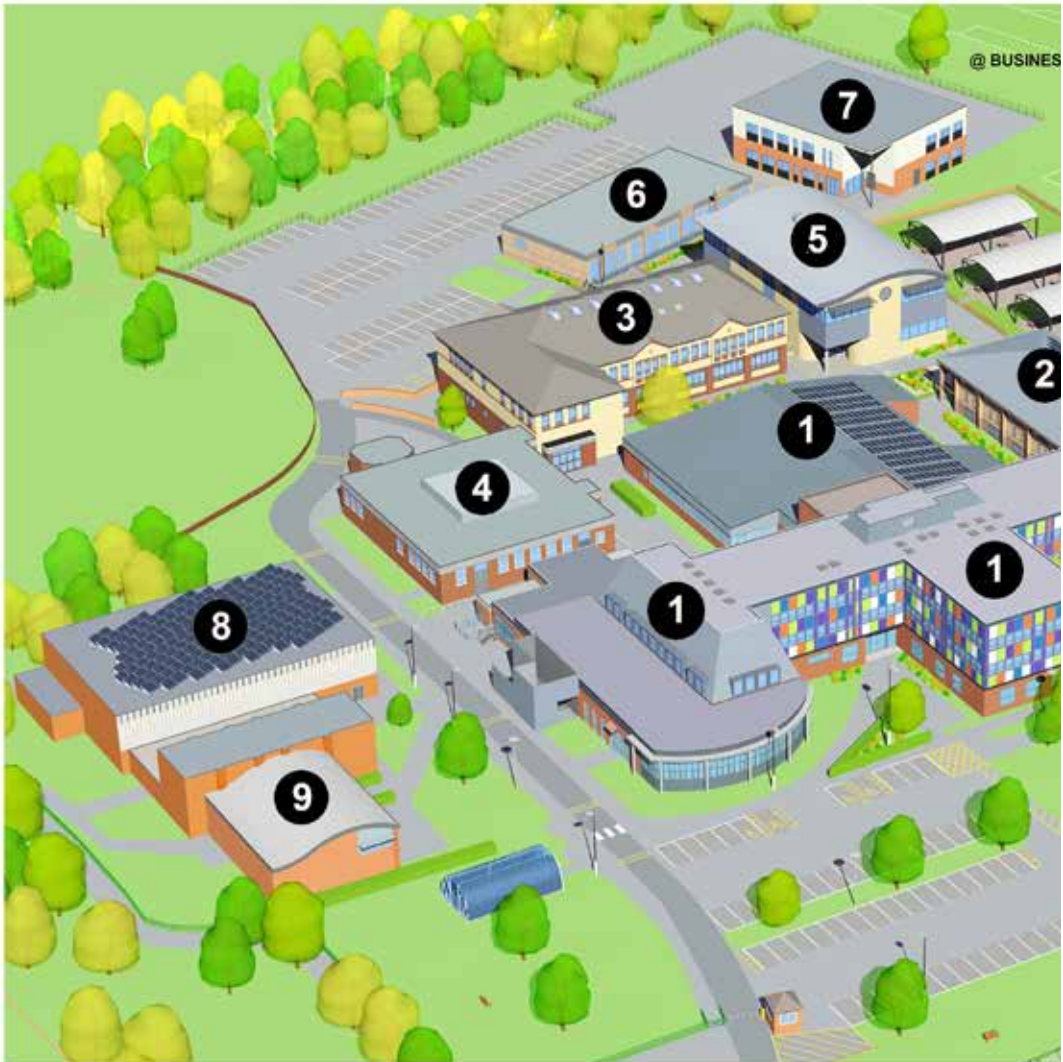


All our enrichment options are listed on page 6, showing which of these five themes apply to each.

During Welcome to College Day, you will be able to find out more about many of the enrichments we offer. Participating in our enrichment programme alongside your academic programme will help develop your skills, knowledge and experience giving you the edge when applying for further education courses or employment. Find out more about the opportunities by visiting our information stands in the sports hall. You can actually sign up to enrichment when you enrol in August.

Enrichment					
Archaeology Academy	✓		✓		
Basketball	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Beginners Spanish	✓		✓		
Codebreakers Society	✓		✓		
Computer Programming	✓		✓		
Core Maths	✓		✓		
Creative Writing	✓		✓		
Cricket	✓	✓	✓	✓	
CSI Solihull	✓		✓		
Duke of Edinburgh Bronze & Silver Award	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
English Academy	✓		✓		
Extended Project Qualification	✓		✓		
Football	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Health Ambassadors	✓		✓		✓
Humanities Research School	✓		✓		
Kitson Award	✓		✓		✓
Musical Activities	✓		✓	✓	
Netball	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Pre-Medical School	✓		✓		
Psychology Research School	✓		✓		
Readiness for Work in Health & Social Care	✓		✓		✓
Road Map to Employment	✓		✓		
Rugby	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Social Sciences Academy	✓		✓		
South Asian Cultural, Heritage and Language Enrichment	✓		✓		
Sport for Leisure	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Sports Leadership	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
STEM Programme	✓		✓		
Stretch & Challenge	✓		✓		
Student Council	✓		✓		✓
Student Magazine	✓		✓		
Student Societies	✓				✓
Teaching Academy	✓		✓		✓
Team Gambia	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Theatre-in-Education Company	✓		✓	✓	
Ultimate Frisbee	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Visual Arts Academy	✓		✓	✓	
Volunteering	✓		✓	✓	✓
Young Enterprise	✓		✓		

# Campus Plan



**Solihull  
Sixth Form  
College**

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## KEY

Rooms to the right start with a  
H = Hampton Building  
K = Kitson Building  
B = Blythe/Brueton Buildings  
A = Art & Design School  
M = Malvern Building  
J = J Hamilton Centre



## Buildings & Room Numbers:



letter:

- 1 Hampton Building:**  
Lower Ground Floor: H111, H112, H113, H120, H121, H122, H123 & H124  
Ground Floor: H201, Refectory & Internet Cafe  
1st Floor: H301, H303, H305, H306, H307, H313, H314, H315, H316, H317, H320, H321, H322, H323, H324, H325, H326  
2nd Floor: H401, H404, H406, H407, H414, H415, H417, H418, H421, H423, H424, H428, H430 & H432
- 2 Kitson Building:**  
Lower Ground Floor: - K101, K102, K103, K104 & K105 (access from lower door)  
Ground Floor: Library & Learning Centre  
1st Floor: K303, K304, K305, K306, K307, K308, K309, K310, K311, K312, K313, K315, K318, K319, K321 & K322
- 3 Blythe Building:**  
Lower Ground Floor: B552, B553, B554 & B555  
Ground Floor: B503, B504, B505, B508, B509, B510, B511, B512 & B513  
1st Floor: B704, B710, B711, B712, B714, B718 & B721
- 4 Brueton Building:**  
Ground Floor: B601, B602, B604, B605 & B610
- 5 Art & Design School:**  
Lower Ground Floor: A101, A102, A103, A104, A105, A106 & A107  
Ground Floor: A202, A203, A204, A205, A206 & A207  
1st Floor: - A301, A303, A305, A308, A309 & A311
- 6 Malvern Building:**  
Ground Floor: M201, M202, M204, M205, M206, M210, M211, M212 & M213
- 7 J Hamilton Centre:**  
Ground Floor: J102, J104, J108, J109  
1st Floor: J203, J204, J206
- 8 Sport Centre**
- 9 The Studio**

# About the College

## 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

Online resources can be accessed through Microsoft Teams and each curriculum area has a Teams site. You can also see your teachers between lessons and contact them by email. You will get more information about IT resources at Induction in September.

## Learning Resource Centre

The Learning Resource Centre (LRC) is the hub of the College's learning environment and contains over 180 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

Students have an Academic Coach who they can talk to about any concerns, including wellbeing. In addition, the College has a Mental Health Lead who offers drop-in sessions, one-to-ones and group sessions to give you support and advice in managing your mental health. 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. We also have trained First Aiders should you need their services.

## Young Adult Carers

The College has a dedicated member of staff (Kerrylee Richardson) to support Young Adult Carers, who are those who help support someone in their family, or household who is disabled, mentally or physically ill, has a long-term serious illness or has a substance misuse problem. The support we offer includes help from a dedicated support worker, one-to-one support, Young Adult Carers ID Card, help with student finance, help with attendance issues and drop-in and group support sessions.

## **Timetable**

When you start in September, each lesson will be 90 minutes long, and you will have three lessons per week per A Level / single award BTEC, 6 lessons for the BTEC double award and 9 lessons for BTEC triple award.

Lessons start at 9:00 so you need to plan how long your journey to college will take in rush hour traffic. The last lesson finishes at 16:05 but you need to be available until 16:30 should your teachers need to see you. There are also intervention slots on your timetable, and these will operate on a two-week schedule, with intervention for lessons in columns A, E and F in Week 1, while interventions for lessons in columns B, C and D in Week 2. Your teachers will let you know when intervention sessions are running. See page 14 for a copy of the timetable.

When you do not have a lesson, you should be completing independent study for your subjects; around 15 hours a week. Some of this will be homework / independent work but successful sixth form students do extra reading, research, and create revision materials over the year; not just before exams.

## **Academic Coaching**

All our students have a weekly Coaching session. You will have your own assigned Academic Coach who will be your point of contact for any support or advice you need. Weekly Group Coaching sessions in Year 12 cover a range of topics from developing Level 3 study skills to preparing for university or employment applications. You will also have one to one appointments over the year with your Academic Coach to review your progress and set targets to support your success at Sixth Form. Academic Coaching sessions are a compulsory and valuable part of your programme.

## **Supervised study**

As explained above Level 3 study is demanding. To support you with your independent work all students will be provided with 1 lesson per week in the Hamilton Building. This timetabled session known as supervised study provides you with a calm purposeful space with supportive staff to help you get ahead with your independent work.

## Enrolment Interviews

As soon as you receive your GCSE results, you will need to upload your results onto your online application to book an enrolment interview on either **30 or 31 August**; appointments cannot be booked by telephone. Further information will be sent out in the Enrolment Guide over the summer.

The enrolment interview will give you the opportunity to confirm your choice of subjects and to formally enrol in the College. Course changes after enrolment are not possible so you should ensure that you have researched all your options fully once you have received your GCSE results so that you make a properly informed choice at enrolment. **If you are unable to attend enrolment, we may not be able to hold your conditional offer subject combination beyond these dates.**

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 Learning Resource 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 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:

### Induction

Thursday 7 *or*  
Friday 8 September  
***(You will be told which day you need to attend at enrolment)***

### Timetables published on Arbor

By 12.00pm on Friday 8 September

### Lessons Start

Monday 11 September

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **Where can I go at Break and Lunch Time?**

Food is available to purchase from our Refectory on the ground floor of Hampton Building and there's lots of space for you to sit and relax. We also have The Studio, where you can sit with friends. There will be student guides in both locations to talk to if you are here without anybody else you know. If you are bringing in a packed lunch with you, please feel free to eat in either of these locations or any of our outdoor spaces. We have lots of benches around campus and a canopy area with picnic tables located next to the Art & Design School (see the map in the centre pages of the guide).

## **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-served 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. Network West Midlands provide bus travel for students at a reduced rate. 16-18 Photocards are available from the Network West Midlands website at <https://www.networkwestmidlands.com/tickets-and-passes/child/16-18-photocard/>. It is free to get a card, which is Swift enabled so you can load season tickets onto them.

## **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. Charges are made for the whole term based on the number of teaching days per term with the exception of the summer term where a reduced cost is applied to reflect the exam period. Students can choose to pay £326 to guarantee a space for three terms or choose to pay termly (Autumn Term: £144; Spring Term: £108; Summer Term: £74). Payment can be made by Parentpay, cash or cheque. Please contact the Central Admin Office for further details.

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

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

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **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.

Students can apply for different options to support their learning, including bus passes, free meals, learning equipment and funding to help pay for trips.

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.

# Provisional Timetable

MONDAY	Week 1	A 9.00 – 10.30	A Int * 10.30 – 11.00	Break	C 11.15 – 12.15	B 12.20 – 13.50	Lunch	D 14.35 – 16.05
	Week 2	A 9.00 – 10.30	Break	C Int * 10.45 – 11.15	C 11.15 – 12.15	B 12.20 – 13.50		D 14.35 – 16.05
TUESDAY	Week 1	E 9.00 – 10.30	Break	F 10.45 – 12.15		A 12.20 – 13.50	Lunch	B 14.35 – 16.05
	Week 2	E 9.00 – 10.30		F 10.45 – 12.15		A 12.20 – 13.50		B 14.35 – 16.05
WEDNESDAY	Week 1	F 9.00 – 10.30	F Int * 10.30 – 11.00	Break	B 11.15 – 12.45		Enrichment (For 1 hour at 12.50 or 13.30) Lunch	A 14.35 – 16.05
	Week 2	F 9.00 – 10.30	Break	B Int * 10.45 – 11.15	B 11.15 – 12.45		(For 40 minutes at 12.50 or 13.50)	A 14.35 – 16.05
THURSDAY	Week 1	E 9.00 – 10.30	E Int * 10.30 – 11.00	Break	D 11.15 – 12.45		Lunch	C 13.30 – 15.30
	Week 2	E 9.00 – 10.30	Break	D Int * 10.45 – 11.15	D 11.15 – 12.45		C 13.30 – 15.30	
FRIDAY	Week 1	C 9.00 – 10.30	Break	D 10.45 – 12.15		E 12.20 – 13.50	Lunch	F 14.35 – 16.05
	Week 2	C 9.00 – 10.30		D 10.45 – 12.15		E 12.20 – 13.50		F 14.35 – 16.05

\* Intervention sessions – there are three in Week 1 and three in Week 2, depending on which columns your courses are in.

# 2023-2024 Term Dates

GCSE results published – 24 August 2023  
Year 12 Enrolment – 30/31 August 2023  
Year 12 Induction – 7/8 September 2023  
Timetables Published - 8 September 2023  
Lessons start - 11 September 2023

## **Autumn Term 2023**

Monday 11 September 2023 - Teaching Starts  
30 October – 3 November 2023 – Half-Term  
Thursday 21 December 2023 – End of Term

## **Spring Term 2024**

Monday 8 January 2024 – Start of Term  
12 – 16 February 2024 – Half-Term  
Friday 22 March 2024 – End of Term

## **Summer Term 2024**

Monday 8 April 2024 – Start of Term  
Monday 6 May 2024 – May Day holiday – College Closed  
27 – 31 June 2024 – Half-Term  
Tuesday 16 July 2024 – End of Term

## **Sign up for updates on social media!**

Over the summer, we'll have updates on your enrichment options and details about enrolment on social media - follow us to stay in the know!

**[www.solihullsfca.ac.uk](http://www.solihullsfca.ac.uk)**

 @sfcsapply  @sfcsolihull  solihullsixthform