

Welcome to Swindon College!..

Higher Education at Swindon College

This newsletter is packed with information that we hope will help you with any questions or worries you may still have. If there is anything else you are unsure about please do not hesitate to contact our Higher Education advisors on 0800 731 2250 or email headmissions@swindon-college.ac.uk. Student Services are open from 8.45am - 7.15pm Monday - Thursday and 8.45am - 4.30pm on Fridays, so feel free to pop in during these times.

Your first day...

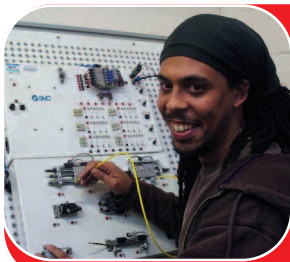
On your first day at college you will meet your personal tutor, whose role will be to help you settle in and help you to achieve your study goals. Your tutor will always be on hand to offer advice, help and support.

Your first week at college...

You will be given a full Induction in your area to familiarise you with everything you will need to start your journey at Swindon College towards completion and hopefully a very successful outcome.



What our students say...



Luther Hindley, who is currently studying the Foundation Degree in Mechanical Engineering said:

"The teaching style is tailored for each individual in the class, as we all have different specialisms and backgrounds within engineering."

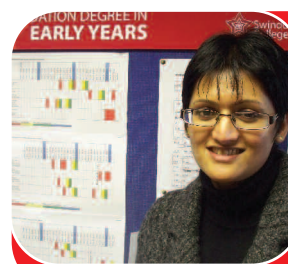
Ifan Eiryg, who is currently studying Sports Therapy, said:

"I have accrued more than 500 hours of work experience as part of studying towards my degree which has been invaluable."



Kennedy Karanja, who is currently studying the BA (Hons) Graphic Design, said:

"Everyone has been very welcoming."



Priya Mungroo, who progressed from Foundation Degree to BA (Hons) Early Years, Care and Education, said:

"The course is flexible enough and close to home to fit around family life."

Have you thought about becoming a Student Ambassador at Swindon College?

We are looking for suitable students to help us with activities and events, so you could earn while you learn! You would be working with young people and sharing your experiences of student life at Swindon College. Full training will be provided and there is an excellent hourly rate of pay.

If you are interested and would like more information about what is involved please contact Effie Bond on (01793) 498102 or email EffieBond@swindon-college.ac.uk

You can make a difference!

There are opportunities for your voice to be heard by becoming a student rep, a member of the student council or even becoming a student governor!

Look out for these opportunities on noticeboards around the college or in our Information Centre in the Phoenix building.

On-site facilities

As a student at Swindon College you can book appointments at the College's training hair and beauty salons which both offer a range of treatments at low prices. There is also a training restaurant in the Pegasus building, where you can book a three course meal from £10! - *Why not check them out?*



Useful Information...

Student Services

Student Services are made up of two teams: Advice and Guidance and Student Finance. They will provide you with financial information and other support for issues such as childcare and accommodation. If you have any questions or concerns, why not call the Student Services team on 0800 731 2250 or pop into the College and speak to a Student Services advisor?

For further information on:

Childcare Facilities call (01793) 498430. The College provides high quality OFSTED Grade 1 childcare facilities at our Little Stars Nursery. For information, visit www.swindon-college.ac.uk and click on the 'On-site' childcare section with campus information.

Student Accommodation contact Liz Pearce on (01793) 498936.

For any financial enquiries contact Student Finance on (01793) 498202/498463 or email: studentfinance@swindon-college.ac.uk.

Careers advice contact Sharon O'Connor on (01793) 498926 or email: sharonoconnor@swindon-college.ac.uk.

Learning Support

Learning support is available for students with specific learning differences, such as Dyslexia, Dysgraphia, Dyspraxia, Autistic Spectrum disorders, Sensory Impairments, Mental Health and Physical Disabilities. For more information, log on to www.swindon-college.ac.uk, go to the Higher Education Section and on that page you will find a link to view our 'Additional Learning Support for Higher Education Students with Specific Learning Differences' leaflet. This leaflet will give you more information about the learning support available to students. If you would like to contact the Learning Support Team for more information and discuss your needs call (01793) 498652/498343.

Excellent Facilities and Resources

The College's Learning Resource Centre (LRC) is open to all students at the college and is an impressive facility offering more than 32,000 books as well as DVDs and electronic resources to support learning in the classroom. Some of these are accessible from home. Your student ID card is also your library card. The centre offers 38 PCs, printing and photocopying facilities, as well as two study centres with PCs. Resources include daily newspapers and over 300 magazines and journals.

There is also a quiet study area known as the Off White Gallery, which displays the work of our current and ex-art students. There are always at least two members of staff on duty, providing a safe and supportive environment for students.

Alongside traditional methods of teaching, the College offers e-learning which enables students to access work from home. The Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) allows students to access their course material online at any time. The VLE provides a range of interactive learning resources which complement lessons and other learning activities. HE students on University of Bath or Oxford Brookes courses can also access electronic resources offered by their university via a link on the library pages. You will be able to access the VLE by logging on to vle.swindon-college.ac.uk.

Student Finance News...

Student Loans

If you need information on Student Loans and Grants or haven't applied for financial support yet, log on to www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance for advice and information. Alternatively you can call 0845 607 7577.

Bursaries

Swindon College offers a bursary scheme for some of the Higher Education programmes delivered at the College*.

For more information log on to www.swindon-college.ac.uk, click on the Higher Education web page and under the HE financial information section you will find the Business and Scholarships section.

Alternatively, for more advice and information you can contact Christine Howe, Student Finance Officer on (01793) 498338 or email christinehowe@swindon-college.ac.uk. This section also provides advice about how to complete your financial support application forms.

For students on a degree level course awarded by the University of Bath or Oxford Brookes, you will need to contact the associated university for bursary information.



For information about the University of Bath's bursary schemes log on to:
www.bath.ac.uk/study/ug/finance/funding



For information about Oxford Brookes' Scholarship/Bursary schemes log on to:
www.brookes.ac.uk/studying/finance/support/

*Foundation Degree in Early Years (Years 2 & 3), HND Photography, HND Construction, HND Civil Engineering and HND Performing Arts (Production) Media Make-Up.

NEW HE Student Centre

