

Education liaison activities
A guide for schools, colleges and students

Welcome to the University of Southampton



Consistently ranked as a top 20 UK university and as a founding member of the Russell Group, we offer a comprehensive programme of education liaison activities for schools and colleges from access schemes and taster days to summer schools and workshops.

As a university, we recognise the value of building strong relationships with schools, colleges, teachers and career guidance professionals. Our wide ranging programmes and resources are designed to raise awareness, widen participation and inspire ambition in the students of the future.

Through world-leading research and enterprise activities, the University of Southampton connects with businesses to create real-world solutions to global issues. Through our educational offering, we work with partners around the world to offer relevant, flexible courses, which train students for their future careers. This connectivity is what makes Southampton so special; we create connections and change the world.

We hope you find the opportunities detailed in this guide interesting and they encourage you and your school or college to connect with the University of Southampton.

Richard Kennett

Director of UK Student Recruitment and Outreach

Education Liaison Activities 2016-17



Pre-16

- 05 Ask the Expert Taster Lectures
- 05 Learn with US
- 05 LifeLab
- 07 Why HE? Days



Post-16

- 08 Access to Southampton (A2S)
- 08 Campus Visits
- 10 EPQ – Extended Project Qualification Support
- 11 Explore with US Conferences
- 12 HE Information, Advice and Study Skills Guides
- 13 International Students Studying in the UK
- 13 Open Days, Campus Tours
- 13 Summer Schools and Residential
- 14 Talks, Workshops and HE Presentations
- 15 UCAS Conventions, School and College Higher Education Fairs



Teachers, Advisors, Parents and Carers

- 17 Connect with US Newsletter
- 17 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for Teachers and Careers Advisors
- 17 Develop Professionally in Teaching STEM
- 17 Distinguished Speaker Series
- 17 Supporting Looked After Children and Care Leavers
- 18 Supporting Mature Students
- 18 Supporting Students with Disabilities, Mental Health Issues or Specific Learning Difficulties
- 18 Talk to US!

Pre-16



‘Ask the Expert’ Taster Lectures

Years: 9 - 13

Email:

ate@southampton.ac.uk

Tel: 023 8059 5470

‘Ask the Expert’ is our way of getting your students in touch with our world-class researchers and academics. We have a range of free lectures and workshops available, across a wide variety of subject areas.

The content of many of the sessions is directly related to the research being carried out by our academic staff. ‘Ask the Expert’ combines our researchers’ passion for sharing their subjects and the commitment of the University to engage the public with our research.

We can run sessions on campus or in your school or college. Our academics are normally able to travel up to an hour away from the University of Southampton.

See our website for the full range of talks available and to book a session:

www.southampton.ac.uk/schoolsandcolleges/ask_the_expert

Learn with US (Outreach)

Years: 6 - 12

Email:

outreach@southampton.ac.uk

Tel: 023 8059 4803

The University of Southampton’s Learn with US (Outreach) programme is designed to support students, teachers, parents and community groups in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Dorset, Wiltshire and London. Our programme of outreach activities provide gifted and talented students with an opportunity to take part in subject specific workshops, mentoring and group projects. The programme is designed to extend and challenge students and is delivered by outreach staff, university academics and student ambassadors.

We offer a series of events to engage and motivate learners who have the potential to enter higher education comprising of:

- University taster visits, master classes and workshops
- Mentoring
- Information, advice and guidance
- In school and on campus aspiration raising workshops
- Support for parents/carers – Parents talks and student finance session
- Support for care leavers

To find out more about the Learn with US (Outreach) programme please contact us.

Please note: this programme is currently only open to specific schools and colleges in Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Dorset, Wiltshire and London.

LifeLab

Email: k.woods-townsend@southampton.ac.uk

Tel: 023 8120 8979

LifeLab actively engages with young people, teachers and researchers. Our aim is to introduce science that explains how lifestyle choices at an early age can drastically affect young people’s health and the health of their future children.

LifeLab’s aim is to help achieve a reduction in the likelihood of developing chronic health problems such as heart disease, stroke, diabetes, obesity, osteoporosis, asthma and some cancers by raising young people’s awareness of health through an exciting educational experience using modern technology at a hospital based laboratory classroom.

Teaching Programme

Through hands-on learning, we hope to empower young people to make healthier choices and reduce their risk of developing chronic diseases later in life. This hands-on approach to learning breaks down boundaries, makes science accessible, and brings it to life; inspiring children to consider careers in healthcare, science, and medicine.

Since we launched the pilot scheme of LifeLab in 2008, thousands of children have taken part from schools across Hampshire. They have seen their DNA, taken a “snapshot” of their health, studied how genetics can affect cholesterol levels, and learned how diet can affect DNA, used ultrasound to look at their own arteries, examined skeletons and studied how nutrients cross the placenta.



Meet the Scientist

Meet the Scientist is a component activity of LifeLab, an innovative educational intervention being piloted in Southampton, aiming to improve young people's health and inspire an interest in science. The Meet the Scientist initiative attempts to bridge the gap between students carrying out their secondary education at institutions in the UK and (often early stage) researchers at higher education institutions (HEIs).

A Meet the Scientist session provides secondary level students with opportunities to talk with research scientists on an informal basis and explore or challenge their views of science. This session takes place during a LifeLab day, which also includes hands-on practical activities to embed messages about maternal and childhood nutritional influences and provides opportunities for students to experience modern science and to inspire and excite them about research and future

career possibilities. Importantly, this visit is not an isolated event, but is undertaken in conjunction with stimulating curriculum-linked, school-based lessons, both pre and post the activity day.

If you would like to find out more about how LifeLab can help your school, please email our Project Manager, Dr Kathryn Woods-Townsend.



Why HE? Days

Years: 9 - 11

Email: outreach@southampton.ac.uk

Tel: 023 8059 4803

Our 'Why HE?' days are designed to provide students in Years 9-11 with an exciting experience of university, while raising their awareness of the choices, courses and pathways associated with progression to higher education. The 'Why HE?' days take place across the spring and summer terms. The days

include; interactive workshops on university courses and pathways, a campus tour and a taster session.

Each 'Why HE' day can accommodate 60 students and places are capped at 20 student places per school. The content is aimed at your most able students, so please take this into consideration when selecting students to attend.

The 'Why HE?' days form a part of the University's widening participation programmes, and as such not all schools will be eligible to

participate. Please see our website to make a booking:

www.southampton.ac.uk/schools-colleges/why-he-day-booking-form.page

Post-16

Follow
me.

UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton

Open Learning Unit
Katie Wilson
University of Southampton

Access to Southampton (A2S)

Years: 12 - 13

Email:

outreach@southampton.ac.uk

Tel: 023 8059 5696

We recognise that A-Level grades alone cannot tell us everything about an applicant's abilities or personal circumstances. We want to encourage applications from talented students who have the potential to succeed at the University regardless of their educational or social background. Our Access to Southampton (A2S) widening participation scheme provides special consideration and financial support to encourage progression on to higher education. Students must complete and submit an application to A2S by May of their Year 12 studies and will be invited to attend a free Summer School and complete an academic assignment.

The A2S Summer School aims to give students the opportunity to see what life is like as a University of Southampton student. They will attend lectures, seminars or workshops based in their chosen subject, as well as spend time with current undergraduate students.

The academic assignment is designed to provide an insight into the expectations of studying at a Russell Group university, and will also assess the potential of those applying through the scheme. Students who successfully pass the academic assignment will be eligible for:

- An alternative offer, which is normally up to two grades lower than our standard offer
- Support, advice and guidance through attendance at our 'Transition and Skills' event on campus
- Online support from current University of Southampton students
- A £1,000 bursary when enrolling for the first year of study

To participate in our A2S scheme, students will need to meet two or more of our widening participation criteria. For more information please visit our website:

www.southampton.ac.uk/a2s

Campus Visits to the University

Years: 11 - 13

Email:

liaison@southampton.ac.uk

Tel: 023 8059 3623

We regularly host visits from schools and colleges throughout the year. Campus visits provide a fantastic opportunity to view some of our world-class facilities and find out what it's like to live and study at a Russell Group University.

A typical programme normally includes:

- An introduction to the University of Southampton
- A guide to writing persuasive Personal Statements or choosing university courses
- A campus tour with our Student Ambassadors
- Lunch with our Student Ambassadors
- A taster lecture – based on an interdisciplinary topic from our Learn with US Transition Team, or from our Ask the Expert lecture series

We can also provide more tailored visits to suit your group's needs if required. Please note each school and college visit is limited to a maximum of 50 students. To find out more or to book a visit please contact us.

Extended Project Qualification Support – The Learn with US Transition Programme

Years 12 - 13

Email: learnwithus@southampton.ac.uk

Tel: 023 8059 7804

Learn with US Transition is an innovative programme designed to support students in their preparation for study at a research intensive university. We offer taster lectures, seminars and project days based upon the current academic research of our Transition Team.

We also aid this transition by providing support for the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and offer talks on or off campus which are designed to assist with every step of the EPQ research process. Furthermore we regularly host visits to our library so students may make use of our numerous books and journals to enhance their EPQs.

There are also our free study guides to help with the entire process of the EPQ including referencing, writing essays and giving presentations.

Please contact us to find out more and book an activity or to download our free study guides, please visit our **website:** www.southampton.ac.uk/learnwithustransition

Developing Your Research Project (MOOC)

This free online course is intended for anyone who is currently undertaking or planning to undertake a piece of academic research, be that the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), International Baccalaureate Extended Essay, coursework, undergraduate, or a piece of independent research.

Developed and delivered by research-active academics, this course supports students with every step of the research process, from developing a hypothesis and finding sources to writing-up and presenting the findings.

The massive open online course (MOOC), lasts eight weeks with one hour of content per week. Practical, hands-on lessons will give students the opportunity to share ideas with fellow participants from all over the world, receive peer feedback on research proposals and enable

them to review and comment on the work of other researchers, building a supportive community of like-minded curious learners.

For more information visit: www.futurelearn.com/courses/research-project

Academic Study Guides

To help assist students with the transition to university and enable them to make the most of their university experience, we have produced a series of free guides. The guides have been created to give an accessible introduction to the essential academic skills students need in higher education. These guides also support every step of the EPQ research process.

Download free copies via the website at:

www.southampton.ac.uk/learnwithustransition/academic-skills-guides/index.page

‘Explore with US’ Conferences

Years: 12

Email:

outreach@southampton.ac.uk

Tel: 023 8059 5470

Students are given the opportunity to explore one particular theme from a variety of perspectives by attending a series of interdisciplinary workshops.

This conference is free to attend for partner schools and colleges in Hampshire, Wiltshire, Dorset and the Isle of Wight.

There will be three conferences taking place throughout the academic year. The first of which will be in November:
November 2016 – ‘Exploring Mobile Technology’

Academics from the fields of Web Science, Geography and the Environment will be leading students through a journey of exploration. Each workshop will examine the world of mobile technology from its own unique perspective – highlighting the interdisciplinary nature of teaching and research at the University of Southampton.

During the conference participants attend three workshops whilst also getting the opportunity to meet current students and to learn more about undergraduate courses, finance and careers.

Transport and refreshments will be provided by the University of Southampton. For more information please email us at: outreach@southampton.ac.uk

HE Information, Advice and Guidance

Our free, online resources help students make informed university choices. These include four short online guides:

- The appliance of science: alternatives to medicine
- Plot a course: a guide to comparing universities
- More than bricks and mortar: a guide to the Russell Group
- Top Tips for your Personal Statement

Download free copies via our website at: www.southampton.ac.uk/schoolsandcolleges





International Students Studying in the UK

Email:

international@southampton.ac.uk

Tel: +44 (0) 23 8059 2772

Our International Office team offers an array of support, advice and guidance for international students studying in the UK. Visiting international students in schools and colleges throughout the UK, they share their expertise regarding qualifications and funding opportunities, and help students with applications, offering advice on the different study programmes and pre-travel arrangements. Please contact our International Office to arrange a visit or find out more.

Open Days and Campus Tours

Email: visit@southampton.ac.uk

Tel: 023 8059 5900

Open Days

Attending one of our Open Days enables prospective students, their parents, teachers and careers advisors to get a feel for life at the University of Southampton. See some of our cutting-edge facilities and resources, from major historical archives to the very latest research technology, and find out how we can help students prepare for a successful future through initiatives such as The Excel Southampton Programme, offering over 400 paid placements in industry.

You will be able to see the labs, lecture theatres and our libraries where students study. Our academics will also be on-hand

to talk about our flexible degree programmes.

Equally, our student accommodation and sports facilities will be on show to give a clear idea of what everyday life at Southampton is really like. You can also speak with members of the Students' Union, who will tell you about their own experiences of studying at Southampton.

Booking online is essential at: www.southampton.ac.uk/visitus

Please note that our Winchester School of Art campus has its own Open Days and details can be found online:

www.southampton.ac.uk/wsa

Summer Schools and Residentials

Years: 9 - 12

Email:

outreach@southampton.ac.uk

Tel: 023 8059 4803

We offer a range of summer schools designed to give students a true experience of life as a university undergraduate.

Design Triathlon

The Design Triathlon is a residential course for Year 12 students interested in studying engineering at university.

This broad based engineering course will introduce participants to the three areas of Ship Science, Aeronautics and Astronautics and Mechanical Engineering.

Over the course of four days, teams are tasked with three design, build and test challenges including building a glider, a Greenpower car and a fastcraft for water.

Talks, workshops and seminars from staff and students in the Faculty of Engineering and the Environment provide insight into the wealth of careers and opportunities that an engineering degree can provide.

Participants live in university halls of residence for the week and are mentored by current undergraduate and postgraduate students, giving them a unique opportunity to find out what life is like at university.

The course is a great opportunity to get a taste for engineering ahead of submitting a university application. This course is free to attend and is aimed at Year 12 students matching some (or all) of the following criteria:

- Will be the first generation in their family to attend university
- Have achieved at least 5 A/A*s at GCSE, 5 credit passes at Standard Grade or equivalent
- Are taking relevant subjects in relation to Engineering (e.g. Maths, Physics and other science subjects)
- Attend schools or colleges with a low overall A-level, Higher/Advanced Higher (or equivalent) point score and/or schools or colleges with low progression to higher education – Come from neighbourhoods with low overall progression rates to higher education or high levels of socio-economic deprivation
- Are under the age of 18 at the time of the summer school

Please visit our website to view the range of summer schools available:

www.southampton.ac.uk/schoolsandcolleges/residentials

Headstart and Smallpeice Trust Summer Schools

Our Headstart and Smallpeice summer school courses, held annually in July, provide the opportunity for Year 12 students to experience what life is like studying Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) at university.

During the week long residential courses students live in halls and take part in a number of lectures, visits, experiments and design and build projects.

Please visit our website to view the range of summer schools available:

www.southampton.ac.uk/schoolsandcolleges/residentials

Access to Medicine

This residential event, taking place on 10 - 12 April 2017, aims to increase students' knowledge of the role of doctors and the training they undergo. It will also provide opportunities for the students to develop their interpersonal skills, increase awareness of the undergraduate medical experience and support them in their applications to medicine.

Please visit our website to view the range of summer schools available:

www.southampton.ac.uk/schoolsandcolleges/residentials



Talks, Workshops and HE Presentations

Years: 11 - 13, parents, carers, teachers and careers advisors

Email: liaison@southampton.ac.uk

Tel: 023 8059 3463

Our Schools and Colleges Liaison Team offer a range of engaging, tailored lectures, talks and workshops on a variety of higher education topics suitable for schools and colleges.

Why University?

This talk looks to dispel some of the beliefs and attitudes towards higher education and academia. We talk about what university is actually like and its benefits and impact on students' lives and futures. We also bring clarity to the misunderstandings around costs and fees.

Changes and Choices : A Parent's Guide to University

This 30-40 minute lecture is for parents and students covering a

more in-depth analysis of how to narrow down, and make best use of, the five UCAS choices. It looks at some of the key factors to consider when choosing courses and universities, including reputation, league tables, employability and course content. It also investigates applications and acceptance rates and the increased competition between universities in attracting students.

An Introduction to Higher Education: Choosing University Courses and Places

This talk is designed for students and aims to provide an honest and open view of the many factors to consider when choosing university courses and places to study. We discuss the Russell Group, reputation, employability, types of course and a range of other factors.

Standing Out From the Crowd: Writing Successful Personal Statements

Presented as either a talk or a workshop, this session provides guidance on how to structure the

personal statement and advice on what Admissions Tutors are looking for from applicants. We also talk about ways to enhance a student's understanding of their subject and offer other tips for writing a persuasive statement.

Student Life

Delivered by our current Student Ambassadors, this talk gives an open and honest feel about what it is like to study at the University, covering social life, finances, and getting involved in clubs and societies. Our Student Ambassadors will also talk about making the transition from school and college to university and give advice on how to get the most out of the university experience.

Preparing for Interviews

For those university courses that formally interview, and even for those that do it informally as part of a visit day, this talk gives an overview of what to expect from an interview, how to prepare and what to do on the day.



Student Finance and Cash Course Workshop

Delivered by our dedicated Student Finance Specialist, we can offer a talk that clearly explains about tuition fees and loans, but more importantly, how the process works and how they are paid back. We also offer an interactive workshop called 'Cash Course' which highlights the various financial decisions students may encounter and encourages students to consider how to budget for university.

Study Abroad

More and more students are seeking an opportunity to study abroad as part of their degree. Our talk explains the ways in which studying abroad, placements or an exchange can broaden horizons, enhance personal development and add an international dimension to graduates' CVs. We talk through all the different schemes available, whether it be exchanges in Hong Kong, summer schools in America, work in Mexico or study placements in Vienna!

Applying to Medicine

For students considering a career in medicine it can be a daunting prospect researching and preparing for the application process. This talk helps walk prospective medical students through researching courses, the admission tests and selection and what to consider when picking a med school.

UCAS Conventions, School and College Higher Education Fairs

Years: 10 - 13

Email: liaison@southampton.ac.uk

Tel: 023 80593 623

Whilst a campus visit or attending an Open Day is definitely the best way to find out about our courses, we know it is sometimes difficult for students to get time away from school or college during their studies. If your school or college is organising its own HE fair, please contact us so we can arrange for a representative from the University to attend.

Alternatively, we attend a vast array of UCAS events, school and college higher education fairs and conventions across the UK connecting with over 150,000 prospective students. These events are a great way for students, parents, teachers and advisors to chat with us informally and collect up to date information on our courses. It's also a good opportunity to come and meet our Student Ambassadors and ask questions about what it's like to study and live at the University.

To find out where we will be exhibiting next, please visit the UCAS HE conventions website: www.ucasevents.com/conventions

Teachers, Advisors, Parents and Carers



CONNECT with US e-Newsletter

Sign-up online to receive our regular online newsletter containing updates on events and activities for schools, colleges and students.

Please register for the CONNECT e-newsletter at:

www.southampton.ac.uk/schoolsandcolleges

Continuing Professional Development

Delivered by world-class academics, Southampton's CPD courses can help teachers and other related professionals to keep abreast of the constantly changing field, enabling you to provide the best quality teaching provision utilising the latest knowledge and skills.

We have wide ranging education professional development opportunities and courses running throughout the following departments:

- Centre for Languages, Linguistics and Area Studies
- Languages South East
- Lifelong Learning
- Postgraduate Education
- Science Learning Centres
- Southampton Education School

Please visit our website to find an opportunity of interest for you at:

www.southampton.ac.uk/lifelonglearning

Develop Professionally in Teaching STEM

The Mathematics and Science Learning Centre (MSLC), Southampton Education School, provides professional learning programmes in STEM education for teachers and support staff across all phases of education across the South of England. Our portfolio of subject knowledge enhancement for science, maths and computing includes professional development programmes for teachers, technicians and teaching assistants from Early Years to post-16.

For further information please contact the Centre and the innovative projects it runs, please call: **023 8059 8810** or visit:

www.southampton.ac.uk/mslc

Distinguished Speaker Series

Our distinguished speaker series aims to inform and stimulate intellectual debate across a broad range of subjects. Come and listen to some of the finest speakers as they share their thoughts and ideas. Lectures in this series run throughout the year and please visit our website to find the current programme of speakers: **www.southampton.ac.uk/news/events/distinguished-lecture-series.page**

Support for Looked After Children and Care Leavers

Email: outreach@soton.ac.uk

Tel: 023 8059 8737

The University of Southampton is committed to supporting students who have been in local authority care or who need extra support.

We work in partnership with local councils, schools, colleges and other universities in the region to offer:

- Individual pre-application visits, providing the opportunity to speak to staff and students
- Potential entrance through the University's Access to Southampton scheme (A2S), which provides alternative entry criteria
- Personal advice and guidance about finance and our range of bursaries

Support for Mature Students

Email:

outreach@southampton.ac.uk

Tel: 023 8059 8737

The University encourages applications from mature students and is keen to provide additional support with the application process and the transition to studying at university. We offer the following advice, opportunities and activities:

- Tailored UCAS application workshops for mature students
- Finance talks for Access or Mature Students
- Library visits to develop research techniques

For further information please contact us.

Supporting Students with Disabilities, Mental Health Issues or Specific Learning Difficulties

Email: enable@soton.ac.uk

Tel: 023 8059 7726

Our Enabling Services team encompasses a wide variety of support for students who have disabilities, mental health issues or specific learning difficulties. Our expert team can provide advice and support for students preparing for their time at university. We offer appointments, consultations and transition days to students across a variety of sites; our main base is at the Student Services Centre, Highfield Campus, University Road. Students can contact us by email or phone with appointments available upon request.

For further information see our website: www.southampton.ac.uk/edusupport

Talk to US!

Talk to US! is a new initiative, funded by the RCUK, which aims to inspire students and their teachers at a wide range of secondary schools in the Solent region, including 'hard to reach' schools, and engage them in a dialogue with researchers at the University of Southampton.

There are three main aims to the scheme:

- To jointly design stimulating activities which engage and inspire a wider range of students and teachers, and enhance their experience of contemporary research being undertaken at their local university
- To develop a research-oriented culture whereby the students carry out small-scale research projects at school and the teachers engage in school-based action research
- To carry out coherent and structured evaluations to establish an evidence base for the approach

www.southampton.ac.uk/lifelab/research/epsrc.page

Contact us

Student Recruitment and International Relations
Room 4113, Building 37
George Thomas Building
University of Southampton
Highfield
Southampton
Hampshire
SO17 1BJ.

Email: liaison@southampton.ac.uk

web: www.southampton.ac.uk/schoolsandcolleges

Tel: 02380 59 3623



www.southampton.ac.uk/ambition

UK and EU enquiries:

enquiry@southampton.ac.uk

+44 (0)23 8059 5000

International enquiries:

global@southampton.ac.uk

+44 (0)23 8059 9699

