



*Welcome to
Parents'
Information
Evening*

*September
2024*



CELEBRATING
50
YEARS
OF EXCELLENCE

Solihull Sixth Form College opened in 1974 and for the last 50 years has been providing superb post-16 education to the young people of Birmingham and Solihull.

2024 Results

- ▶ The summer 2024 exam series saw excellent results.
- ▶ 8 students got places at Oxford and Cambridge.
- ▶ Outstanding progression onto university, with 800+ getting university places. This includes 57 learners on Law degrees, 13 on Medicine degrees and 13 on Engineering degrees.

1,218

TOP GRADES
(A*/A at A level/CACHE/EPQ
Distinction*/Distinction at BTEC)




Solihull
Sixth Form
College
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

PASS RATE

98% 99.9%

A LEVEL BTEC




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HIGH GRADES

100% 97%


A*/A Merit+
CACHE BTEC



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College
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75%

**A*-C GRADES
AT A LEVEL**



Solihull
Sixth Form
College
SUMMIT LEARNING TRUST

Preparing Tomorrow's Professionals

Our Values:

Success through Endeavour:

We work hard and develop resilience to ensure that we are able to collectively and positively overcome any barriers that we face.

Ambition through Challenge:

We are relentlessly ambitious for all our students and colleagues and challenge them to do their best, every lesson, every day.

Strength through Diversity:

We are truly inclusive, embrace each other's differences and backgrounds and respect each other's views and beliefs.

Duty of Care

- The College takes its responsibilities for safeguarding very seriously.
- If, for any reason, you have concerns for the safety or well being of your own child or for the safety or well-being of other students, please speak to any member of staff, who will refer you to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- Our Safeguarding and Prevent policies are available on our website.

Jamie Staddon
Designated Safeguard Lead (DSL)



Bobbie Pidgeon
Mental Health Lead
Assistant DSL



Nancy Troman
Deputy Designated
Safeguard Lead (DDSL)



Sandra Shingler
Link Governor



Trevor Irving
Assistant DSL

Anisa Lokat-Fanning
Assistant DSL
Trust Tackling Sexual
Harassment Lead



Louise Dale-Barron
Assistant DSL

Caroline Sweeney
Designated Teacher

Keeping Students Safe Online

- Across the Trust we have firewalls and systems which monitor IT usage in order to keep our students safe.
- We use Smoothwall and Visigo which monitor websites accessed and the keystrokes which students use whilst logged in at College.
- Our safeguarding team are alerted when there are concerns
- We have seen in recent years that the majority of safeguarding concerns have links to students' misuse of social media.
- We encourage you to be aware of your child's use of social media – Young Minds provide excellent guidance.



OUR EXPECTATIONS

BE HERE

Maximise your learning time. Attend and be punctual to your subject lessons and personal development, enrichment, and supervised study lessons. Excellent attendance leads to excellent results.

BE ASPIRATIONAL

Be ambitious and have high expectations of yourself – you can be what you want to be. Research shows that with commitment and good study habits there is no ceiling to what you can achieve.

BE PROFESSIONAL

Be professional in all that you do. Present yourself well and develop good academic language, numeracy, and IT skills. Stand out from the crowd in the modern-day workforce - make the most of the opportunities to find out about apprenticeships, direct employment, and careers beyond university.

BE PRODUCTIVE

Be ready for every lesson – bring all the things you need so you are ready to learn. Complete all independent study tasks in advance of lessons (minimum 5 hours per subject/unit per week). Take pride in the organisation and presentation of your work.

BE INVOLVED

Contribute to the life of the College and celebrate and enjoy the fantastic diversity of our College community. Meet others and broaden your interests by taking up an enrichment – join a specialist academy, play sport or music, or take part in a student society.

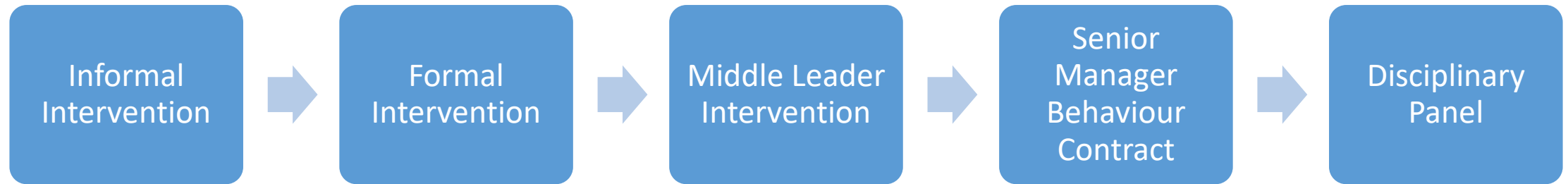
BE ENGAGED

Actively participate in your lessons and stay focussed. Ask questions, join in group work and discussions, seek help, and always be open and willing to learn. Develop resilience - we all learn from our mistakes.

BE RESPECTFUL

Understand and uphold the British values of tolerance, respect, rule of law, democracy, and individual liberty. Treat others as you would like to be treated yourself and respect our learning environment and the community around us.

College Behaviour Systems



Arbor Dashboard

- Through Arbor, parents can log in and view behaviour, key assessment results, exam schedule and the timetable.
- We recommend that you use the desktop version rather than the app which displays less information.
- The Arbor address is: <https://login.arbor.sc/> If you have not previously logged in to Arbor, your username is the email address we hold for you, select ‘forgot your password?’ to generate a login.

Personal Development

- At SSFC we are proud of our excellent pastoral care and personalised approach. Each student is assigned an Academic Coach who will support their journey through college and is also the point of contact for parents/carers.
- Academic Coaches help with a whole range of issues such as settling in, study skills, mental health concerns, target setting, references for university or employment and next steps advice.
- All of our students have a weekly Personal Development session with their Academic Coach. Weekly sessions in Year 12 cover a range of topics including developing behaviours and attitudes for Sixth Form, social and personal awareness and progression planning for university or employment
- Academic Coach email: *name.surname@solihullsfsc.ac.uk*

Independent Study

- In order for students to achieve their potential grades at A Level, BTEC or T Level they must complete independent study - that is, study outside of timetabled classes for each subject.
- Students should complete **at least** 15 hours of independent study across their subjects each week.

Independent Study

Independent study might consist of the following:

- Revisiting / rewriting class notes
- Reading around the topic (textbooks, article, journals); podcasts, videos or documentaries about the subject or topic students are learning about in class
- Advance reading for the next lesson
- Creating revision material
- Exam practice

This is in addition to tasks set by teachers for homework.

Assessment

- Students will have five key assessments during Year 12.
- You will receive a report after each key assessment.
- These assessments help track progress and are used to help support UCAS and apprenticeship/job applications in Year 13.
- The fifth key assessment in April/May is a formal examination and is very important for progression into Year 13. Results will be released in June.
- BTEC/T Level students will have a combination of continual assessment and external assessment over the year.

Importance of Attendance

- Students with excellent attendance achieve higher outcomes
- One lesson missed is 1½ hours of teaching plus independent study set
- One day missed could be 6 hours of teaching plus independent study
- Daily attendance emails where a lesson has been missed
- Attendance and behaviour updates with every key assessment report

Mental Health & Wellbeing Support

- All Academic Coaches and most student facing support staff are trained as Mental Health First Aiders
- We also have a Mental Health Lead who offers drop in, one to one and group sessions
- We offer a professional counselling service to all students with two fully qualified counsellors - students must self-refer and appointments will take place around lessons

Bursary Fund & Free Meals

- The college has a bursary fund to help with the costs associated with study for example travel, equipment, meals, laptop.
- Students need to apply at the start of Year 12 and Year 13 and provide evidence of household income.
- If they received free school meals at school, they are very likely to get them here.
- Applications are made online and are currently being processed.
- Students will be advised of the outcome of their application later this half term.



Young Adult Carers

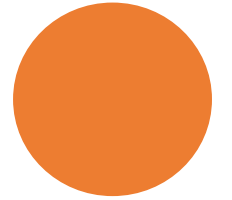
- The College has a dedicated member of staff to support Young Adult Carers.
- Young Adult Carers are young people aged 16–25 who care, unpaid, for a family member or friend with a disability or illness.
- The support we offer includes one-to-one meetings, drop-in and group support sessions, signposting to local services and help with student finance.

Additional Learning Support

- Students with individual learning needs are offered specific support through our Additional Learning Support team.
- Exam Access Arrangements at GCSE do not automatically carry forward to Sixth Form Studies – we have to gather evidence that the need is still there and have to reapply for any necessary arrangements.
- If a young person had any exam access arrangements for GCSE, such as extra time, a reader, scribe, use of computer, we will need copies of supporting evidence in order to be able to apply for any arrangements they might need here at College.
- This is especially urgent if they are retaking English or Maths GCSE in November, or have enrolled on Criminology, where the first controlled assessment will be in December.

Learning Resource & Study Centre

- Over 200 PCs
- Supervised Study
- Silent & quiet study spaces
- Individual study rooms
- Course materials for each subject
- Range of fiction and non-fiction books



Careers & Employability

The College is committed to supporting the progression of students by offering:

- **Careers advice and guidance** on a wide range of progression routes – service available every day!
- **Employability advice and guidance** – support securing employment, CV/letter writing, interview techniques and effective communication.
- **Employment seekers** - a bespoke programme of skill building workshops and speakers from local businesses including an Employment Seekers events in March of Year 13.
- **Annual Higher Education and Higher Apprenticeship Fair** - local and national companies/organisations, major universities including subject talks.



Destinations

- 87.2% university acceptance rate which is well above the UCAS national figures for all applicants
- The percentage of students progressing onto Russell Group universities in 2023, including Oxford and Cambridge, was 21%, which is well above the national average of 16%.
- In 2023, three quarters of students attained places at their first-choice university.



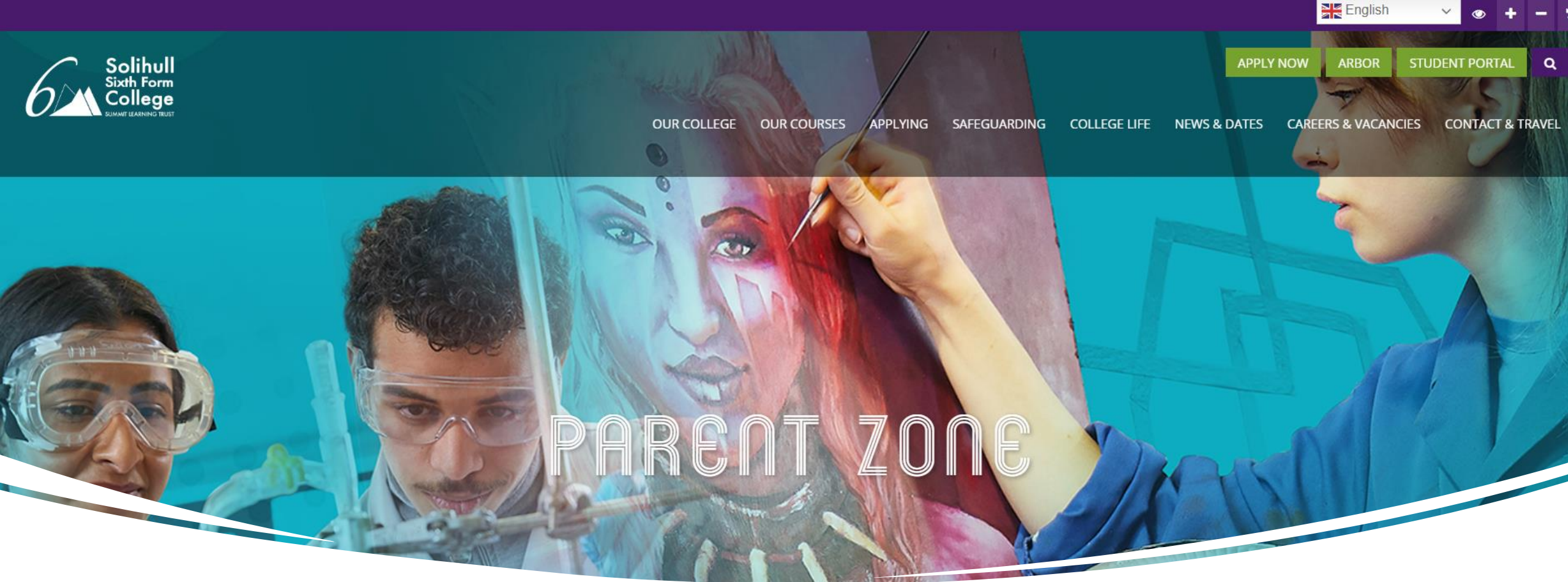
Destinations

2023 destinations:

- Higher Education - 68%
- Paid Employment - 6.2%
- Gap Year before HE - 8.7%
- Apprenticeship - 4%
- Other - 3.1%
- Not recorded - 10%

Among the apprenticeship destinations in 2023 were Mott Macdonald, Rolls-Royce Holdings, Deloitte, KPMG, National Grid, West Midlands Ambulance Service and Zurich Insurance.





PARENT ZONE

Keeping Updated

The Parent Zone on the College website has key information such as dates for your diary and announcements which you are advised to check regularly

Follow us on Social Media



The College is on social media – keep up to date by following us on:

X [@solihull6thform](#)

Instagram [@solihull6thform](#)

Facebook [@solihull6thform](#)

Dates for your Diary

Parents' Meetings

- Wednesday 13 November 13:45 – 15:45 and 16:30 – 19:30
- Thursday 12 June 13:45 – 15:45 and 16:30 – 19:30



**We look forward to working with you
and celebrating success over the next
two years**