

**Welsh Bridge Campus**

Priory Road,  
Shrewsbury  
Shropshire, SY1 1RX

01743 653 000

**English Bridge Campus**

Abbey Foregate,  
Shrewsbury  
Shropshire, SY2 6AA

01743 653 000

**London Road Campus**

London Road,  
Shrewsbury  
Shropshire, SY2 6PR

01743 653 000

If you want to apply to any of our courses, you can do so by going to our website or calling our Admissions Team on **01743 653 111** and speaking to our experts.

[www.shrewsbury.ac.uk](http://www.shrewsbury.ac.uk)

[admissions@shrewsbury.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@shrewsbury.ac.uk)

   @ShrewsburyCollege

  @ShrewsCollege

# Applicant Handbook



Useful information  
to support your  
application for  
**2026**





## Welcome

**I am delighted that you are applying to study a higher education course at Shrewsbury College. We are the largest college in Shropshire and a critical part of our offer is our range of higher education courses designed to meet the needs of local students and employers.**

We work in partnership with the University of Staffordshire and other professional bodies to ensure that our programmes have the rigour and focus essential in higher-level study. There has never been a better time to study higher education at Shrewsbury College. We were inspected in May 2018 by the QAA, the higher education inspectorate, and we were delighted to be awarded the highest possible result.

We have made significant investments in our higher education provision, investing £1.5 million in HE facilities, opening a dedicated Higher Education Centre at our London Road Campus with specialist classrooms, study space and a social space, enabling students to have a distinct experience.

Our engineering facilities, designed in partnership with key local and regional employers and The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership, allow our students to use cutting-edge, industry-standard equipment.

Alongside our facilities, our teaching is of the highest quality, with respected practitioners who draw on their industry experience. The small class sizes mean teaching is adapted to meet the individual needs of the student, ensuring all students are able to maximise their potential.

Higher education has huge personal and professional benefits, whether you are a student who has just completed an academic or vocational course at an advanced level, are in employment and looking to develop your skills to enhance your career prospects, or want to return to education. Whatever your circumstances, Shrewsbury College offers local, affordable, high-quality higher education.

This handbook will help you find out about our courses and our college. We also host regular Advice Events and offer further opportunities to visit the college to learn about the courses. Please contact us if you need any further information or guidance.

Best wishes, **James Staniforth, Principal**

# Contents

Welcome	2
Key dates for your diary	4
Learning support for HE students	5
Disabled Students' Allowance	6
Lifelong Learning Entitlement (LLE)	7
Financial support	8-9
Travelling to college	10

## Who to contact

**Jane Owen**  
**Director of Higher Education**  
**and Professional Qualifications**

Telephone: **01743 653 576**

Email: **[janeo@shrewsbury.ac.uk](mailto:janeo@shrewsbury.ac.uk)**

Jane oversees the delivery of the higher education provision at Shrewsbury College.

**Helen Marsh**  
**HE Progress Mentor**

Telephone: **01743 653 526**

Email: **[helenma@shrewsbury.ac.uk](mailto:helenma@shrewsbury.ac.uk)**

Helen delivers a study skills programme and provides support to higher education students with additional learning needs.

**Admissions Team**

Telephone: **01743 653 111**

Email: **[admissions@shrewsbury.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@shrewsbury.ac.uk)**

If you have any queries about your application to study with us, please contact the Admissions Team.

# Events to watch out for

## June 2026

### Preparation for HE Programme 2026

The programme is designed to support students in their transition to higher education and help them identify and develop the essential academic skills needed for success at HE level.

**Your future starts here!**

## Early September

### Induction / Enrolment Evening

London Road Campus & English Bridge Campus.

You will receive all the information you need to get started and meet your tutors and fellow students.

# Our campus Discover our facilities

We are creating the **best student campus experience**. As part of a **multimillion-pound investment**, the campuses provide fantastic training and teaching facilities for our students and tutors.

## Higher Education Centre

Our HE Centre at London Road Campus was created in response to student feedback. It includes teaching and learning spaces, as well as indoor and outdoor social areas.

## Learning Resource Centres

Each campus has an LRC, open daily, with a broad range of print and online resources, as recommended by your course reading lists. There are also quiet study areas.

## Other facilities include:

- Dedicated HE resources.
- Performing Arts Theatre.
- Student Services – a student resource aimed at employability skills.
- Origins restaurant.
- Bridges Café – student lounge and eating/social space.
- A sports centre with 3G floodlit full-size sports pitch.

# Learning support for HE students

## Additional Learning Support

Additional Learning Support is available to students who require further help to reach their potential. If you are a prospective student with Additional Learning Support needs, please advise us early on in the application process.

## Progress Mentor

We have a Progress Mentor who is available to assist students with Additional Learning Support needs and determine what support may be required.

Students with specific learning difficulties, mental health conditions, long-term medical conditions or physical disabilities who declare their support needs will have the opportunity to access general academic study skills support from the college's Progress Mentor.

Furthermore, if your course is eligible, students with additional learning support needs can apply for **Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)**, which could then provide the funding for more specific support such as specialist equipment, assistive technology and non-medical support such as a mentor or note taker, etc. The Progress Mentor can provide further guidance on DSA and also assist with the application process.

## Academic study skills

All HE students have the opportunity to access support to develop their academic study skills. Academic study skills lessons cover a range of skills such as academic referencing, effective research, note-taking, time management and essay planning.

## Preparation for HE programme

For students beginning their higher education studies with us in the next academic year, we will be offering a Preparation for HE Programme towards the end of the current academic year.

This has been developed to allow new students the opportunity to begin to learn, or refresh, some of the key study skills required for studying at HE level. Applicants will be sent further details on this and an invitation to attend.

Study skills lessons with the Progress Mentor are also available in class at the request of lecturers and on a one-to-one or small group basis through Tutor referral or self-referral.

## Learning Resource Centres

The Learning Resource Centres offer subject collections of both print and online resources as recommended by your reading lists, and experienced staff on hand to deal with your enquiries. Computers in the LRCs give you access to the internet for research, Moodle for your course materials and Office 365 for Microsoft Office applications and cloud storage. All student computers have the My Study Bar program installed.

The LRCs are Wi-Fi enabled for you to use your own device.

LRC staff can also help HE students with study skills and information searching skills.

# Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)

This is funding from the government to help pay for any extra equipment and support that you may need as a direct result of your physical disability, ongoing health condition, mental health condition or specific learning difficulty. The Disabled Students' Allowance can, for example, help with the cost of having a non-medical helper, specialist equipment and the cost of travel.

## Eligibility

To show that you qualify for a Disabled Students' Allowance you will need to provide evidence that you have a physical disability, mental health condition, long-term medical condition, or specific learning difficulty which affects your ability to study.

You may need to pay for any tests or letters to prove that you qualify. We would encourage you to submit your application for this as early as possible, as it can take some time for it to be processed. You do not have to wait until you have a confirmed place at college, although you can apply at any stage of your application or course.

When completing an online application form for Student Finance, indicate that you want to apply for DSA and follow the guidance. If you have applied by post or have not applied for maintenance or tuition fees then you will need to download a form from Student Finance.

**Student Finance England:** [www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowance-dsa/eligibility](http://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowance-dsa/eligibility)

**Student Finance Wales:** [www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/undergraduate-finance/full-time/tuition-fee-and-living-cost-students/what-s-available/disabled-students-allowance](http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/undergraduate-finance/full-time/tuition-fee-and-living-cost-students/what-s-available/disabled-students-allowance)

You will need to wait for an approval letter from your DSA Funding Provider before you arrange a DSA Needs Assessment. They will look at your application and let you know whether you qualify for support. A Study Needs Assessment is a meeting between the student and an experienced Study Needs Assessor. It helps identify what support the student requires based on their individual needs.

After you receive the approval letter, you can arrange your Needs Assessment at a location that suits you. The DSA Needs Assessment Directory can be found at [www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-assessment-centre](http://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-assessment-centre). You should do this as soon as possible after receiving DSA approval. You must reapply for DSA every academic year, and follow the guidance from Student Finance England/Wales.

If you apply for DSA or if you think you are eligible and would like further support and information please contact the Student Support Tutor, Helen Marsh at:

[helenma@shrewsbury.ac.uk](mailto:helenma@shrewsbury.ac.uk)

## Further information can be found here:

**DirectGov:** [www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsa](http://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsa)

**UCAS:** [www.ucas.com/student-finance-england/disabled-students-allowance](http://www.ucas.com/student-finance-england/disabled-students-allowance)

## Student Finance Wales:

[www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/undergraduate-finance/full-time/welsh-student/what-s-available/disabled-students-allowance/](http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/undergraduate-finance/full-time/welsh-student/what-s-available/disabled-students-allowance/)

# Lifelong Learning Entitlement (LLE)

## Unlock flexible learning for your future

The Lifelong Learning Entitlement (LLE) is a transformative new funding system, designed to support post-18 education in England. Whether you're starting out, upskilling, or retraining, the LLE gives you the flexibility to learn when and how it suits you.

## What is the LLE?

The LLE replaces traditional student finance and advanced learner loans with a single, flexible loan system.

It supports:

- Full courses at Levels 4 to 6 (e.g. degrees, and technical qualifications).
- Modules from high-value technical courses (HTQs).
- Individual modules from Level 6 qualifications aligned to priority skills needs.

## What funding is available?

Eligible learners can access:

**Tuition Fee Loan:** Up to £38,140 (equivalent to four years of full-time study).

**Maintenance Loan:**

To help with living costs for in-person study.

## Additional Support:

- Disabled Students' Allowance
- Childcare Grant
- Parents' Learning Allowance
- Adult Dependents' Grant

## Who can apply for courses starting in January 2027?

The LLE is available to:

- New learners.
- Those who have previously studied in higher education.
- Learners of all ages looking to study full-time, part-time, or modular courses.

## How does it work?

- Apply from September 2026 for courses starting January 2027.
- Manage your loan through a personal LLE account hosted by the Student Loans Company.
- Use your entitlement flexibly across your lifetime to study at your own pace.

## Learn more

Visit the official LLE overview on GOV.UK for full details and updates.



# Financial support

Shrewsbury College is proud to be able to offer higher-level, cost-effective learning opportunities locally. Our fees are significantly lower than many of our competitors, and Tuition Fee Loans are generally available to help fund your studies, depending on your circumstances.

## Higher education fees

### University of Staffordshire/BTEC EDEXCEL

The fee charged in the first full year of a course will be the fee charged for all subsequent years, unless the year is only a part year when a reduced fee will apply.

Our prices for 26/27 are £7,425 full-time or £3,713 part-time. Please refer to the individual fact sheets and course specifications on the website to determine how many credits you will be studying and the full cost. Applications for funding for these courses are made to Student Finance England/Wales.

### Diplomas

The cost depends on the awarding body. Please refer to the individual fact sheet for your course to determine the cost.

Applications for an Advanced Learner Loan can be made, provided you are over 24, to:

[www.gov.uk/student-finance](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance)

or

[www.gov.uk/advanced-learner-loan](http://www.gov.uk/advanced-learner-loan).

## Payment methods

At enrolment you will be required to advise us how you intend to pay your fees. At this point, fees will be subject to the terms and conditions within our Fees Policy (which is available on the fees section on our website). If you need any information, advice or guidance about applying for funding please contact our Student Services Team on **01743 653 200** who will assist you through the process.

### Tuition Fee Loans – Foundation Degrees/HNC/HND

If you are successful in obtaining a Tuition Fee Loan, the financial notification letter (with bar code) needs to be produced at enrolment to enable the funding to be released to the college.

If you are entitled to a Tuition Fee Loan to cover the entire cost of your studies, you will not need to pay your fees upfront. You begin to repay fees after graduation and only when you are earning above the government stipulated threshold which changes on 6 April every year.

If you have previously taken out funding from Student Finance England/Wales or have already studied at HE level, this may influence how much you are allowed to borrow. If you are studying part-time or full-time you may also be able to apply for a maintenance loan to help with your living costs.

## Payment in full

If you intend to pay your fees in full, payment will be due at enrolment. Payment can be made by, cheque, debit card or credit card.

## Payment by instalments

Payment can also be made by direct debit – usually in four instalments. The first payment (25%) will be due at enrolment and further payment dates will be agreed upon at this point.

## Payment by your employer

If you are being sponsored by your employer, fees can be invoiced to your employer directly (provided you produce a letter at enrolment confirming the arrangement). Employer-sponsored student fees must be paid within 14 days of receipt of invoice. If the fee is not received you will become liable for the fee.

## Withdrawal

If you decide to withdraw from your studies the following fees would be due:

First two weeks	No charge
Term 1	25% of total fees
Term 2	50% of total fees
Term 3	Full total of fees

## Taking a break (Intermit)

If you request the opportunity to take a break from your studies (and this is agreed) you will remain on the same fee package that you signed up to at the start of your course.

If, however you choose to withdraw and then reapply to return to the same or different course, you would then be subject to the tuition fee in place at that time.

Intermitting fees for University of Staffordshire and BTEC students would be due as follows:

Term 1	50%
Term 2	75%
Term 3	Full total of fees

## Other financial help

Other financial help may be available to you, including from the Radbrook Foundation. The Foundation is an educational charity which supports our students where possible.

Alternatively, you can apply to the Helena Kennedy Foundation which offers bursaries to disadvantaged students wishing to progress from FE into higher level studies.

**More information can be found at [www.hkf.org.uk](http://www.hkf.org.uk)**

Applications are not means tested, but are assessed on need. You can apply to the Foundation even if you are also applying to the college's Student Bursary and Hardship Fund. Please speak to Student Services to obtain an application form.

## Mature students

If you're a mature student and you need to apply for financial help, refer to the following:

- **Turn2us.org.uk** matches individual applications to charitable trusts.
- **Educational Grants Advisory Service ([www.egas-online.org.uk](http://www.egas-online.org.uk))**.

Please note that if you're a student who lives in Wales but studies in Shrewsbury, different arrangements for some of the above schemes will operate.

# Travelling to college

## Cycling to college

Cycling helps you stay fit and healthy and is a cheaper way to travel to college. There are secure places to lock your bike, but remember to bring your own bike lock. If you are cycling into college, we would always recommend you have lights, a helmet, and high visibility clothing.

Visit [www.travelshropshire.co.uk](http://www.travelshropshire.co.uk) for information on cycle routes.

## Travelling by train

Many of our students travel to and from college using the train. Use 'Plan Your Journey' on [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk) to plan your own journey to college.

## Useful websites

Visit these websites to find out how you might be able to travel for less:

- [www.travelinemidlands.co.uk](http://www.travelinemidlands.co.uk)  
The Traveline West Midlands website provides information to help plan your journey.
- [www.traveline.cymru](http://www.traveline.cymru)  
The Traveline Cymru website provides travel information for journeys from Wales.
- [www.travelshropshire.co.uk](http://www.travelshropshire.co.uk)  
This is also a useful source of travel timetables and up-to-date information on travel.

## Travelling by car

Students using their cars to come to London Road Campus are required to purchase a car parking pass at £45 per year. However, some HE courses are exempt. Advice on this will be given at enrolment. The college encourages car sharing amongst students.

**Students who are able to prove they car share will be able to park at the college for free.**

## Shrewsbury Park and Ride

Park and Ride in Shrewsbury operates from:

- Oxon Business Park
- Meole Brace Retail Park
- Harlescott, near Tesco.

The return fair is currently £2 for students aged 16 or over on production of a valid student ID card. You don't need to have a car to qualify for the park and ride services.

For more information, please visit: [www.shropshire.gov.uk/public-transport/park-and-ride](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/public-transport/park-and-ride)

