



BRIDGWATER  
COLLEGE

# BRIDGWATER COLLEGE PROSPECTUS



BRINGING OUT YOUR BEST



PART OF  
**UCS**  
COLLEGE  
GROUP

## WELCOME

Welcome to Bridgwater College part of the UCS College Group. I am delighted you've chosen to begin your journey with us. Whether you're joining straight from school, returning to education, or taking the next step towards your dream career, you're now part of a welcoming and ambitious community.

At Bridgwater College, we're proud of our excellent teaching, industry-standard facilities, and the outstanding support we offer to every student. This is a place where you'll be encouraged to aim high, push boundaries, and develop not just your skills, but your confidence and independence too.

Your time here will be about more than qualifications, it's about preparing for life, for work, and for your future. At Bridgwater College, we bring out the very best in every learner, through dedicated support, expert teaching, and a culture that celebrates aspiration. Our dedicated staff are here to guide you every step of the way, and we're excited to see what you'll achieve.

Make the most of every opportunity, work hard, and enjoy your time with us.

**Jason Gunningham**

Principal, Bridgwater College



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## INTRODUCING... UCS COLLEGE GROUP

### Transforming Lives.

UCS College Group is the new name for a bold and ambitious partnership between five respected institutions: Bridgwater, Cannington, Strode and Taunton Colleges, and University Centre Somerset. Together, we've created a future-focused education group that combines the strengths of each college to deliver greater benefits for students, families, employers, and communities.

Each College will remain rooted within its local community, but being part of a large college group will unlock even more; you'll be part of the UCS College Group family with more...

**Opportunities:** You'll have access to great support, from academic to sport, all shaped around your goals.

**Employer links:** Your course is built with employers to help you get ahead in the world of work.

**Great facilities:** From theatres and sports labs to training kitchens and workshops, you'll study in spaces that mirror real world workplaces.

**A supportive community:** You'll be part of a local college community that will work with you to help you achieve your goals and ambitions.

This is more than a new name, it marks a new chapter. A commitment to collaboration, innovation, and opportunity, and a promise to grow stronger together, think bigger, and create an education system that works for everyone.

For further  
information,  
scan here:



# UCS

## COLLEGE GROUP

TRANSFORMING LIVES



University  
Centre  
Somerset

DEGREES FOR REAL LIFE



BRIDGWATER  
COLLEGE  
BRINGING OUT YOUR BEST



CANNINGTON  
COLLEGE  
BRINGING OUT YOUR BEST



STRODE  
COLLEGE  
BRINGING OUT YOUR BEST



TAUNTON  
COLLEGE  
BRINGING OUT YOUR BEST



## BRIDGWATER COLLEGE

### A Proud Past, A Powerful Present.

Bridgwater College has been at the heart of education in Somerset since 1888, when it first opened as the Bridgwater School of Art. From those beginnings on George Street, to its growth into a thriving technical college in the 1950s, and later its move to Bath Road in the 1980s, the College has always evolved to meet the needs of its learners and community.

As one of the founding colleges of UCS College Group, Bridgwater is recognised for its strong tradition of innovation, student success, and community impact. With award-winning teaching, a diverse curriculum, and a vibrant environment, it provides opportunities across a wide range of industries.

From national competition winners to modern, sector-leading facilities, Bridgwater College continues to play a key role in shaping the future of education in Somerset. This proud history has shaped a forward-thinking, high-performing College that continues to inspire excellence, ensuring the future is brighter than ever. As a proud part of UCS College Group, it inspires ambition, creates opportunities, and helps learners thrive.



For further  
information,  
scan here:





## FACILITIES

**Dynamic spaces that inspire, challenge and build confidence.**

At Bridgwater College, we believe great environments inspire great futures. That's why we've invested in outstanding, purpose-built facilities designed to help every student thrive. From dedicated A Level study zones, creative studios, and the McMillan Theatre to the Advanced Engineering Centre and specialist science labs, our spaces are built to match your ambition.

You'll also find industry-standard workshops, high-spec computing suites, professional art studios, hair and beauty salons, and cutting-edge equipment that reflects the real-world environments you'll one day work in. It's not just about having the right tools, it's about giving you the confidence and experience to use them.

Whether you're aiming for a career in medicine, cyber security, engineering, music, sport, health, or the arts, here you'll find the space to grow, the support to achieve, and the inspiration to go further.

Explore what makes Bridgwater College the perfect place to learn, create, and succeed, and imagine where it could take you.



For further information, scan here:





## AWARD-WINNING RECOGNITION

### Celebrating excellence, achievement, and impact.

Bridgwater College is proud to be part of the UCS College Group, which is recognised nationally and regionally for the quality of its education, outstanding student experience, and contribution to the community. Our awards reflect the passion, dedication, and innovation that drive everything we do, from outstanding teaching and industry-led learning to meaningful partnerships with employers and community organisations.

These accolades celebrate the achievements of our students, and staff, showcasing the positive impact UCS College Group has across Somerset and beyond. Recognition for employer partnerships, apprenticeship delivery, sustainability initiatives, and student support demonstrates our commitment to excellence in every area of college life.

Being award-winning is about more than trophies, it is a mark of trust and quality for our learners, families, and employers. It shows that choosing a College within UCS College Group means that you'll be part of an ambitious, forward-thinking, and successful College where you will be encouraged to become the best you can be.



For further information, scan here:





## RESULTS AND SUCCESS

### Celebrating achievement and inspiring ambition.

At Bridgwater College, success is about more than just grades – it's about preparing students to step confidently into their next chapter. This year, learners have once again celebrated an exceptional set of results across A Levels, T Levels, and technical and professional qualifications, reflecting not only academic excellence but also the resilience, ambition, and skills they have developed during their time with us.

A Level students performed strongly, surpassing national averages and achieving 100% pass rates in multiple subjects. T Level learners also excelled, particularly across Accounting, Digital, Construction, Education and Early Years pathways, where high grades were matched with substantial, meaningful industry placements. Technical and professional and Apprenticeship students achieved outstanding results too, leaving equipped with the expertise, practical experience, and professional connections to thrive in the workplace.

Yet success at Bridgwater is measured in many ways. From competition wins and creative showcases to university offers, apprenticeships, and skilled employment, our learners continue to prove what they're capable of. Supported by dedicated staff and real-world learning opportunities, students leave ready for the future, confident, ambitious, and prepared to make their mark.



For further  
information,  
scan here:





## SPORT

### Opportunities for All through Sport and participation.

As part of UCS College Group, we are proud to be recognised as one of only a handful of colleges nationwide to achieve England Football's prestigious 3-star accreditation, a mark of excellence that highlights the strength of our football provision and the pathways available to our students. This recognition reflects the outstanding quality of our programmes, with many of our athletes going on to represent England Colleges National Teams, showcasing their talent on a national stage and securing scholarships with Bristol City FC and Aberdeen Utd.

Team UCS College Group's sporting success is built on strong partnerships with elite clubs including Bristol Bears, Bridgwater United Women's FC, and Team Bath Netball, giving students the chance to train alongside professionals, learn from industry experts, and access development opportunities that prepare them for the highest levels of competition.

We are committed to inspiring the next generation of athletes through sports development days, which allow prospective students to experience our high-performance programmes, exceptional facilities, and the unrivalled support available at UCS College Group. As a TASS (Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme) registered college, we ensure that talented individuals are supported to achieve both academically and athletically, enabling them to fulfil their potential without compromise.



**ACCREDITED  
COLLEGE** ★ ★ ★  
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL



**acc**  
sport

For further  
information,  
scan here:





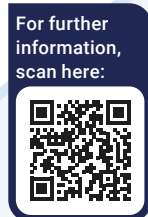
## EMPLOYERS

### Driving growth and innovation through expert partnerships.

Employers play a vital role in the Bridgwater College community, shaping the future of education, the workforce, and the wider region. By working closely with local, regional, and national employers, Bridgwater College ensures its courses remain relevant, responsive, and aligned with real industry needs. This collaboration benefits students by providing access to meaningful work placements, apprenticeships, and hands-on learning that builds confidence, skills, and employability.

For staff, it offers opportunities to stay connected with industry trends and embed current practices into teaching. For employers, partnerships with Bridgwater College provide a talent pipeline of skilled, job-ready individuals and the chance to shape curriculum to meet future workforce demands. These collaborations also boost the local economy, driving innovation and growth in key sectors.

Our ambition is to transform lives through our partnerships with employers to create opportunities for the next generation of professionals and leaders.



# UNIVERSITY CENTRE SOMERSET



## Degrees for Real Life!

At this stage while you're choosing a college, you may not be thinking as far as university. But it's worth knowing that university-level study is available right here in Somerset when you're ready.

University Centre Somerset (UCS) is part of the UCS College Group, and it offers Higher Education courses, including degrees and apprenticeships, at Bridgwater College, Cannington College, Strode College and Taunton College.

You'll be studying with expert lecturers who know the industry and what it takes to succeed. Class

sizes are relatively small, so you get more support, more time with your tutors, and a learning experience that really works for you.

Our degrees are awarded by top universities like The Open University, UWE Bristol and the University of Plymouth. We also offer professional qualifications and apprenticeships in areas that local employers are looking for, so you're building a future that's actually going somewhere.

So, while university might feel a long way off now, just know it's within your reach, and closer than you think.

## SUBJECTS INCLUDE:

- Agricultural Management
- Animal Management, Ecology & Conservation
- Computing & Digital Technologies
- Construction & Civil Engineering
- Early Childhood Education & Care
- Electrical & Electronic Engineering
- History, Archaeology and Heritage
- Manufacturing Engineering
- Makeup Artistry, Prosthetic FX & Wig Making
- Mechanical Engineering
- Motorsport
- Nuclear Engineering
- Nursing, Health & Care
- Psychology
- Sports Science & Coaching
- Teaching & Training.



For further information, scan here:





## SUSTAINABILITY

**Inspiring positive change, protecting our planet and shaping a greener future together.**

Sustainability is more important than ever and at Bridgwater College, it's at the heart of everything we do. We understand our responsibility to protect the environment, reduce our carbon footprint, and inspire future generations to make conscious choices. From eco-friendly buildings and waste reduction initiatives to sustainable travel and green spaces, we're committed to creating a better future. All new buildings meet high environmental standards, and we've invested in compostable VegWare in food outlets to cut plastics.

This commitment is lived every day. Students join beach cleans, recycling bins are provided and everyone collects crisp packets, bottle tops, ring pulls and stamps. Staff are supported to make greener choices too, with access to electric car schemes and incentives for low-carbon travel.

But sustainability isn't only about the environment, it's also about wellbeing, economic balance, and social responsibility. We encourage students to think critically about their actions and to lead with purpose, whether they're studying A Levels, business, early years, engineering, or the arts.

Through education, action and innovation, we equip students with the knowledge and values to make a difference. Together, we can create a more sustainable world, starting here.



For further  
information,  
scan here:





## COMMUNITY MINDED

**Connecting, supporting, growing together, and creating opportunities for everyone.**

At Bridgwater College, being community-minded is at the core of who we are. We're more than just a place to study, we're a vital part of the local community, committed to supporting and strengthening the areas we serve. From volunteering and charity events to working closely with local employers, schools, and organisations, we actively seek ways to make a positive impact.

Our students regularly take part in community projects, raising awareness and funds for important causes, while our staff contribute their expertise and time to support local initiatives. We offer inclusive learning opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds, helping to upskill the workforce and drive positive change. Whether it's hosting events, providing accessible education, or offering support through outreach and partnerships, our focus remains on creating connections, fostering opportunity, and building a stronger, more supportive community for everyone.

At Bridgwater College, we grow together, inside and outside the classroom.



For further  
information,  
scan here:





## UCS COLLEGE GROUP ADVANTAGE

The UCS College Group Advantage is our promise to help every student go further, achieve more, and feel ready for whatever comes next. Built around seven key areas; Excellence in Action, Leadership and Management, Career Readiness, Growth Mindset and Resilience, Personal Empowerment and Wellbeing, Digital Confidence, and Global Citizenship and Sustainability.

It gives you the tools, experiences, and mindset to succeed. By developing these qualities alongside your course, you'll not only gain a recognised qualification, but also the confidence, skills, and resilience to thrive in higher education, the workplace, and the wider world. You'll benefit from real-world experiences, greater independence, and the ability to adapt to challenges, while building leadership skills, self-belief, and a clear sense of purpose.

The UCS College Group Advantage ensures you leave not just qualified, but fully prepared to take on new opportunities with confidence.

For further information, scan here:



### EXCELLENCE IN ACTION

- I strive for high standards in all areas of learning
- I reflect on my progress and use feedback to grow
- I have volunteered, supported fundraising initiatives, or contributed to my community.

### GROWTH MINDSET AND RESILIENCE

- I step out of my comfort zone to solve problems and manage pressure effectively
- I communicate clearly, thinking critically, and apply numeracy with confidence
- I am self-confident, adaptable and resilient.

### LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

- I can manage my time, meet deadlines, and prioritise effectively
- I take ownership of my success, understanding what is required to achieve on my course
- I show initiative, and demonstrate a positive, solutions-focused approach to learning.

### CAREER READINESS

- I have used career planning tools to explore my future options
- I have taken part in events and activities linked to my chosen career
- I've developed a career plan in discussion with my tutor or careers adviser.

### PERSONAL EMPOWERMENT AND WELLBEING

- I know how to look after my own social, emotional, financial, and mental health
- I know how to stay safe and healthy, both offline and online
- I know what to do if I am concerned about the safety or wellbeing of others.

### GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP AND SUSTAINABILITY

- I understand and uphold British Values
- I act independently and responsibly
- I am aware of climate change, global challenges, and I contribute to positive change.

### DIGITALLY CONFIDENT

- I know how to develop and apply my digital knowledge
- I use a wide range of digital tools to support my learning
- I understand the benefits and risks of AI and how to use it responsibly.

## CHOOSE THE RIGHT COURSE

### Shape your future, find your path, passion, and purpose.

Whether you're leaving school, returning to education as an adult, progressing to higher-level study, or developing skills for your workforce, choosing the right course is an important step towards your next goal.

At Bridgwater College, we offer a wide range of pathways to suit different learning styles, ambitions, and career plans. These include A Levels, T Levels, Technical and Professional qualifications, Apprenticeships, adult short courses and university-level study. Each pathway offers unique opportunities, from gaining hands-on experience to preparing for further study or advancing in your career.

Our experienced staff are here to guide you through your options and help you make an informed choice. By selecting a course that suits your needs and aspirations, you'll gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence to take your next step, whether that's university, employment, career progression, or personal development.



For further  
information on  
Adult Learning



For further  
information on  
School Leavers



For further  
information on  
Higher Education





## COLLEGE LIFE

### A journey of growth, opportunity, and unforgettable experiences.

College life at Bridgwater College is about so much more than just gaining qualifications, it's about discovering who you are, exploring your passions, and building a future full of potential.

From the moment you join, you become part of a vibrant, supportive community where every student is encouraged to get involved, try new things, and make lasting memories. With a huge range of clubs, societies, sports, enrichment activities, and volunteering opportunities, there's something for everyone, whether you're interested in music, gaming, football, Dungeons & Dragons, fundraising for great causes. Through tutorials and the UCS College Group Advantage, we help you develop key life skills, look after your wellbeing, and prepare for life beyond college.

Our Students' Union, Learner Voice, and College Chaplains ensure your voice is heard and your values are respected. College life at Bridgwater College helps shape confident, capable, and well-rounded individuals, ready for whatever comes next.

For further information, scan here:





## LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

**Turn passion into opportunity and gain experiences that go further.**

At Bridgwater College, education goes far beyond textbooks and classrooms. Here, you'll be exposed to experiences that challenge, inspire, and prepare you for the future. From industry visits and residential trips to guest speakers, competitions, and practical workshops, you'll gain the insight and confidence that only real-world learning can bring.

Our specialist College Academies give you the chance to push your passion further, whether that's in performing arts, digital, enterprise, or leadership. These programmes are designed to stretch your skills, grow your ambitions, and help you stand out.

It's about more than qualifications. It's about building character, discovering what drives you, and connecting with others who share your ambition. Whether you're exploring new interests, preparing for university, or stepping into work, Bridgwater College gives you the tools, experiences, and support to make it happen.

This is learning that takes you further, in every way.



For further information, scan here:





## SUPPORTING YOUR LEARNING

**Strong support, brighter futures helping every learner thrive.**

College is a time of personal and academic growth, and the right support can make all the difference. At Bridgwater College, we provide a complete network of care to help you overcome challenges and succeed both in and out of the classroom.

Our pastoral team is here to guide you through college life, offering advice and a listening ear whenever you need it. Wellbeing, counselling and mental health services provide professional support, while our Additional Learning Support team offers tailored strategies to ensure learners with specific needs or disabilities can achieve their goals.

We also provide practical support, including bursaries, scholarships, and study skills guidance, easing financial pressures and helping you stay focused on your studies.

This holistic approach supporting you academically, emotionally, and practically builds independence, confidence, and readiness for the future, giving every learner the foundation for lifelong success.

For further  
information,  
scan here:





## ENGLISH AND MATHS

### Essential skills for life, learning, and your future.

English and maths are essential skills that support success in education, employment, and everyday life. At Bridgwater College, we ensure that every learner has the opportunity to strengthen these core skills, because they open doors to further study, career opportunities, and personal growth.

Strong English skills help you communicate confidently, from writing reports to presenting ideas, while maths equips you with the problem-solving and analytical skills that employers value in every industry.

If you haven't yet achieved a grade 4 or above in GCSE English or maths, you'll study these subjects alongside your main course, with expert support to help you develop confidence and achieve your goals.

Whether your ambition is university, an apprenticeship, or employment, a solid foundation in English and maths will give you the tools to succeed now and in the future.

For further information, scan here:





## APPLYING TO COLLEGE

### Own your future, your journey starts here.

When you've decided what you'd like to study all you need to do is apply! It's very straightforward, apply online and you'll be here in no time at all.

We'll email you and occasionally send a letter, text message or call, please provide an email address you check regularly (preferably your personal email, not school email). Please let us know if your details change.

Once you've applied, you'll be invited for an interview; this is to ensure you've chosen the right course, for us to get to know you and your plans and, for you to get to know us.

Depending on the subject, you might be asked to prepare something, in advance, to support your interview. If applicable, this will be requested in the interview invitation.

Soon after your interview, if you're successful, we'll email you with an offer of a place. Secure your place by either responding to your email or by calling us to accept your offer.

Remember! To avoid disappointment, it's important to apply early to secure your place.

From application to enrolment, our friendly team will guide you every step of the way.



For further  
information,  
scan here:



## GETTING HERE

**Your journey to success starts now.**

### BY BUS

Bridgwater College has approximately 24 buses arriving and leaving each day. There are also connecting buses that will transfer you to and from Cannington College. Please visit [www.btc.ac.uk](http://www.btc.ac.uk) for detailed timetables, or the websites of the individual bus companies.

### BY TRAIN

Bridgwater is on the main train line from Bristol to Exeter and the College is only a ten-minute walk from the station. For timetables and costs please contact Trainline or National Rail.

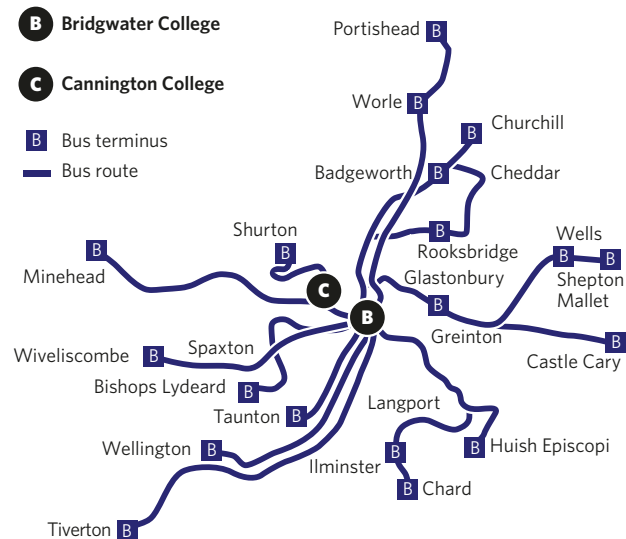
### BY CAR

If you choose to drive, we have limited free parking at Bridgwater College and Cannington College with designated areas for disabled parking and mopeds.

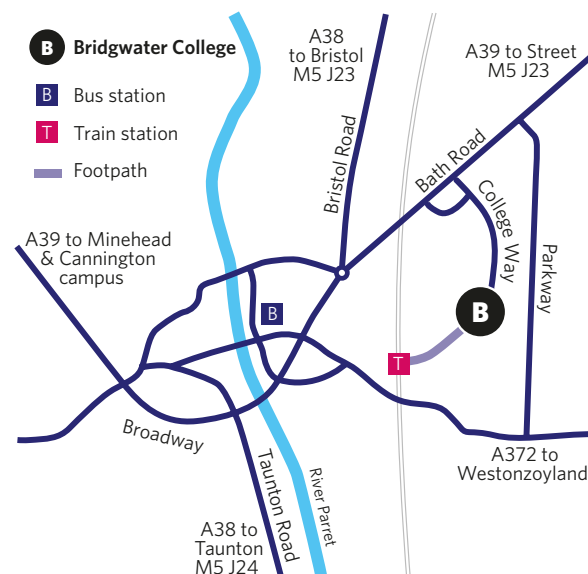
For further information, scan here:



### BUS ROUTES



### ROAD MAP





# COME AND EXPERIENCE BRIDGWATER COLLEGE FOR YOURSELF.

Join us at an open event, taster day, or book a college tour. Simply scan the QR code to see upcoming dates and secure your place, registration is essential.

For further  
information,  
scan here:



Every effort has been made to ensure the information in this prospectus is fair and accurate at the time of print (September 2025). We make every effort to publish up-to-date information on our website.

UCS College Group reserves the right to amend information at any time.

Thank you to all the students and staff who have granted permission for images and quotations to be reproduced in this publication.

As part of the college groups commitment to sustainability, this prospectus has been produced from FSC® (Forest Stewardship Council) paper and printed using vegetable-based inks. The FSC® promotes the responsible management of the world's forest. FSC® paper originates from forests managed with consideration for the social, economic and ecological needs of present and future generations.



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