



CANNINGTON
COLLEGE

CANNINGTON COLLEGE PROSPECTUS



BRINGING OUT YOUR BEST



PART OF **UCS**
COLLEGE
GROUP

WELCOME

Welcome to Cannington College, part of the UCS College Group. You're at an exciting stage, thinking about where your future could take you. At Cannington, we offer something different: real-world, hands-on learning in the heart of the countryside, surrounded by specialist facilities and a supportive community.

If you're passionate about animals, agriculture, the environment, or land-based industries, this is the perfect place to turn that interest into a career. Our students don't just learn in classrooms; they work on our commercial farm, care for animals in our specialist centre, and gain practical experience in our equine facilities, science labs, gardens, the National College for Nuclear, or our Construction Skills and Innovation Centre.

You'll be part of a close-knit, supportive community that values teamwork, independence, and ambition. You'll be taught by people who've lived the careers you're dreaming of, and supported every step of the way to grow your skills, confidence, and independence. Cannington will help you build a strong foundation for your future.

Jason Kilduff

Principal, Cannington 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

CANNINGTON COLLEGE

Redefining the Future of Education in Somerset.

Cannington College is an outstanding, specialist land-based college with a proud history spanning over 100 years. Nestled in the Somerset countryside, it provides a fully immersive learning experience for students pursuing careers in agriculture, animal care, equine studies, floristry, horticulture, arboriculture, nuclear, construction, and countryside management.

The college's working farm, state-of-the-art Agricultural Innovation Centre, Animal Management Centre, Equestrian Centre, National College for Nuclear (NCfN), and Construction Skills and Innovation Centre (CSIC) all replicate real industry settings, allowing students to develop the practical skills that employers demand.

What makes Cannington truly unique is its strong connection to the land, sustainability, and

innovation. The college is a centre for conservation, featuring wildlife habitats, woodlands, and the historic Walled Gardens of Cannington, used for training, research, and public engagement. NCfN and CSIC support major infrastructure projects and offer wider opportunities to the public and local communities.

On-site accommodation gives students the chance to live and learn in a dynamic rural environment. With close ties to local and national employers, students benefit from high-quality placements and apprenticeships, while businesses gain access to tailored training and a pipeline of job-ready talent.

Cannington College is where the future of land-based industries is being shaped through hands-on learning, expert teaching, and a commitment to sustainability.



For further
information,
scan here:



FACILITIES – LAND-BASED

Dynamic spaces that inspire, challenge, and build confidence.

Cannington College isn't just a place to learn, it's a place to experience. Set in the heart of the Somerset countryside, our college spans over 200 hectares and is home to exceptional, industry-standard facilities designed to prepare you for the real world from day one.

You'll gain hands-on experience on our fully operational commercial farm, work with a wide range of species in our specialist Animal Management Centre, and develop professional skills in our Equine Centre, complete with indoor and outdoor arenas.

For horticulture students, our botanical greenhouses, walled gardens, and plant nurseries provide the perfect environment to grow your knowledge. The surrounding countryside and

natural environments also support our arboriculture and countryside management programmes, offering space to apply your learning in real-world settings.

Land-based industries are central to the UK's drive for a greener, cleaner future. From sustainable food production and biodiversity protection to the conservation of natural habitats, the skills developed at Cannington play a vital role in tackling climate change and shaping a more sustainable economy. Conservation and nature are not just part of our curriculum, they are embedded in the way we live, work, and learn.

With the right tools, support, and industry links, Cannington's facilities open doors, build confidence, and give you the edge in your future career.



For further
information,
scan here:



FACILITIES – NCfN AND CSIC

Beacons of skills, progress, and innovation.

The National College for Nuclear (NCfN) is a £15 million flagship facility dedicated to developing the UK's future nuclear workforce. Equipped with state-of-the-art resources, including virtual reality suites, reactor simulators, and bespoke nuclear workshops, the hub replicates real-world environments and provides students with immersive, industry-focused training.

Working in collaboration with leading employers such as EDF Energy, and in partnership with universities, the hub delivers cutting-edge programmes in nuclear power generation, decommissioning, and new build technologies. This ensures students and apprentices gain the technical expertise and professional skills required for high-demand roles in a growing sector.

Alongside this, the Construction Skills and Innovation Centre (CSIC) at Cannington plays a vital role in retraining and upskilling the local workforce to meet the demands of large-scale infrastructure projects. Specialist training in areas such as steel fixing, form work, plant operations, and construction support ensures that Somerset's workforce is ready to contribute to projects like Hinkley Point C and beyond.

Together, the NCfN and CSIC have become national role models for technical education, shaping government policy, supporting international partners, and demonstrating how collaboration between education and industry can transform economies. They not only drive opportunity and growth across the region but also inspire approaches to skills innovation worldwide.



For further
information,
scan here:



ACCOMMODATION

Home from home.

Accommodation is more than just somewhere to stay, it's a key part of the student experience. At UCS College Group, our provision is unique within the region, offering an environment where learners can feel supported, independent, and part of a community. Living on-site provides more than convenience; it enables students to immerse themselves fully in college life, focus on their studies, and build friendships that last a lifetime. With 24-hour support, tailored facilities, and a balance of independence and guidance, our accommodation plays a vital role in helping students pursue their passion while enjoying a safe, well-rounded experience.

Cannington College is home to the largest halls of residence across the UCS College Group, supporting students from across the group. Located just three miles from Bridgwater, the purpose-built accommodation is organised by age, with under-18s and over-18s living in separate halls to create the right environment for every student. Over-18s can choose between catered or self-catering options, while under-18s receive compulsory meal cards. Most rooms are single occupancy, supported by communal spaces, on-site restaurants, free Wi-Fi, laundry, and a lively common room. With 24-hour staffing, CCTV, and a friendly community, Cannington offers a safe and welcoming place to live and learn.



For further
information,
scan here:



AWARD-WINNING RECOGNITION

Celebrating excellence, achievement, and impact.

Cannington College is proud to be nationally and regionally recognised for outstanding education, exceptional student experience, and real impact in our communities. 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.

We are proud recipients of the Commissioner's Coin for Services to the Community and Improving Safety, highlighting our commitment to making a difference beyond the classroom. Our Equestrian Centre has achieved accreditation as a BHS Stage 3 Exam Centre, reinforcing our reputation for land-based excellence. The National College for Nuclear (NCfN), in partnership with EDF Energy, won the Training Provider/Employer Partnership Award for its exceptional role in preparing a skilled workforce for Europe's largest construction project at Hinkley Point C.

Excellence is seen at every level. Our CEO has been awarded a CBE for services to education, a mark of visionary leadership, while our students continue to shine, winning awards that celebrate their skills, resilience, and ambition.



For further information, scan here:



RESULTS AND SUCCESS

Celebrating achievement and inspiring ambition.

Students at Cannington College, celebrated another year of outstanding achievement across T Levels, Apprenticeships, Professional and Technical qualifications, and university-level study. These results highlight the breadth of opportunities at Cannington, where learners of all ages develop the skills, confidence, and ambition to progress.

Our students achieved excellent results in land-based and technical pathways, including Agriculture, Animal Care, Equine, Nuclear and land and environmental courses. Combining rigorous classroom learning with industry placements, they leave fully prepared for skilled employment or higher study. Apprentices also excelled, particularly in agriculture nuclear and environmental-based studies,

gaining nationally recognised qualifications while working directly with employers and building strong career foundations.

Professional and technical learners continued to thrive, achieving qualifications that employers value and using Cannington's specialist facilities to develop career-ready skills. Many adult learners also completed courses designed for retraining or upskilling, advancing their careers or moving into new industries.

Our growing community of higher education graduates celebrated success too, progressing into professional roles or further study. These achievements demonstrate Cannington's commitment to lifelong learning and real-world success.



For further
information,
scan here:



SPORT

Opportunities for All through Sport and participation.

Cannington 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, staff, and campuses, showcasing the positive impact UCS College Group has across Somerset and beyond. Recognition for apprenticeship delivery, sustainability initiatives, employer partnerships, 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 UCS College Group means choosing an education provider that is ambitious, forward-thinking, and celebrated for its success.



For further information, scan here:



EMPLOYERS

Driving growth and innovation through expert partnerships.

Employers play a vital role in the Cannington College community, shaping the future of education, the workforce, and the wider region. By working closely with local, regional, and national employers, as well as government bodies, Cannington 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 Cannington provide a talent pipeline of skilled, job-ready individuals and the chance to shape curriculum to meet future workforce demands.

We work with Tesco, who buy milk from our college farm; the RSPCA, who provide talks and placements; Norwood Sawmills, who gifted a portable sawmill for hands-on training and many more. The National College for Nuclear, is a UK leader in nuclear training, regularly visited by MPs and recognised for driving clean energy education.

Together with employers, we're building a skilled, future-ready workforce and a stronger regional economy.



For further information, scan here:



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

Sustainability is more important than ever and at Cannington College, it's at the heart of everything we do. As a college, we understand our responsibility to protect the environment, reduce our carbon footprint, and inspire future generations to make conscious, positive choices. From eco-friendly buildings and waste reduction initiatives to sustainable travel options and green spaces, we're committed to creating a better future.

Sustainability isn't just about the environment, it's about ensuring long-term wellbeing, economic balance, and social responsibility too. All of our students are committed to protecting and enhancing the world around them, whether through agriculture, horticulture, arboriculture, animal management, nuclear or conservation. We encourage every learner to think critically about the impact of their actions and to lead with purpose.

Through education, practical action, and innovation, we aim to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and values needed to make a real difference, not just for today, but for future generations.

Together, we can create a more sustainable world starting right here, every single day.



For further
information,
scan here:



COMMUNITY MINDED

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

At Cannington 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.

We recently celebrated 100 years of Cannington College and were proud to mark this milestone by hosting a special community event, bringing together past, present, and future generations. It's a chance to celebrate our shared history, thank our community for their support, and look ahead to the next century of opportunity. 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.



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 Cannington College, we offer a wide range of pathways to suit different learning styles, ambitions, and career plans. These include T Levels, Technical and Professional qualifications, Apprenticeships, 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 Cannington 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 into horses, rugby, Dungeons & Dragons, or fundraising for great causes.

Through tutorials and our UCS College Group Advantage programme, we will 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 Cannington 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 Cannington College, learning doesn't just happen in the classroom, it's about exploring opportunities that enrich your studies, develop your talents, and make your college experience even more rewarding. From residential trips and industry visits to guest lectures and specialist workshops, you'll gain experiences that bring your learning to life and offer real insight into the world beyond college.

If your passion lies in sport, equine, farming, or leadership, there's an opportunity to match your interests and ambitions. Academies, groups and clubs provide access to advanced workshops, coaching sessions, expert speakers, riding opportunities, and specialist trips, helping you refine your skills and deepen your understanding of your chosen field.

Enrichment also builds key qualities such as teamwork, resilience, and creativity; attributes that are highly valued in both education and employment. Getting involved not only enhances your CV, university application, or career prospects, but also helps you make new friends, grow in confidence, and feel part of something bigger.



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 Cannington 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.

A college that supports its students builds a 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 Cannington 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.

As a school leaver, 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

To get the bus to Cannington College you will need to catch a connecting bus from Bridgwater College.

Bridgwater campus has approximately 24 buses arriving and leaving each day. Please visit 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. Bridgwater College is only a ten-minute walk from the station you can then transfer to a connecting bus which will take you directly to Cannington College. For timetables and costs please contact Trainline or National Rail.

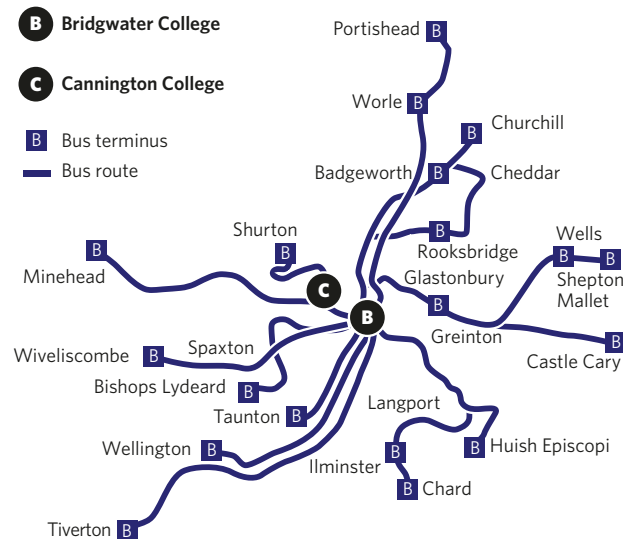
BY CAR

If you need to drive to college, we have limited free parking at each facility at Cannington with designated areas for disabled parking and mopeds.

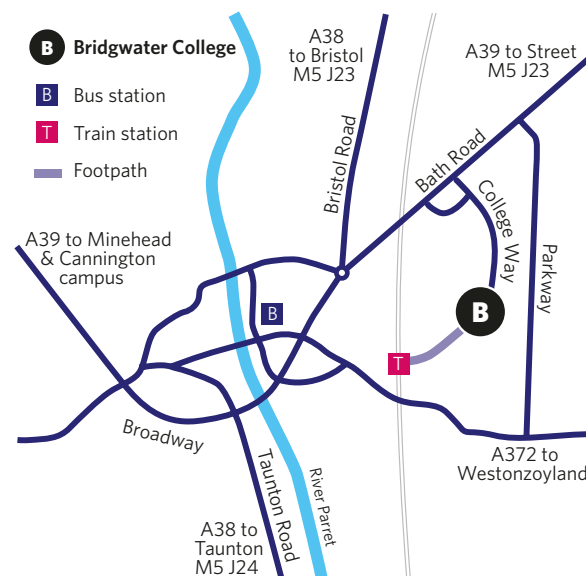
For further information, scan here:



BUS ROUTES



ROAD MAP



COME AND EXPERIENCE CANNINGTON 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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