

TAUNTON COLLEGE PROSPECTUS



BRINGING OUT YOUR BEST



PART OF **UCS**
COLLEGE
GROUP

WELCOME

A very warm welcome to Taunton College part of the UCS College Group. We're excited that you're considering us as part of your educational journey and we look forward to welcoming you when you join our vibrant and diverse community.

This is an exciting time in your life, where you'll have the opportunity to grow in confidence, develop new skills, and explore your future ambitions. At Taunton College, we offer a wide range of courses, all delivered in fabulous industry-standard facilities, passionate staff, and a supportive environment that's designed to help you thrive both academically and personally.

Whether you're looking to train for a specific career, prepare for university, or explore new options, we're here to guide you every step of the way. Take full advantage of every opportunity, ask questions, get involved, and believe in your potential. We look forward to seeing the incredible things you will achieve, and we are excited about the journey ahead for you.

We can't wait to welcome you to Taunton College!

Louise Rowley

Group Executive Principal,
UCS College Group



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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

TAUNTON COLLEGE

Redefining the Future of Education in Somerset.

Taunton College is not just a college, it's a modern hub of academic and professional excellence, designed to prepare the next generation of learners for the careers of tomorrow.

With award-winning facilities, university-standard resources, and industry-led courses, we're shaping the look of education in Somerset. From cyber security suites and e-sports arenas to high-tech healthcare training wards, cutting-edge automotive workshops, and inspiring creative spaces, every part of our College is built for real-world learning and future-focused ambition.

Our courses are shaped in partnership with leading universities, employers, and industry experts to ensure every learner gains more than qualifications. Students leave with the academic rigour, intellectual confidence, and independence to thrive at the very highest levels. Many progress into competitive universities and high-status careers in nursing, finance, civil engineering, hospitality and the creative industries.

This is Taunton College: a forward-thinking, high-achieving place for those who want to go further, aim higher, and stand out. It's time to see it differently.



For further
information,
scan here:



FACILITIES

Dynamic spaces that inspire, challenge and build confidence.

Taunton College has benefitted from significant multi-million pound investments aimed at enhancing and modernising its facilities; reflecting the College's ongoing commitment to providing the highest quality learning environments.

Facilities are designed to give every learner the confidence, knowledge, and hands-on experience to succeed. Our fully equipped Health Suite provides a realistic clinical environment for learners pursuing careers in health and care, while our advanced digital technology suites use virtual reality to enhance learning and simulate real workplace scenarios.

The College is home to The Arts House, a vibrant hub for creative learning. Here you'll find exhibition space, alongside modern classrooms, media suites, and inspiring studios that bring every subject to life.

The Quantock Restaurant is a fully operational training space, whilst the Industry Skills Centre houses specialist civil engineering and construction workshops.

Every part of Taunton College has been designed to spark ambition, develop practical skills, and provide experiences to help you progress onto university, employment, or a career.



AWARD-WINNING RECOGNITION

Celebrating excellence, achievement, and impact.

Taunton College is proud to be 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, including the Queen's Anniversary Award for our University Centre Somerset nurse training provision, the Beacon Award for exceptional student support, our CEO's CBE in the King's Honours, and more, 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.

For further information, scan here:



RESULTS AND SUCCESS

Celebrating achievement and inspiring ambition.

Our college culture is built on positivity, encouragement, and high expectations, creating an environment where every learner can thrive. Whether students progress to university, employment, apprenticeships, or further study, we take pride in supporting them to reach their full potential.

Taunton College is renowned for its T Level provision, with students achieving amazing outcomes yet again this year. Early Years, Construction Design, Surveying and Planning, Accounting, Light Vehicle and Software Development secured a 100% pass rate and, 64% of our Construction – Design, Surveying and Planning students achieved a distinction.

At Taunton College, we believe success is about more than grades, it is about personal growth, achievement, and the confidence to take the next step. Every year, we celebrate the dedication and talent of our learners, recognising the hard work that leads to outstanding results, exciting destinations, and lifelong skills.

We share and celebrate our achievements across the college community, from award ceremonies and recognition events to success stories on our website and social media channels.

To see our latest results, student stories, and destination highlights, visit our website for the most up-to-date information.



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 the 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.



For further information, scan here:



EMPLOYERS

Driving growth and innovation through expert partnerships.

Employers are a vital part of the Taunton College community, helping to shape the future of education, the workforce, and the wider region. By working closely with local, regional, and national employers, we ensure our courses and curriculum remain relevant, responsive, and aligned with industry needs.

These partnerships benefit everyone. Students gain access to meaningful work placements, apprenticeships, and hands-on learning that builds skills, confidence, and employability. Staff stay connected to industry trends, embedding current practices into their teaching. Employers access a pipeline of skilled, job-ready individuals and the opportunity to help shape curriculum to meet future workforce needs.

Together, these collaborations support local economic growth, drive innovation, and strengthen key sectors. Taunton College and its employer network form a powerful community built on opportunity, shared ambition, and a commitment to developing the next generation of professionals and leaders.



UK Hydrographic
Office

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

At Taunton College, sustainability is central to how we work, learn, and grow. We recognise our responsibility to protect the environment, reduce our carbon footprint, and operate in a way that benefits both our community and the wider world. From food waste reduction initiatives and sustainable travel options to green spaces across campus, we are committed to making a positive impact.

Sustainability here is about practical action as much as it is about values. Students across all subject areas, from education and early years and hospitality to the arts, are encouraged to think about their role in creating a better future. They bring sustainable thinking to life through projects such as creating clothing from recycled materials and using sustainable practices to minimise waste and source responsibly.

By combining education, creativity, and real-world action, we equip every learner with the skills and awareness to make a lasting difference. Together with our students, staff, and partners, we are building a more sustainable world starting right here, every day.



For further
information,
scan here:



COMMUNITY MINDED

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

At Taunton 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 fundraising and awareness campaigns, including Raise and Give (RAG) Week, and support local initiatives such as the regeneration of Watchet railway station. We also celebrate the diversity of our community through events like Refugee Week and a special feast for Eid al-Adha, which highlight the achievements and contributions of our learners.

We offer inclusive learning opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds, helping to upskill the workforce, support local initiatives, and drive positive change. Whether it's hosting events, providing accessible education, or engaging in outreach and partnerships, our focus remains on creating connections, fostering opportunity, and building a stronger, more supportive community for everyone.



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 Taunton 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, 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.

Life at Taunton College is about more than just gaining qualifications, it's about personal growth, developing skills, and opening doors to future opportunities. Whether you're a school leaver, an adult returning to study, or pursuing higher-level qualifications, you'll join a welcoming and supportive community that encourages every learner to thrive.

You can get involved in an exciting range of activities, from clubs, societies, and sports to enrichment programmes, volunteering, and community projects. Whether your interests are academic, creative, sporting, or social, there's something for everyone to enjoy and benefit from.

Our tutorials and UCS College Group Advantage focus on building essential life skills, supporting wellbeing, and preparing you for the next stage of your journey, whether that's progressing to university, advancing in your career, or achieving personal goals. With our Students' Union, Learner Voice opportunities, and inclusive support network, every learner can feel valued, heard, and inspired.

College life at Taunton College helps you become confident, capable, and 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 Taunton College, learning doesn't just happen in the classroom, it's about exploring opportunities that enrich your studies and broaden your horizons. From residential trips to Vietnam or Los Angeles and industry visits to guest lectures and specialist workshops, to taking part in the colour run to raise money for charity, you'll gain experiences that bring your learning to life and give you real insight into the world beyond college.

Students can also take part in a variety of College Academies, which offer extra opportunities to develop your talents in areas such as sport, the arts, enterprise, and leadership. These activities include advanced workshops, coaching sessions, guest speakers, and performance opportunities, giving you the chance to push your skills further and stand out for university, employment, or career progression.

Whether you're building confidence, learning new skills, or making lasting connections, our Learning Beyond the Classroom activities ensure your time at Taunton College is both unforgettable and full of opportunity.



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 Taunton 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 Taunton 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

Taunton College is a ten-minute walk from the town centre, and many local bus routes stop right outside. For up-to-date routes and timetables, visit www.traveline.info or call Traveline on 08712 002233.

BY TRAIN

Taunton's well-connected railway station has direct links to Tiverton, Exeter, Bristol, Weston-super-Mare, Bath, Bridgwater, and many smaller stations in between. It takes around 20 minutes to walk to the College from the station, or you can hop on a local bus if you're in a hurry.

BY CAR

To help protect the environment, we encourage students to walk, cycle, or use public transport whenever possible. However, we understand that some learners and visitors travel from further afield. For those who need to drive, we offer limited pay-and-display parking on site for just £1 per day – you will need to register your car on arrival with Reception.

There is also a Park & Ride facility near Junction 25 of the M5. From there, it's a 15-minute journey into Taunton town centre, followed by a short walk to the College.

For further information on Traveline



BUS ROUTES

T Taunton College

B Bus terminus

— Bus route



ROAD MAP

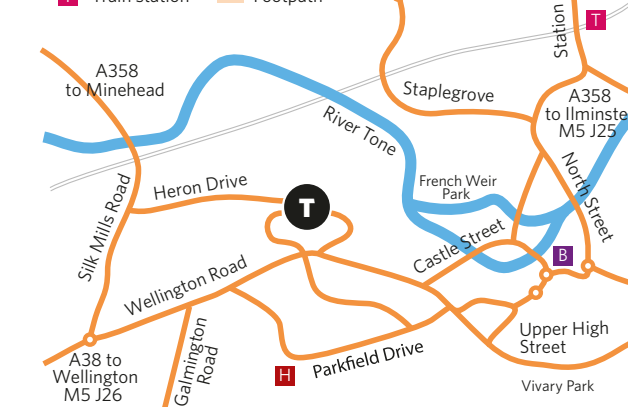
T Taunton College

B Bus station

T Train station

H Musgrove Park Hospital

— Footpath



COME AND EXPERIENCE TAUNTON 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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