

What's the difference between studying at Brooklands College and a sixth form college?

Brooklands is a Further Education College which offers vocational courses which have been developed in partnership with employers to ensure students are learning the skills they will need in the industry while they are at College.

For this reason they are popular with employers and increase the chances of the students getting a job at the end of their study. They are practical and hands on, a method of learning that is valued by many students. Work experience is also a key requirement of the majority of courses giving the students the ability to apply knowledge learnt to real life situations as well as developing their interpersonal skills which are so vital and again valued by employers.

Do you offer A levels?

No, however a Level 3 vocational course still offers the required amount of UCAS points which are required by universities.

Can I still go to University if I study vocational?

Yes. You would need to complete a Level 3 vocational course, as a triple distinction on a BTEC Level 3 course will amass 360 UCAS points, equivalent to achieving 3 A's at A-Level.

Can I take more than one vocational course?

No, unlike A-Levels you will study one course at a level determined by your GCSE results. Some courses, you will automatically start at level 1 as you will need the practical experience to be able to progress to the next level.

How many days will I be in College?

On most courses you will be in college 3-days a week with some theory work to be carried out at home.

Can I choose which campus to study - Ashford or Weybridge?

Electrical Installation is ONLY offered at Ashford

Hair & Beauty and Business are offered at both Ashford and Weybridge

All other courses are based Weybridge only.

What's public transport like to the campuses?

We have good transport links via rail and bus routes. Here is a good link on the college website for further information: <https://www.brooklands.ac.uk/college-life/student-services/travelling-to-college/>

Do you run any activities during the year?

We have a range of extra-curricular activities which are run by our Student Enrichment team as well as our Student Union.

How do I apply? And is there a closing date?

We advise that you apply as soon as possible when starting Year 11, as some courses are extremely popular. You can apply online for all courses here: <https://www.brooklands.ac.uk/courses/school-leavers/>

Your application will be acknowledged and you will be invited to an advice and guidance session*. You will be invited to start online enrolment in May 2021 and confirm your course when you receive your GCSE results in August 2021.

*This process may change depending on COVID-19 restrictions

How do apprenticeships work?

An apprenticeship is a nationally recognised training programme, combining real work with learning and training both on and off the job.

You must be aged 16+, living in England and not in full-time education, you can apply whilst still at school, but most have specific GCSE requirements. You can register on the GOV National Apprenticeship Service website for vacancies near you and you will need to find a job to start an apprenticeship. Our apprenticeship team are happy to guide you through the process: apprenticeships@brooklands.ac.uk

I'm not sure which course and/or level is right for me, can you help me?

Yes. Our careers advisor can help you to find a course which suits you.

Please email: careers@brooklands.ac.uk

What sort of support do you offer to students?

- Progression Mentors who support students to build the skills they need for employability and for life.
- Additional Learning Support is available to learners who have a disability or need extra support in their literacy, numeracy or language.
- The Careers Service offer advice and workshops on finding the right course, CV writing, job applications, interview skills and UCAS applications
- LGBTQ+ Community - We are dedicated to raising awareness and improve visibility of LGBT+ people. We are part of the Stonewall Diversity Champions programme and have a dedicated member of staff to act as a first point of call for our LGBTQ+ college community.
- Counselling Service - a dedicated student counsellor who will support students with a range of difficulties and concerns.

Is there any financial support when attending college?

The Discretionary Learner Support Fund is designed to help 16, 17 and 18 year olds students who struggle with the cost of full-time education and training. Contact the admissions team for further information admissions@brooklands.ac.uk.

Will you be holding any on-site events soon, or can I come and see the college?

Due to government regulations, we have had to postpone our general Open Events. Please check our Events section on our website for any updates to this.

www.brooklands.ac.uk