

Newsletter

December 2021

Principal's Greeting

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I can hardly believe we are heading towards the end of the first term back! It has been an eventful term with lots going on and I trust that your young person has enjoyed their time so far at Halesowen College.

In recent weeks, many courses have been involved in activities ranging from fund raising to sports events and off-site trips. These are all parts of normal college life that I'm really pleased to see returning. Hopefully we can look forward to many more in the coming months.

We have also held the formal opening of our new cyber security and e-sports suite, which is part of our commitment to continue to develop our facilities to give students access to the best possible opportunities and to prepare them for the jobs of the future.

We continue to do everything we can to remain a covid secure environment, providing your young person with everything they need to excel at their studies. We are pleased to see that very many students have taken up the offer of a covid vaccination, and I hope that we will see the number of vaccinated students continue to rise. In college we will be following government guidance which, at the moment, includes the requirement to wear face coverings in communal areas and on college coaches.

Thank you for your ongoing support and I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year too.

Andy Dobson

SEARCHING FOR CHANGE?



COURSES FOR ADULTS AT HALESOWEN COLLEGE

www.halesowen.ac.uk

KEY DATES

Monday 20th December – Monday 3rd January Holiday

Tuesday 4th January – COLLEGE CLOSED TO STUDENTS

Thursday 6th January – HE & Adult Open Evening

Saturday 22nd January – Open Event

Adult and Higher Education Courses

Looking for your next step?

We have a fantastic range of courses for adults starting in January. For more information visit our website: <https://www.halesowen.ac.uk/adult-part-time/>

Our adult and higher education evening is taking place on Thursday 6th January from 5:30pm-7:30pm. To book your place click [here](#)

If you need career advice or guidance on which of our courses for adults can help you on your chosen career path, we have limited bookable appointments available on our open evening. Click [here](#) to book your appointment today!

0121 602 7777

www.halesowen.ac.uk



Environmental Sustainability

Halesowen College wishes to be known as a leader of sustainability in Further Education across the West Midlands. In meeting the current needs of our students and wider stakeholders we are committed to doing things greener, in a more sustainable way to protect the planet now and for the future.

Working towards becoming a paperless environment, we've launched our new digital prospectus, meaning we're cutting down less trees and reducing waste throughout the production process. We also provide a FREE coach service, which is a sustainable way for students to travel to college. We also use local suppliers, where possible and have various recycling outlets across our 3 campuses.

While we are making improvements, we know we can do more, therefore we are continuing to find ways to deliver on our aims of reducing energy consumption and carbon emissions, waste to landfill, pollution, paper and waste consumption.



Lateral Flow Testing (LFT)

The college strongly encourages students to continue regular lateral flow testing. Up to one-third of people who have coronavirus are asymptomatic. By testing, we will help to reduce the spread in the college setting through asymptomatic transmission.

Students showing any symptoms of coronavirus (a high temperature, new continuous cough or loss, or change in their sense of smell or taste) should not attend college or attempt to travel to college.

Students with these symptoms should not use the lateral flow test and should instead request a PCR test. If the result of this test is negative, students can return to college when they feel well enough. If it is positive students must self-isolate for the required period – they will be informed of the date their self isolation ends should they receive a positive PCR test result.

Reporting Absences

Visit www.halesowen.ac.uk and scroll to the bottom of the page. Under **Students** choose **Report Student Absence** and complete the online form.

Face Coverings

Face coverings should be worn on college coaches and in communal areas by staff, students and visitors unless they are exempt. Face coverings are also required on public transport.

College Coach Services

The <https://travel.halesowen.ac.uk> site now includes alerts should there be any issues with coach routes and/or stops.

Learner Support Fund

If you have a household income of £37,398 or below, or someone in the household is in receipt of certain benefits, students could receive up to £1200 per year of financial support to help with College costs such as meals, uniform, IT equipment and childcare. We will need to see evidence of the household income you receive.

Scan the QR Code or enter the following web address:
<https://www.halesowen.ac.uk/learners/financial-support>



If you have any questions or need more information, please contact studentservices@halesowen.ac.uk



Careers

The college's careers team regularly updates its part-time vacancies on Moodle. Your child can visit the vacancies via Careers Moodle – if they have any problem finding this, they can visit the Student HUB.

The internal UCAS deadlines have passed, however the Careers department are still processing applications. The UCAS deadline is 26th January 2022.

For students who have applied to University, Student Finance talks will begin after the New Year and applications to apply will open in the Spring.



Read&Write is an assistive toolbar available on all college devices, and also to install on students' home laptops/PCs. It is an invaluable tool which helps all students with reading, writing, research and revision. It can also be used in exams, where approved, for those who need support with reading, speech to text and dictation.

We recommend that all students make use of this facility. Students should contact their Personal Coaches or subject teachers for details of how to access Read&Write. For general information on Read&Write please see <https://www.texthelp.com/en-gb/products/read-and-write-education/>

University Centre Halesowen

Refugees: What Role could Businesses Play? A free public lecture by Dr Laila Kasem.

This lecture will explore who refugees are, what they bring to the UK and how organisations can engage with them in a mutually beneficial way.

Dr Laila Kasem will bring examples from her own research on refugee entrepreneurship and the role of business in supporting refugee integration.

Dr Laila Kasem is a Senior Lecturer in Strategic Marketing at Worcester Business School with expertise in the areas of strategy, international business, marketing and refugee entrepreneurship. She has over 10-years of teaching and research experience at different UK universities. She is an Associate Board Member of Himilo Training, and a member of Malvern Welcomes' Management Team with passion for and expertise in supporting refugee integration.



UNIVERSITY CENTRE
HALESOWEN



0121 602 7777

www.halesowen.ac.uk



Student Success



Georgia Smith

Laboratory Technician Apprenticeship

Georgia Smith gained her apprenticeship as a Biology Technician at the University of Worcester through the Halesowen College Apprenticeship Department and studied for her HNC in Biology while completing her apprenticeship.

Georgia has been working at Oxford University for the past three years as a research technician in the Plant Sciences department. Her main role is to work alongside post doctoral students, research fellows and PHD students assisting with their research.

She said: "After my apprenticeship I was more confident and aware of different avenues of work, this helped me to apply for my current position at Oxford University. I am very excited with all the opportunities and working in my ideal career."

I studied Engineering to further my career and knowledge of complex engineering principles. Halesowen College has helped me to develop and exceed this expectation.

After passing my HNC, I have completed my Apprenticeship, and am now working as an Electrical Maintenance Technician for the worlds largest ceramic and refractory product manufacturer and have recently become IET EngTech Certified.

I have worked on large scale projects such as the installation/commissioning of electrical panels & machinery and the streamlining of production facilities.



Sven Goerlach
HNC Engineering

HappyPaws
@B63

Dog Grooming Salon

For enquiries and bookings
email happyPaws@halesowen.ac.uk or call 0121 602 7650

@HappyPawsatB63

BISTRO
at B63

To make a reservation please call 0121 602 7829
or email restaurant@halesowen.ac.uk