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Tel: +44(0)23 8201 3000  
[www.solent.ac.uk](http://www.solent.ac.uk)

## BA (HONS) SOCIAL WORK

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The Social Work team at Southampton Solent University are delighted to extend a very warm welcome to you and we hope you have a rewarding and memorable time while you're studying with us. This document will provide you with advance information on joining your course, and what you need to do before you enrol, so you arrive at Solent prepared to begin your studies.

### Get Ready for Social Work!

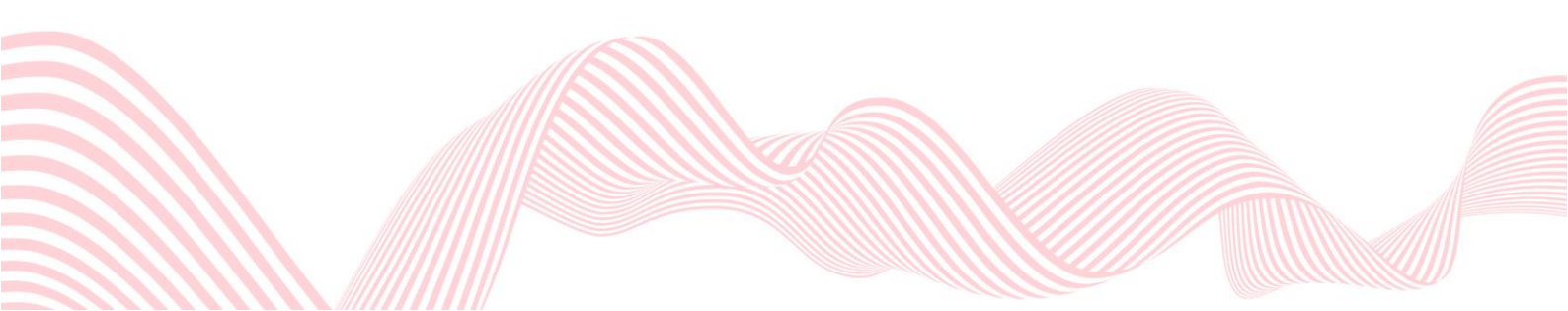
So that you're ready to begin your studies with us in September, we would like you to register on our '[Get Ready for Social Work!](#)' at Solent. This details all you need to know about starting to study social work at Solent. Please register as soon as possible on the Solent Open page (as you did for the pre-interview task page), using an email address you have access to, via this [link](#).

There are 2 important tasks for you to do:

Your first task is to apply for a full-disclosure DBS and you'll find this under the '*Getting Started*' tab. You'll need to apply for a DBS using this link **even if you currently have one from another organisation**. Once you've applied, you'll need to provide your DBS application number to [admissions@solent.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@solent.ac.uk) as a condition of you enrolling onto the course. This requirement is mandatory as laid down by our social work regulator 'Social Work England', and your place on the course cannot be confirmed until this has been done. The university fund one application during your time with us. Please ensure you begin this process as soon as you have registered on '[Get Ready for Social Work!](#)', as places on the course are confirmed subject to a satisfactory DBS check.

The second is assignment guidance so you can write a formative essay by the end of October. You can find more detail under the '*How can I get ready?*' tab. This task will form part of the Psychological Perspectives in Social Work (HSC415) module. The aim of this essay is to receive formative feedback to develop academic writing and academic skills, and to be able to identify areas where you may need additional support. You will be provided with an indicative grade which will not count towards your module grade.

**The task: Describe and evaluate one psychological theory and explain how it might be applied in social work practice when working with children in need and their families.**





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Other than that, there's a wealth of information on '[Get Ready for Social Work!](#)', which prepares you to join us. Highlights include - details of support available to you, timetables, campus maps, meet the teaching team, our 'People with Lived Experience' of social work partnership, the first year reading list, study skills, the Social Work Student Guide, social work ethics and values, meet our regulator, important weblinks and much, much more.... There're even a few quizzes to get you thinking!

Once you're enrolled, the course moves at a fast pace and it's important that you're prepared for this. So, we hope you can see how important using '[Get Ready for Social Work!](#)' is going to be before you even step through the door – you'll be so much better informed and prepared to start welcome week on the 15th of September.

### Your Attendance and Time Management

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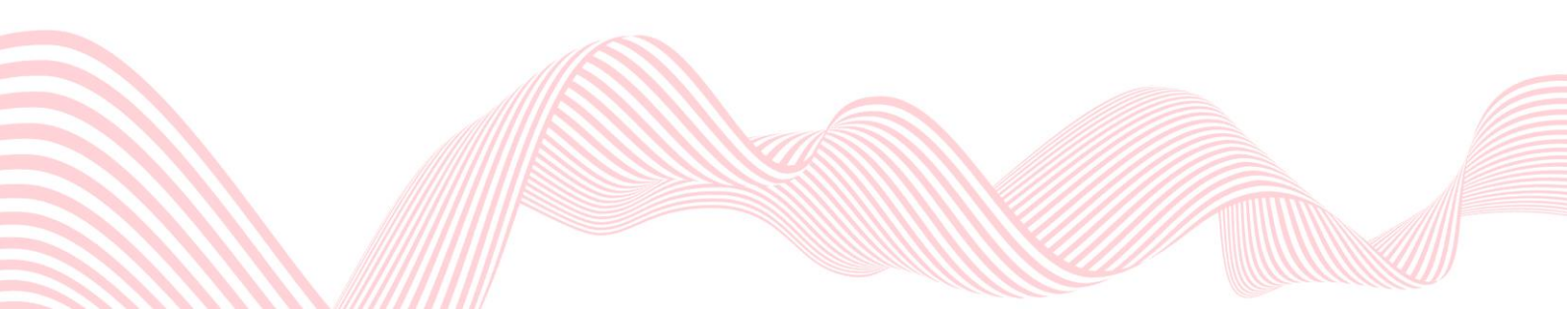
You will be reading for the BA (Hons) Social Work degree full-time over three years. Research demonstrates, and our experience shows that your attendance and engagement with lectures and other scheduled activities is one of the keys of success to achieving your degree. Full attendance for all course activities are required unless in exceptional circumstances in which case you are expected to communicate a reason for absence with the course team in a timely manner.

**Attendance will be monitored by the university.**

The course begins with '[Welcome Week](#)' on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2026, which requires your full attendance. The complete timetable for welcome week will be uploaded to the '[Get Ready for Social Work!](#)' site under the '*So now you're on the social work programme*' tab.

Following welcome week, academic scheduled activities will require you to attend on Mondays and Tuesdays (9am-4pm) and occasional Wednesdays. There is however an expectation that you will use the rest of the week for substantial individual study.

Your full timetables will be released on Solent Online Learning (SOL) once you formally enrol during welcome week. Please bear in mind the timetables should you need to make childcare arrangements. At this time, you will also be given a university email address which you should check regularly, and from then on, be the only email address you use to contact the university and teaching team, and the one we will use to contact you.





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## Bursaries

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Information about social work student bursaries can be found on the [NHS Business Service Authority website](#).

You can apply for the bursary in your 2nd and 3rd year of study, which is designed to meet any extra expenses involved in travelling to and from your practice placement. Decisions to award the bursary rest with the NHS Business Service Authority and we have no control over these decisions. Part of the decision for bursary awards however is based upon your attendance, grades and timely submission of work.

## DBS

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Due to the nature of the work that you will carry out as part of your studies, a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check is a mandatory requirement for your course. Even if you have undertaken one previously you still require a new one before starting your course.

Please follow the instructions below and ensure you have completed the process before you begin your course (please note that the online process may take 8-10 weeks to complete, so it is advised to start this early).

### Self Registration

You can register to access our online application service if you have been given an Organisation ID and Access Code.

Organisation ID

ORG-N48DVG7M

Access Code

Social

Email

**Requirements: You must have an active and accessible email address.**

Please use your course link to start the DBS process: [BA \(Hons\) Social Work DBS – click here](#)

**Organisation ID: ORG-N48DVG7M**

**Access code: Social**

*When you click on the link, your screen should look like this. Please add in the 'Organisation ID' and 'Access Code' listed above if they are missing. You can then continue by adding your email address.*

Once you have completed your online application you will need to print out the barcoded sheet and take this along with your documents to a Crown Post Office. The Verification process means you must present your chosen documents to an appointed verifier at the Post Office. They will



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need to certify that these documents are valid in support of your DBS application in line with the DBS code of practice (please note there will be a small administration charge for this which you will need to pay for, however, the University will cover the cost of the DBS).

You can find your nearest Post Office providing this service by visiting the [Post Office website](#).

### Your Specific Needs

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If you declared specific needs on your Candidate Disclosure Form, it is important that you contact as soon as possible:

The Disabilities Advice team about the process for setting up support at university, including your next steps. Please mail them at: [disability@solent.ac.uk](mailto:disability@solent.ac.uk)

Marietjie Joubert our level 4 lead to discuss how best we can support you in your academic and practice learning. Marietjie can be reached at: [marietjie.joubert@solent.ac.uk](mailto:marietjie.joubert@solent.ac.uk)

### Practice Placements, 'Skills Days' and International Placements

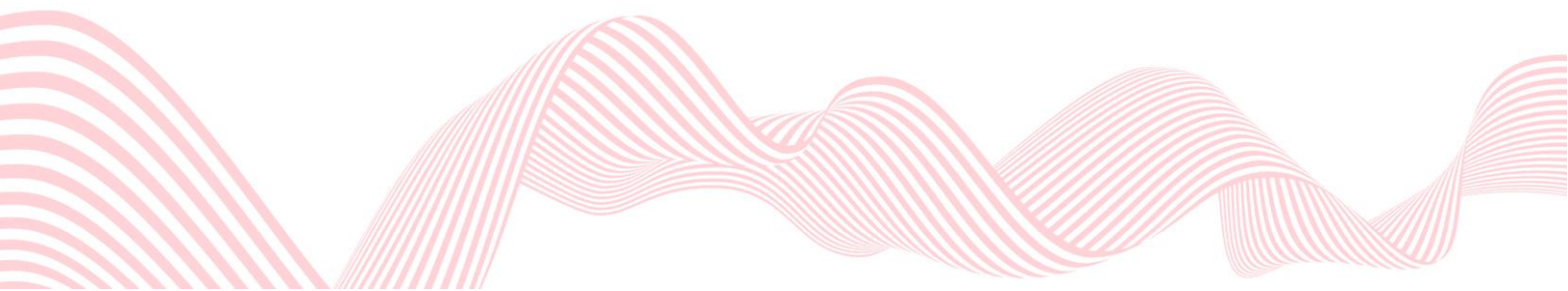
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Your attendance on Practice Placements and Skills Days form 50% of the social work degree and are a mandatory requirement of the curriculum as laid down by Social Work England, the regulator for social work. You are required to attend a 70-day placement in Level 5 and a 100-day placement in Level 6. These will be Monday to Friday from 9am – 5pm.

Practice Placements are arranged by Solent and are offered via partnership arrangements between us and various local agencies in Hampshire, Dorset, Wiltshire and the Isle of Wight. During these practice learning opportunities, it is essential you continue to set aside substantial time every week for individual study.

Over the course of the three-year degree, you will need to evidence your learning from 30 'Skills Days'. Skills Day sessions usually count for half or a whole day but will need to add up to 30 days by the completion of your degree. Skills Days are designed to give you specific insight into an area connected with social work practice – more on those during welcome week.

You will have opportunities to apply for one of our International Placements. These are extra-curricular and provide different perspectives on social work practise, which is great for your CV. Places are limited and competition is generally high. So, it's always a good idea to achieve good grades and maintain high attendance in your first year, this can help your application for one of





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these placements enormously. These placements happen in the summer months, so won't clash with your other studies.

### **Welcome to Solent!**

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So once again welcome to Solent! We look forward to meeting and working with you to achieve your social work degree. All the lecturers on the course are qualified, registered and experienced social workers, passionate about the profession and we hope you will walk with us in a journey of learning and development.

If you have any questions at this point that are not covered in '[Get Ready for Social Work!](#)' please don't hesitate contact one of us:

*Marietjie Joubert*

Level 4 (first year) Leader

E: [marietjie.joubert@solent.ac.uk](mailto:marietjie.joubert@solent.ac.uk)

*Debs Muir*

Admissions Tutor

E: [debs.muir@solent.ac.uk](mailto:debs.muir@solent.ac.uk)

