



SOLENT
UNIVERSITY

SOUTHAMPTON

A GUIDE
FOR TEACHERS
AND ADVISORS

www.solent.ac.uk/post-16



Shortlisted for *The Times Higher Education* (THE) University of the year 2019



TEF Silver in 2018 (Office for Students) in recognition of our excellent teaching



Highly rated for teaching, inclusivity, facilities and student employability in the QS World University Rankings, 2017



93.9% of our 2016/17 graduating cohort was in work or further study within six months of graduation.



In the top 10 UK institutions for number of graduate start-ups created, three years running (HE-BCI, 2017/18)



Winner of *The Times Higher Education* (THE) 'Most Improved Student Experience' Award 2015



The Economist rated Solent University as 12th out of 124 in the country for boosting graduate earnings (based on 2015/16 LEO data).

Situated right in the centre of the busy city of Southampton, the Solent University campus is home to around 11,000 students and staff from many different backgrounds and nationalities.

Solent offers over 200 qualifications, from apprenticeships to PhDs, in areas including business, sport, technology and the creative industries, and is home to one of the world's leading maritime schools.

The University focuses on real-world learning and works closely with industry professionals to develop courses, helping to ensure that graduates are precisely what employers are looking for – highly skilled, highly motivated professionals who are ready to jump straight in.





FIRST-CLASS FACILITIES

Over the last few years we have made a £100 million investment in our campus, introducing cutting edge facilities to enhance student learning, including our award-winning teaching and learning building the Spark, a state-of-the-art sports complex, a maritime simulation suite, nursing and biomedical science laboratories and a fully equipped outside broadcast vehicle.

www.solent.ac.uk/facilities



Virtual tour

Take a virtual tour of our facilities;
visit www.solent.ac.uk/virtual-tour



THE SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES TEAM

The schools and colleges team provides information, advice and support for prospective students, teachers, advisors, parents and carers. We work to support all of those capable of attending university to progress into higher education.

The team provides:

- a dedicated point of contact to work with you to provide a tailored programme of activity and support for your school/college
- an interactive and engaging menu of activities which aims to tie in with the Gatsby benchmarks and level three curriculum study
- access to a wide range of subject-linked activity, including discovery days, competitions and taster lectures
- useful information, resources, events and dedicated support for staff within schools and colleges, and other education providers.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Visit: www.solent.ac.uk/post-16

Email: schools.colleges@solent.ac.uk



ACTIVITY OFFER

Our activity offer can support you by providing key information through innovative, interactive and engaging sessions for your level three learners. All activities are delivered in 10- to 30-minute modules, which can be built into bespoke sessions, depending on your needs.

In addition to workshops run by the schools and colleges team, we can also organise visits from academic staff to deliver subject workshops, on or off campus. These sessions will link as much as possible into the level three curriculum and offer insight into degree routes and career pathways.



All sessions are linked to the Gatsby benchmarks, as well as tangible skills development outcomes such as problem-solving, self-reflection, resilience, confidence and teamwork.

GATSBY BENCHMARKS

1

A STABLE
CAREERS
PROGRAMME

Contributing Solent activities:

- All activities

2

LEARNING FROM
CAREER AND
LABOUR MARKET
INFORMATION

Contributing Solent activities:

- Industry information workshops
- Academic workshop
- Discovery days in Southampton

3

ADDRESSING
THE NEEDS
OF EACH PUPIL

Contributing Solent activities:

- All activities

4

LINKING
CURRICULUM
LEARNING
TO CAREERS

Contributing Solent activities:

- Discovery days in Southampton
- Industry information workshops

5

ENCOUNTERS
WITH EMPLOYERS
AND EMPLOYEES

Contributing Solent activities:

- Discovery days in Southampton

6

EXPERIENCES
OF WORKPLACES

7

ENCOUNTERS
WITH FURTHER
AND HIGHER
EDUCATION

Contributing Solent activities:

- All workshop activities
- Discovery days in Southampton

8

A STABLE
CAREERS
PROGRAMME

Contributing Solent activities:

- Industry information workshops
- Employability workshop

FULL ACTIVITY OFFER

To book any of the activities shown below, visit www.solent.ac.uk/post-16 or email schools.colleges@solent.ac.uk

WORKSHOP	Building the best you – confidence and resilience (1 hour)	Employability (1 hour)	Choosing a university (1 hour)
MODULAR CONTENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-reflection activity – what are my aspirations? (15mins) • Resilience – how would you bounce back? (15mins) • Problem-solving – working as a team to solve a logic puzzle (15mins) • Teamwork puzzle – work together to succeed (15mins) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer-to-peer interviews and self-reflection on relevant interests and experiences (15mins) • Mapping my experience to key employability skills (15mins) • Ways to get work experience and build your CV (30mins) • Support at university to help you succeed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer-to-peer interviews and self-reflection on relevant interests and experiences (15mins) • Overview of the UCAS process (15mins) • Tactics for understanding course offers and teaching styles (20mins) • Making the most of open days (10mins)
LEARNING OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-reflection • Public speaking • Teamwork • Problem-solving • Resilience • Contextualising all skills for employability or application in education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-reflection • Confidence • Knowledge of key employability skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-reflection • Prioritisation techniques • General understanding of post-18 higher education options and benefits • Understanding of the UCAS process • Techniques for making comparisons between university courses
SUGGESTED DELIVERY	Year 12 summer term Year 13 autumn term	Any time of year for any year group	Year 12 summer term Year 13 autumn term
LINKS TO GATSBY	1, 3	1, 2, 3, 4, 7	1, 3, 7



Personal statements

(1 hour)

- Peer-to-peer interviews and self-reflection on relevant interests and experiences (15mins)
- Mapping my experience to key employability skills (15mins)
- Learning and applying a writing technique, including analysing exemplar statements (30mins)

- Self-reflection
- Knowledge of key employability skills
- Understanding of the UCAS process and personal statements
- Knowledge of personal statement writing techniques
- Prioritisation techniques

Year 12 summer term
Year 13 autumn term

1, 2, 3, 7

Student finance

(1 hour)

- Information on student finance, loan availability and repayment information (15mins)
- Awareness of university finance support for students (15mins)
- A game which involves making student budgeting choices and seeing their long-term impact (15mins)
- Easy money-saving tips for first year university students (15mins)

- Understanding of the student finance process, repayments and loan availability
- Money management tactics and techniques
- Problem-solving
- Prioritisation techniques
- Teamwork

Year 13 autumn or spring term

1, 3, 7

Applying to university

(30 mins)

- Overview of the UCAS process (10mins)
- Tactics for understanding course offers and teaching styles (20mins)

- Understanding of the UCAS process
- General understanding of post-18 higher education options and benefits
- Techniques for making comparisons between university courses

Year 12 summer term
Year 13 autumn term

1, 3, 7

FULL ACTIVITY OFFER

To book any of the activities shown below, visit www.solent.ac.uk/post-16 or email schools.colleges@solent.ac.uk

WORKSHOP	Portfolios, auditions and interviews (30 mins)	Applying to nursing (30 mins)	Student life (1 hour)
MODULAR CONTENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the purpose of a portfolio, audition or interview? • How to respond to a creative brief or prepare for interview questions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of careers in nursing, types of courses and entry requirements (15mins) • What to expect from a nursing interview (15mins) 	Delivered by a current Solent student ambassador, this workshop covers: course facilities and teaching styles; Southampton as a student city; money and finances; and accommodation
LEARNING OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General understanding of post-18 higher education options and benefits • Prioritisation techniques • Problem-solving • Knowledge of key employability skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Techniques for making comparisons between university courses • General understanding of post-18 higher education options and benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General understanding of post-18 higher education options and benefits • Interaction with a university role model
SUGGESTED DELIVERY	Year 12 summer term Year 13 autumn term Ideal for students interested in applying to creative courses	Year 12 summer term Year 13 autumn term Ideal for students interested in applying to nursing degrees	Any time in Years 12 or 13
LINKS TO GATSBY	1, 2, 4, 7	1, 2, 4, 7	7

Study and revision skills

(1 hour)

- Revision and study techniques for different types of learners (25mins)
- Differences in learning between further education and higher education (15mins)
- How to prioritise tasks and take control of your learning (20mins)

- General understanding of post-18 higher education options and benefits
- Awareness of learning styles
- Knowledge of different learning and revision tactics
- Self-reflection
- Confidence and resilience
- Problem-solving
- Prioritisation techniques

Any time in Years 12 or 13

1, 3, 7

Transition to higher education

(1 hour)

- Differences in learning between further education and higher education (20mins)
- How to prioritise tasks and take control of your own learning (20mins)
- Your first term at university – what to expect and what support is on offer (20mins)

- Self-reflection
- Problem-solving
- Resilience
- Prioritisation techniques
- Understanding of higher education and expectations of students at level four

Year 13 spring or summer term

1, 3, 7



INDUSTRY INFORMATION WORKSHOPS

Our industry information workshops deliver key information on industries in which Solent University specialises. These can be combined with other workshops – including visits from academic staff – to enhance students' knowledge of labour market information relevant to their subject area.

	LINKS TO GATSBY	DURATION
Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths (STEM) This talk will introduce students to a broad range of STEM careers and outline the opportunities open to students opting for STEM subjects at university. Solent University offers a range of degree courses related to STEM subjects, from engineering and computing to biomedical sciences and nutrition.	4, 7	30 minutes
Creative Industries The creative industries have one of the UK's fastest-growing job markets and this talk covers the range of diverse career paths available, including freelancing. Solent is uniquely placed to provide up-to-date information on this sector through its broad range of creative degrees and its provision of Solent Creatives, a student-led creative agency on campus.	4, 7	30 minutes
Maritime Solent has a long history of delivering maritime education and training through Warsash Maritime Academy, and offers a unique insight into sea- and shore-based careers in the shipping industry due to its location in Southampton, one of the UK's busiest commercial shipping ports.	4, 7	30 minutes
Business, Law and Communications This talk will introduce students to the broad range of careers available to those who undertake degrees in business, law, journalism, marketing and other communication subjects. It also includes information about opportunities for work experience at university and for support in setting up your own business.	4, 7	30 minutes
Sport, Health, Fitness and Social Sciences This talk will cover the range of options open to students interested in working to improve health and society in their future careers, in areas such as sport, nursing, psychology, sociology and health.	4, 7	30 minutes

IN BIG LETTERS ...

- Do start a draft
- Get your content right in the first draft, draft and draft
- Clear advice will be given to you to get started now.
- In week three you will develop a clear understanding of your theme / topic and your knowledge. You should be able to explain it to the average user. What do you want to develop a clear understanding of the user. What do you want to know? What do you want them to know?

ACADEMIC TASTER SESSION AT YOUR COLLEGE

We are able to offer academic taster sessions within colleges, upon request. These sessions can be between one hour and a full day of activity, designed to support your current curriculum and inspire students – all without having to leave your school or college.

These interactive sessions are led by an academic member of staff who is a specialist in their subject area. As well as giving students the opportunity to learn something new, it will give them an insight into learning at university while in familiar surroundings.

FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION OR TO
BOOK AN ACTIVITY:
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Email: schools.colleges@solent.ac.uk





DISCOVERY DAYS IN SOUTHAMPTON

Discovery days are the ideal event for students in Years 12 and 13 to come and experience life at university, understand relevant career paths and enhance their current curriculum. Each discovery day will include a choice of multiple teaching taster sessions and a chance to have hands-on experience of our amazing facilities.

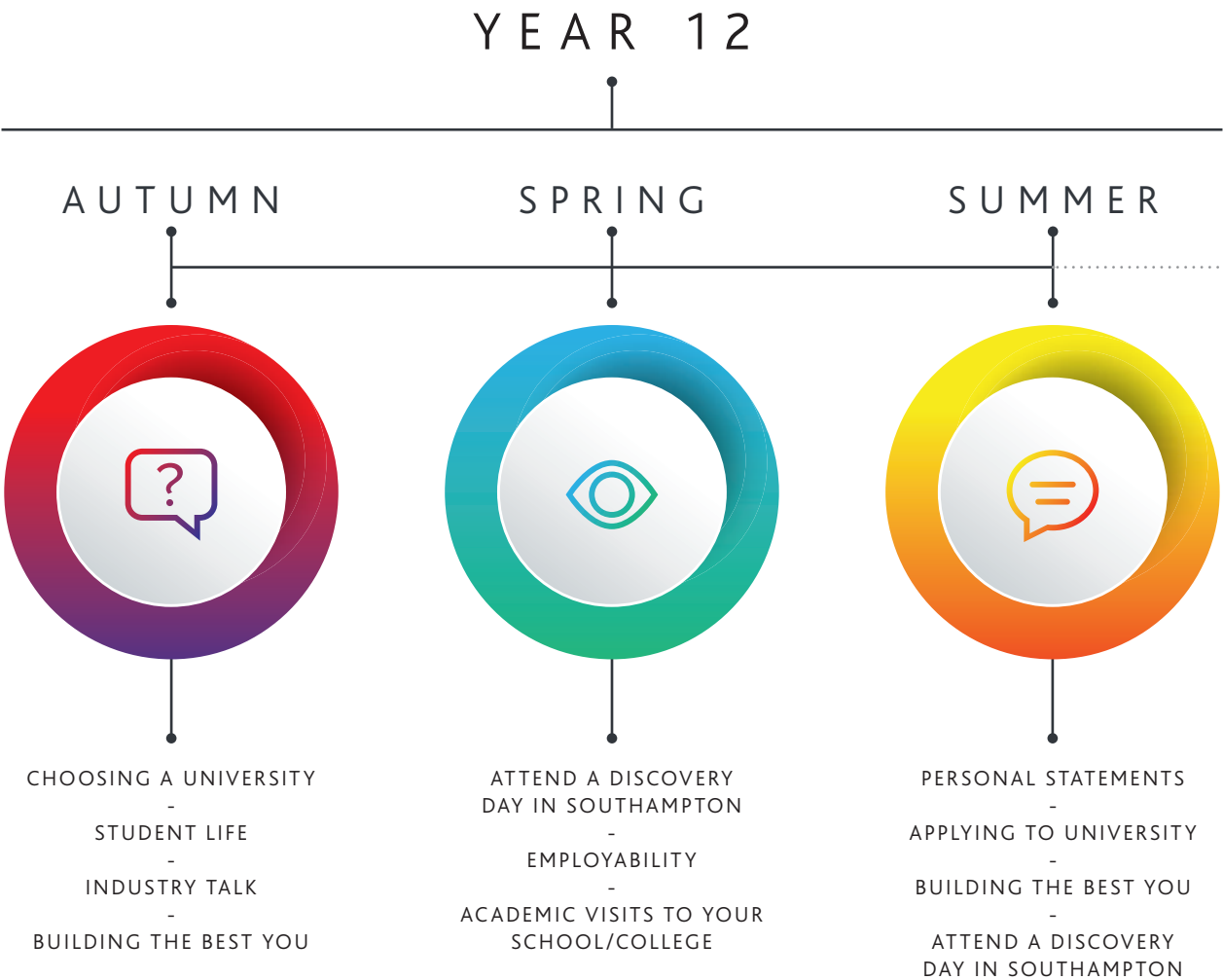
In addition to these discovery days, we run a number of smaller events and competitions for school and college students. For example, in 2020 we will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of 'Solent Sound' – our college competition for music performance and production students.

We also welcome school and college students onto campus to participate in our annual FRONT make-up and hair competition, during which students respond to a live creative brief using our professional make-up studios and photography equipment.

FOR FURTHER
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BOOK AN ACTIVITY:
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Email: schools.colleges@solent.ac.uk

ACTIVITY TIMELINE

We aim to deliver high-quality activity workshops to help students meet key milestones in their post-16 journey. The diagram below is a guide to when students will benefit most from each of our activities.



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YEAR 13

AUTUMN



APPLYING TO UNIVERSITY
-
STUDENT FINANCE
-
PERSONAL STATEMENTS
-
PORTFOLIOS, AUDITIONS
AND INTERVIEWS

SPRING



STUDY AND REVISION SKILLS
-
BUILDING THE BEST YOU
-
EMPLOYABILITY

SUMMER



TRANSITION TO
HIGHER EDUCATION

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a black sleeveless dress, stands on the right side of the frame, gesturing with her hands as if presenting. She is facing a group of people seated around a large white table. The room is modern with blue armchairs and a large screen in the background. The text "SUPPORTING YOU: DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS AND ADVISORS" is overlaid in white capital letters on the left side of the image.

SUPPORTING YOU: DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS AND ADVISORS

Solent University offers a range of continuing professional development (CPD) events for teachers and careers advisors throughout the year.

In the spring, we invite colleagues to our main teachers and advisors higher education conference on campus. Delegates will hear updates from Solent, and have the opportunity to tour our facilities and discuss current issues in the education sector. In December, we also hold a festive lunch to celebrate the end of the year with colleagues.

In addition to these events, we offer bespoke training for partner colleges who would like to deliver CPD events for their staff. These can include industry insight days or best practice workshops. We also offer access to public lectures that the University holds throughout the year which may be suitable for teachers and advisors.

If you would like to find out more about any of these CPD events for teachers and careers advisors, please contact us on schools.colleges@solent.ac.uk

SUPPORTING YOU: PARTNERSHIPS

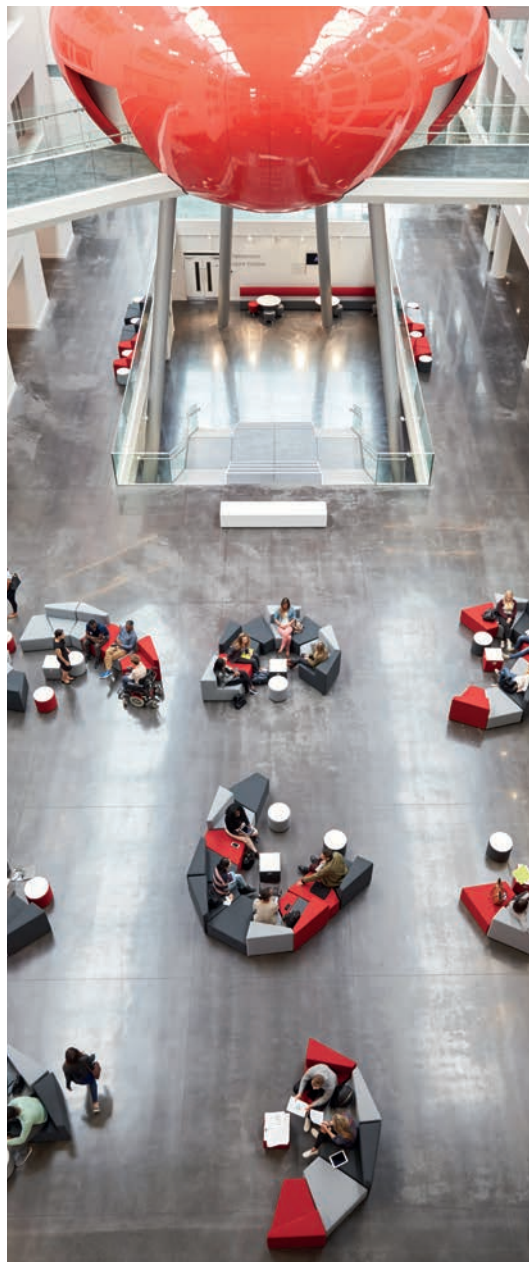
If you are already engaged in our work with schools and colleges, you may be interested in becoming a partner with Solent University.

As a partner, you will receive a range of benefits, including:

- financial support for staff and students' travel costs associated with attending Solent University school, college and CPD events
- support with sponsorship of awards evenings and other school or college activities
- a tailored admissions agreement between your school or college and Solent University
- guaranteed attendance by the University at your main progression events.

Becoming a partner with Solent means that schools and colleges can access benefits in addition to what is typically offered. This includes financial support for transport to events in Southampton, and priority in booking for discovery days and for teachers and advisors CPD events.

If you are interested in finding out more about a partnership, please contact us on schools.colleges@solent.ac.uk



ADDITIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT

MAINTENANCE LOANS

Full-time students from England can apply for a loan to support their studies. This will be paid directly into the student's bank account in three instalments, one at the beginning of each term.

The amount available depends on:

- where the student is living while studying
- the student's assessed ('means-tested') household income
- where in the UK the student chooses to study
- additional personal circumstances.

Other benefits are available – see www.solent.ac.uk/dependants or contact Student Finance England.

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT

If a student's household income is under £25,000, they can apply for various bursaries and scholarships which don't have to be repaid. Examples include the Solent University Bursary, Academic Merit Scholarships and the Lisa Wilson Scholarship.

STUDENT FUNDING

The student funding team at Solent provides support with all matters relating to student funding, including:

- student funding entitlement and the application process
- assistance with funding issues
- liaising with Student Finance England.

THERAPY AND MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Our therapy and mental health service offers a variety of support, including talking therapy (counselling and CBT), hypnotherapy and mental health advice.

DISABILITY SUPPORT

Access Solent provides disability support throughout the student lifecycle. Support may include:

- information and advice to prospective and current students with disabilities, and to Solent staff who are supporting students
- advice regarding accessing the Disabled Students' Allowance and other financial support
- screening and assessment for some conditions
- support in setting up some specialist provision and exam arrangements
- access to assistive technology and guidance with specialist software
- short-term loans of equipment.

LEARNING SUPPORT

Every student can access learning and progression support from the student achievement team. Students are offered additional support and guidance depending on their needs.

This is a key support service which provides students with tailored information, advice and guidance that promotes and enhances engagement with their studies.

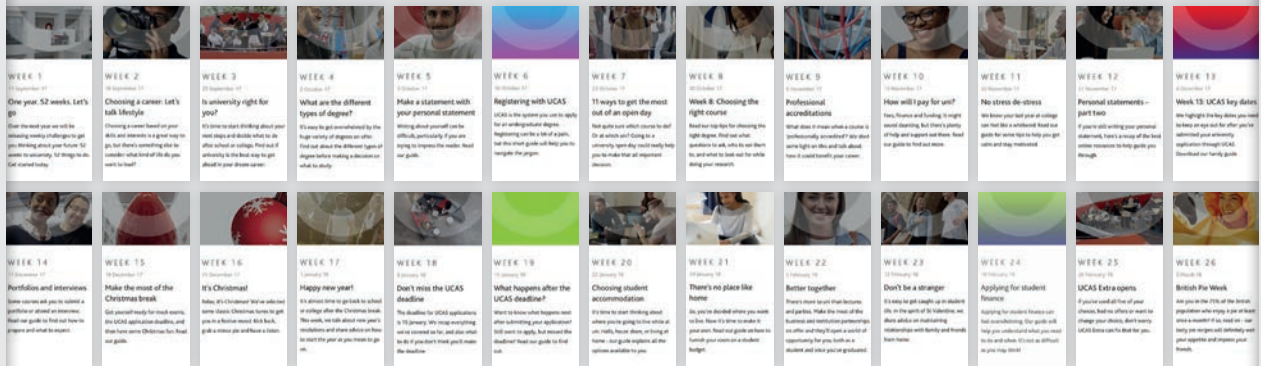
Access Solent also offers a range of learning support depending on needs, including:

- provision for individual academic-related needs – for example, exam arrangements, dyslexia tutor, mentor, note-taker
- individual assistance in the library
- confidential advice and guidance regarding study problems
- liaison with other departments, organisations and local education authorities.

www.solent.ac.uk/student-support





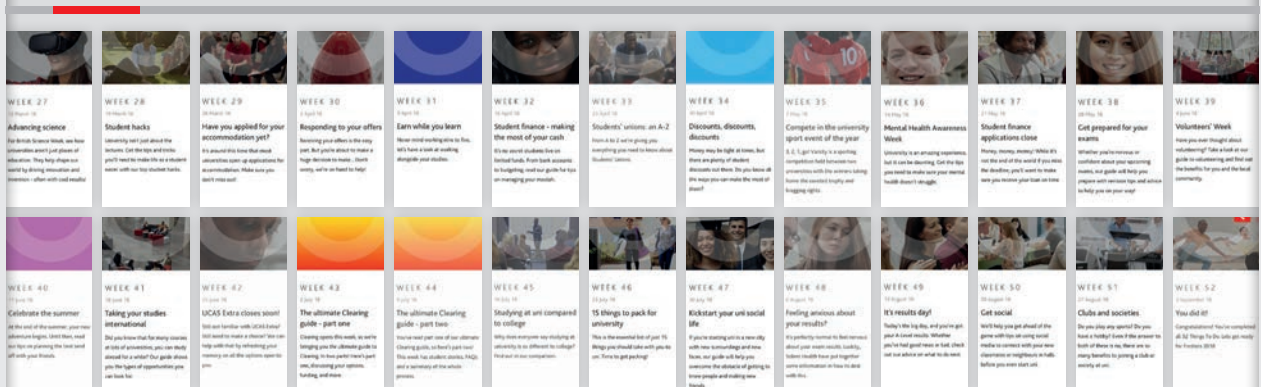


52 THINGS TO DO

Our award-winning* '52 Things to Do' guide is designed to support students through every step of the university application process.

From thinking about the degree that's right for them to writing a personal statement and preparing a portfolio, we've got it all covered – with handy advice and tasks designed to take no more than an hour each week.

Visit www.solent.ac.uk/52-things



* HELOA's Marketing and Communications Spotlight Award 2019



OPEN DAYS

Our open days offer the chance to explore Southampton and see for yourself what Solent can do for you. If you support students who would like to visit us, please recommend that they book a place online by visiting www.solent.ac.uk/open-days

VISITING FROM FURTHER AFIELD?
Students travelling from outside the Southampton City Council area to attend an open day can apply to receive an Amazon voucher that covers the cost of their travel (up to £50).

Find out more about the travel voucher:
www.solent.ac.uk/travelvoucher

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www.solent.ac.uk