

Happy holidays from STCG!

Business Partnerships Team Newsletter Summer 2025

Our 2025 students have now graduated from their college courses and moving onto their next steps in employment or higher / continuing education. We are proud of our student achievement rates; the group forecast for 16–18-year-old learners rose from 84.6% last year to 87.0%, and for adult learners from 86.9% to 89.4%. Kingston and Merton Colleges show the strongest gains and High Needs Students and Care Leavers also show positive trends. Our application numbers across the group continue to rise significantly year on year- our enrolment numbers for 2025-26 are predicting 6,500 learners aged 16-18 years old across the group so there is plenty of upcoming talent!

Awards!

South Thames Colleges Group is proud of the ways in which we nurture all learners. Our efforts were recognised at the summer Wandsworth Borough Business Awards held at the Clapham Grand where South Thames College, Wandsworth won a Highly Commended Award as Diversity and Inclusion Champions. We also sponsored the award for Environment and Sustainability Champion to reflect our ongoing commitment to reaching Net Zero. See here for a list of courses; [Net Zero](#)



In June the team headed to Manchester for the Housing 2025 Conference- partly to explore innovation and wider partnerships but also because we were shortlisted as finalists in 2 categories for the *Unlock Net Zero* Awards. Congratulations to Matt Walker as Climate Champion and South Thames College for the Skills and Training Award!

South London Growth

Employers, training providers, local authorities and educators met at Kingston College in March this year to back the new South London Employment and Skills Charter. The Charter, led by the South London Skills and Employment Alliance ensures that businesses have a strong voice in shaping the region's workforce for the future. Attendees at the event on 26 March showed their commitment by signing the Charter, reinforcing a collective effort to align skills development with industry needs. You can read more detail here: [South London employers unite behind the employment and skills charter - Big Knowledge](#)

Businesses which didn't attend the event can sign the charter here: [South London Partnership charter](#) download, sign and email to admin@southlondonpartnership.co.uk

Upcoming

Save the dates:

- "South London Skills Summit: LSIP in Action" at Merton College Thursday 23rd October. Daytime conference 9am-2pm to share how we have and will respond to employer needs, learn more about delivery of the South London Local Skills Improvement Plan and future access to funding, support and wider networks.
- Green Lab Launch and Employer Awards Evening at Merton College Thursday 13th November 5-8pm. To include a grand opening of the new green/ renewable facilities and celebrate the contributions from our employer and partner networks. Invite to follow.

Employer Toolkit to support new employees; based on feedback from employers and businesses the team will share resources in the next newsletter to support employers taking on young and new / returning employees.

Work with us

We appreciate our partnerships with employers, partners and stakeholders and want to do more good work that supports our students and your businesses. In June we held an online Employer Forum for the Construction sector and an online Employer Forum for Health and Care. This input is valuable to ensure the college offers relevant courses and

skills that will support a reliable and effective workforce. Please get in touch if you would like to work with us!

Merton Chamber Lunch Event and Interview Skills Workshop

We were delighted to host the Merton Chamber Business Networking Lunch at Taste Restaurant, Merton College on Thursday 8 May. Our Level 2 and 3 Catering and Hospitality students prepared and served a buffet lunch with mocktails on arrival and coffee and cakes to follow. Feedback from Nick (Business Clan) *“We had first-hand experience of an amazing lunch spread with interesting innovative drinks to pair with our lunch. We were also treated to an abundant choice of desserts”*.

Following lunch, Chamber members including Business Clan, Romulus and Roehampton University supported an interview skills workshop with Merton College students from Business and IT. This took the form of role play scenarios highlighting techniques of ‘The good versus not so good interview’. The students then had the opportunity to practice some of the top tips they had heard, with each other. Events and workshops like these really help develop skills and confidence for our student who will be soon interviewing for employment or university, and we are grateful to employers who are keen to get involved in this way!





Unilever/ Overbury / Kingston University Art Project

Members of our Business Partnerships and Creative Industries Team have been invited to collaborate with Overbury, Unilever and Kingston University to put together an exciting project where creative industry students from both Kingston College and Kingston University will have the opportunity to create pieces of artwork which celebrates Kingston and represents its rich culture. These will be showcased on the walls in the ground floor of Unilever's new building.



Mental Health support for new students



South Thames College Group partner with the NHS Wellbeing Service and we have NHS practitioners based at all four of our colleges offering mental health and wellbeing support. These practitioners also offer transitional support to students who may find the move to college difficult or overwhelming. **If you are a parent or carer with a young person who is starting at one of our colleges** our NHS staff partners can meet young people for on-site visits at their chosen colleges during quiet periods, to give them a tour and answer any questions they may have. They also offer support during the enrolment and induction periods. Please contact Caroline Gibbs, the service lead, via email: caroline.gibbs@swlstg.nhs.uk

Alongside their student offer, the team also offer online webinars for parents and carers to offer guidance around how best to support students with their transition to college. The next webinar is on Wednesday 20th August at 1pm. Free tickets can be booked here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1367446642719?aff=oddtcreator>

Apprenticeships

We are recruiting well to our apprenticeship courses for September 2025 starts but still have some spaces available on the courses below. If are interested in learning more about the apprenticeships across our group that we have on offer, please contact; business@stcg.ac.uk

The team are also happy to answer any questions you may have about changes to the apprenticeship levy, levy transfer opportunities and funding available to support an apprentice.

Apprenticeship Offer September 2025 starts

Carshalton College

Level 2 Carpentry and Joinery

Level 3 Electrical Installation and Maintenance

Level 3 Plumbing and Domestic Heating Technician

Kingston College

Level 2 & Level 3 Business Administrator (online delivery of off the job training)

Level 2 Motor Vehicle /Autocare Technician

Level 3 Engineering Technician

Level 3 Laboratory Technician

Level 4 Engineering Manufacturing Technician

Level 5 HR People Professional

Level 6 Chartered Management Degree (CMDA)

Merton College

Level 4 Data Analyst (online delivery of off the job training)

Level 4 Digital Product Manager (online delivery of off the job training)

South Thames College, Wandsworth

Level 3 Assistant Accountant

Level 3 Civil Engineering

Level 4 Civil Engineering Senior Technician

Level 4 Construction Site Supervisor

Level 4 Mammography Associate

Courses and Staff Training

At our Tooting, South Thames, Kingston and Merton sites we offer a number of professional development courses for adults aged 19+ some of which are fully funded depending on eligibility criteria, some are available to study online or part time. See here to access our full range; [Adult Short Courses](#)

If your business has a specific training need, please get in touch to discuss bespoke package options.

New NVQ for 2025/ 6




Upskill Your Team with Kingston College's Level 3 NVQ in Electrical Installation!
Kingston College is now offering a Level 3 NVQ in Electrical Installation starting this October – a fantastic opportunity for your team to gain essential skills for electrical

installation work and advance in their careers! Apply now; [NVQ Electrical Installation Level 3](#)

Why is this important?

- The Level 3 NVQ is a key qualification for those looking to work on construction sites and achieve the ECS Gold Card.
- Comprehensive training in wiring, fault diagnosis, inspection & testing, and health & safety.
- 1-year course designed to improve productivity, safety, and overall work efficiency on site.

Course Highlights:

-  Duration: 1 Year
-  Units: Electrical Wiring, Fault Diagnosis, Health & Safety, and more.
-  Pre-requisite: Level 2 & Level 3 2365 or 8202.

Term dates 2025-26

Monday 8 September 2025 - Friday 19 December 2025

Half term: Monday 27 October 2025 - Friday 31 October 2025

Christmas break: Saturday 20 December 2025 - Sunday 4 January 2026

Monday 5 January 2026 -Friday 27 March 2026

Half term: Monday 16 February 2026 - Friday 20 February 2026

Easter break: Monday 30 March 2026 - Sunday 12 April 2026

Monday 13 April 2026 - Friday 3 July 2026

Half term: Monday 25 May 2026 - Friday 29 May 2026

Summer break 3rd July- start September

Have a great summer!

General enquires can be directed to: business@stcg.ac.uk

Apprenticeship enquiries can be directed to: apprenticeships@stcg.ac.uk

Sharon Young - Head of Partnerships

Sharon.Young@stcg.ac.uk

Rebecca Dalton - Business Partnerships Manager

Rebecca.Dalton@stcg.ac.uk

Charlotte Howard - Business Partnerships Manager

Charlotte.Howard@stcg.ac.uk

Margaret Moore - Business Partnerships Co-ordinator

Margaret.Moore@stcg.ac.uk

Elena Bosio - Business Partnership Administrator

Elena.Bosio@stcg.ac.uk

