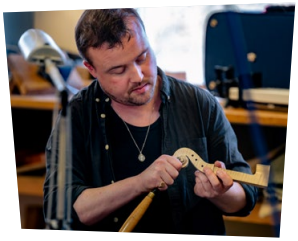
Merton College

Merton Adult Education







PART TIME COURSES FOR ADULTS

2026/27

Ofsted Good Provider

Inspected May 2024



About Us

Merton College is part of South Thames Colleges Group, that comprises of three other colleges: Carshalton College, Kingston and South Thames College.

Merton College is a vibrant further education college adjacent to the beautiful grounds of Morden Park.

We offer a wide range of part-time adult learning courses, from short informal courses to build confidence or learn a new hobby to more formal qualification courses to improve your job prospects and build strong professional careers.

We work very closely with Merton Council and are commissioned to deliver locally relevant adult learning provision.

We are an Ofsted 'Good' provider.

stcg.ac.uk/merton



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Accuracy: The brochure is published as a guide for programmes on offer and every care is taken to ensure its accuracy. Merton College undertakes all reasonable steps to provide educational services set out in this publication. It cannot, however, guarantee provision of such services. We do apologise if subsequent to the publication changes have become necessary.

Our Community Engagement and Partnership Work

We are continuously looking to increase our work in the local community to ensure learning opportunities reach those most in need. Our teachers and curriculum leaders can tailor teaching and learning and create bespoke courses to meet an individual or specific group's needs. The courses we deliver in this way are completely free to all participants.

If you are a local business, organisation or community group, please get in touch to find out how we can work together.

mae@stcg.acuk

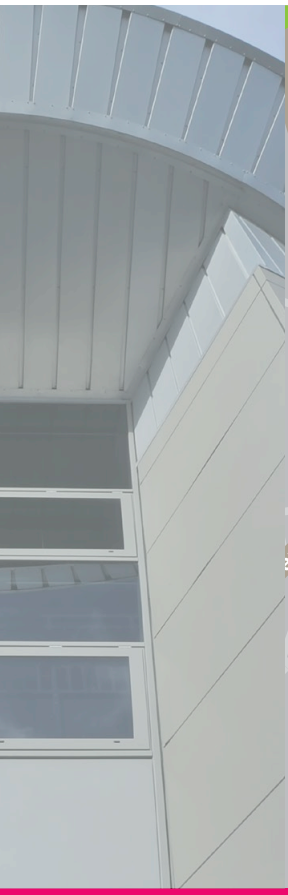


SAMANTHA – Business Start-Up Course

"I attended the Business Start-Up Course at Merton College to strengthen my business knowledge, learn new skills, and access support to help grow my business. I also wanted to ensure I understood UK legal requirements and discover further resources to support my development.

The course was informative and supportive, providing practical advice on business planning, compliance, and growth. A highlight was pitching and selling my handmade products at the Merton College Christmas Market. I sold far more than expected, which greatly increased my confidence and showed me the potential of my business.

I would highly recommend this course to anyone wanting to turn a hobby into a business. The practical guidance and encouragement provided an excellent foundation, and I am very grateful to Merton College for helping me take important steps towards building my business."





Enquiries

020 8918 7777

mae@stcg.ac.uk

www.stcg.ac.uk/merton

/mertoncoll

@AdultEdMerton

@AdultEducationMerton

How to find us

Merton College
London Road
Morden
SM4 5QX

Tube: Morden (Northern Line)

Tram: Morden Road

Bus: 80, 93, 154



LOU – Musical Instrument Making and Repair

"I applied to start the Musical Instrument Making course at Merton after learning to play the guitar. I was inspired to build my own instrument. Once I'd completed that goal, I returned 10 years later to focus on guitar repair. Every guitar is different and the course provides the tools, advice, and support that have enabled me to launch my own guitar repair business. I've already registered for next year's course. I plan to continue growing my business with the aim of retiring from my full-time job and focusing on guitar repair. This course has created opportunities I never expected. Working in IT from home offers little creativity or social interaction, but Tuesday evenings let me be creative, repair instruments, and spend time with people who share my passion."





Focused Digital Skills Offer

Our range of Digital Skills courses are designed to support you to build confidence and develop the skills and knowledge needed to become a competent user in the modern digital world.

Creative Markets

Our Creative Market takes place in December where our talented learners can showcase and sell their artistic creations at the college.

Exhibitions

We actively participate in exhibitions and collaborative projects with our partners across the borough, providing learners with opportunities to showcase their work and engage with the local community.



Getting Started Courses

Our Getting Started courses are designed to enable you to try out a new craft to consider it as a hobby or even a new profession. The courses are three weeks long and you will be given the opportunity to try different techniques. We hope that after completing these courses you will choose to progress further onto our mainstream programme within the subject area.



Green Skills for the Sustainable Future

Whether you already have some experience in the green industry or are starting from fresh, we have courses for you to excel in your career and make a difference to the world we live in.

As green jobs are forecast to vastly increase in the coming years, this is a great time to train for a career in Green Skills.

We work to continually foster sustainability across the curriculum and enable learners at all levels to grow as individuals ready for work in a sustainable environment.

Most of these courses are free, so these are great opportunities to develop skills in this area.

Continuing Course Opportunities

Free Courses – Your Entitlements

Learning towards certain qualifications is free for anyone who doesn't yet have them. Make sure you don't miss out on your entitlement for these essential skills which you can learn with us:

FUNCTIONAL SKILLS AND GCSE ENGLISH AND MATHS

ESSENTIAL DIGITAL SKILLS QUALIFICATIONS

Digital Skills and Qualifications

Get the digital skills and knowledge you need for everyday life, study, work and a career in technology. Start with the new free Essential Digital Skills Qualifications.

Business, Employment and Employability

Whether you are looking to get into work or to get your own business going, we have courses to support you to build employability or entrepreneurship skills. Develop your awareness and knowledge of digital business communication, social media and marketing, as well as the personal styles and skills you need to get that job you want.



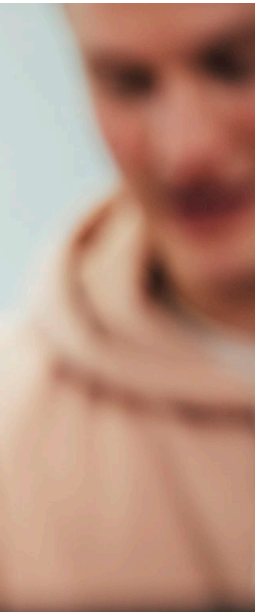
Initial Assessment

Some courses require an Initial Assessment, which allows us to identify if the course is right for you and understand any extra support you may need. If you wish to complete one of the following course types, you will need to book and attend an Initial Assessment for:

- Qualification courses
- Vocational Courses
- English and Maths and Languages
- Digital Skills

We run Initial Assessments throughout the academic year and you can book appointments via our website, **stcg.ac.uk/merton-college/adult-education/assessment**, or scan the QR code on page 10.

Methods of Learning



Learning with us usually involves coming into college and learning in a group with a tutor. Our courses will enable you to develop digital knowledge and skills alongside the course subject. This starts from using a learner email account and completing the London Learner Survey. Your tutor will make sure you have the digital skills and technology you need to achieve your learning goals.

We use the following delivery methods of learning:

- **Face-to-Face in college**
- **Blended (combination of virtual classroom and face-to-face)**
- **Online virtual classroom**

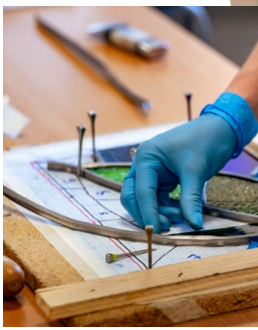
To find out the method of learning for your chosen course, speak with a member of staff.

Learning Environment

Merton College has excellent facilities including a Learning Resource Centre, our Taste Restaurant, a Hairdressing Salon, fully equipped Pottery, Art, Stained Glass, Musical Instrument Making Studios, Kitchens, IT suites and Beauty Salon.







Your Learning Journey

Before you enrol...

See the course listings in this prospectus. For further information on courses, contact us by phone, email or visit our website stcg.ac.uk/merton-college, or scan the QR code below.



Before you start a course...

- Initial Assessment (if required)
- One to One interview (if required)



During your course...

- Your learning will be planned and tracked with an Individual Learning Plan (ILP)
- Tutor feedback and support
- Additional learning support (if required)
- At the end of your course...
- Progress onto another course
- Provide learner feedback through surveys
- Exhibit or sell your work, or be ready to start your own business
- Contact our Careers Advisor at the college who can support you into employment or an Apprenticeship

Course Offer 2026/27

Q Courses with this symbol are qualification courses for which an Initial Assessment (IA) is required.

Initial assessments can be booked by scanning the QR code below:

stcg.ac.uk/merton-college/adult-education/assessment



LIJUN — English GCSE and AAT Level 1

"Five years ago, when I first arrived in the UK, my English was very poor. I was afraid to speak and didn't feel confident communicating with others. I was extremely fortunate to join South Thames College, where I started with the most basic ESOL English and GCSE Maths. During that time, I not only improved my language skills, but also made many new friends. Even more importantly, I found the opportunity to work as a teaching assistant at a secondary school, which has been a wonderful experience for me.

Now, I am continuing my studies at Merton College, taking GCSE English and AAT courses. The teachers here are incredibly supportive, and the classes are always interesting. I feel that I am learning in a relaxed and positive environment, which motivates me to keep improving every day.

I truly believe that learning never stops. By gaining more knowledge and developing new skills, I will have more opportunities and choices in the future. I am very grateful for all the guidance, patience, and encouragement you and the college have given me.

Thank you once again for your support."

ART & DESIGN

Art for All — Acrylic Painting	SEP JAN APR
Art for All — Drawing and Painting	SEP JAN APR
Art for All — Watercolour and Mixed Media	SEP JAN APR
Fine Art: Drawing and Painting, Watercolour — Beginners and Improvers	SEP JAN APR
Introduction to Graphic Design	JAN APR
Level 1 Award Graphic Design (NCFE) Q	OCT JAN

BAKING, CAKE DECORATING & COOKERY

Bake Well for Less	MULTIPLE
Cake Baking and Decorating Workshop	MULTIPLE
Cook Well for Less	MULTIPLE

BUSINESS

Introduction to Bookkeeping	OCT FEB APR
Introduction to Business Start-up	OCT FEB JUN
Level 1 Award in Bookkeeping (AAT) Q	JAN APR
Money Management Workshop	APR MAY JUN

> ***I'm so pleased that I have been able to achieve these qualifications in just six months.***

Location:
All courses run at **Merton College** — see page 3

Q Qualification courses for which Initial Assessments (IA) are required.
See page 7

CHILDCARE & EARLY YEARS

Level 1 Award in Caring for Children (NCFE) Q	SEP JAN APR
Level 2 Technical Occupational Entry for the Early Years Practitioner (NCFE CACHE) Q	SEP
Level 3 Technical Diploma for the Early Years Educator Q	SEP

COMPUTING, IT & DIGITAL SKILLS

Essential Digital Skills Qualification Entry Level 3 Q	SEP JAN APR
Essential Digital Skills Qualification Level 1 (Pearson) Q	SEP JAN APR
Highfield Level 2 Award in Digital Skills for the Workplace Q	MULTIPLE
Essential Digital Skills — Digital Transactions (Banking, Online Shopping, Online Forms)	NOV FEB JUN
Essential Digital Skills — Emails and Other Digital Communications	OCT JAN APR
Essential Digital Skills — Get to Know Digital Devices (Computers, Smart Phones, Tablets)	SEP JAN APR
Essential Digital Skills — Using the Internet and Staying Safe Online	NOV FEB JUN
Exploring Digital Skills	SEP JAN APR
Microsoft Excel — Beginners	MULTIPLE
Microsoft Excel — Intermediate	MULTIPLE
Microsoft Excel — Professional Users	NOV FEB JUN
Microsoft Word — Beginners	SEP JAN APR
Microsoft Word — Intermediate	NOV FEB JUN
Microsoft PowerPoint for Professional Users	NOV

Location:
All courses run at **Merton College** — see page 3

Q Qualification courses for which Initial Assessments (IA) are required.
See page 7

CRAFT

Calligraphy	SEP JAN APR
Creative Embroidery for All	SEP JAN APR
Getting Started With Embroidery	NOV FEB JUN
Getting Started With Pottery	FEB JUN
Life and Portrait Sculpture in Clay for All	SEP JAN APR
Pottery — Beginners and Improvers	SEP JAN APR
Pottery — Intermediate	SEP JAN APR
Pottery for All	SEP JAN APR
Stained and Fused Glass: Traditional and Contemporary Skills	SEP JAN APR
Upholstery — Professional Skills	JAN APR
Upholstery for All- Recycled Furniture	JAN APR

DISTANCE LEARNING PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Level 2 Certificate in Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care Q	FLEXIBLE

EMPLOYABILITY

Creating a Professional Online Presence	OCT
Employability: CV Writing Workshop	NOV JAN APR
Employability: Interview Skills Workshop	NOV FEB
Introduction to LinkedIn	MAR MAY
Job Search Workshop	NOV

Location:
All courses run at **Merton College** — see page 3

Q Qualification courses for which Initial Assessments (IA) are required.
See page 7

ENGLISH, MATHS & ESOL

ESOL Pre-Entry to Level 2 (Ascentis) Q	SEP JAN APR
Functional Skills English (Pearson) Q	VARIOUS DATES
Functional Skills Maths (Pearson) Q	VARIOUS DATES
GCSE English (AQA) Q	SEP OCT
GCSE Maths (AQA) Q	SEP OCT

FASHION

Clothes Making	SEP JAN APR
Upcycle and Re-Purpose Clothes	MULTIPLE
Sustainable Textiles	NOV FEB JUN

FITNESS, LEISURE & WELLBEING

Pilates for All	SEP JAN APR
Singing for Wellbeing	SEP JAN APR
Street Safe — Self Defence for Women	OCT JAN JUN

FLORISTRY

Introduction to Floristry	NOV MAY
Level 1 Award in Creative Craft — Floristry (NCFE) Q	SEP
Level 2 Certificate in Creative Craft — Floristry (NCFE) Q	FEB

Location:
All courses run at **Merton College** — see page 3

Q Qualification courses for which Initial Assessments (IA) are required.
See page 7

GREEN SKILLS

Introduction to Gardening	MULTIPLE
Sustainable Gardening	MULTIPLE
Practical Gardening	SEP APR
Live Well for Less	MULTIPLE
Sustainable Textiles	NOV FEB JUN

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

Introduction to Counselling and Therapy	SEP JAN APR
Level 1 Award in Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care (NCFE) Q	SEP APR

LANGUAGES

British Sign Language for Beginners	SEP JAN APR
French Beginners	SEP JAN APR
French — Brush Up Your Conversational Skills (Intermediate)	SEP JAN APR
Spanish Beginners	SEP JAN APR
Spanish Level 1	SEP JAN APR
Spanish Level 2	SEP JAN APR

MUSIC

Singing for Wellbeing	SEP JAN APR

Location:
All courses run at **Merton College** — see page 3

Q Qualification courses for which Initial Assessments (IA) are required.
See page 7

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT MAKING & REPAIR

Guitar Making — Intermediate and Advanced	SEP
Guitar Making and Design — Beginners	SEP
Guitar Making and Repair — All Levels	SEP
Violin Making and Repair — Beginners	SEP
Violin Making and Repair — Intermediate and Advanced	SEP

PHOTOGRAPHY

Digital Photography	VARIOUS
Photography and Photoshop	VARIOUS

TEACHING & TRAINING

Easy Maths Games to Support Children's Numeracy	JAN MAY JUN
How to become a Teaching Assistant	JUN
How to Find a Placement	MAY
Introduction to Phonics	MAR APR MAY
Introduction to Primary Numeracy	JAN MAY JUN
Level 1 Award in Preparing to Work in Schools (NCFE) Q	OCT JAN APR
Level 2 Certificate in Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools (NCFE) (Tuesday or Friday) Q	SEP
Level 3 Diploma in Supporting Teaching and Learning (NCFE) Q	SEP

Location:
All courses run at **Merton College** — see page 3

Q Qualification courses for which Initial Assessments (IA) are required.
See page 7

Eligibility Criteria

For all fully funded or co funded courses learners must be aged 19 or over by 31 August 2026 and one of the following:

Be a permanent UK resident

OR

Have proof of your residency status such as:

- Refugee Status
- Discretionally Leave to Enter or Remain
- Exceptional Leave to Enter or Remain
- Indefinite Leave to Enter or Remain/Settled Status
- Other

Please note that the eligibility criteria are regularly updated and are subject to change. If you have any questions, please contact us.



Fees, Concessions and Financial Support

Our courses are funded by the Greater London Authority's Adult Education Budget (AEB). Fees on these courses are subsidised, some are absolutely free or learners can get a discount, depending on their entitlement or employment and financial circumstances.

We also offer Full Cost (FC) courses where learners pay full fees. These courses are for learners' personal interests and are not supported by public funds.

Forms of Payment

We accept cash, cheque and most forms of credit card (one exception is American Express).

Pay by Instalments

- If your course lasts one term or the fees are up to £500 full fees are paid at enrolment.
- If your course lasts one term and the fees are over £500 you can pay by 2 instalments. 50% at enrolment and 50% 1 month later.
- If your course is longer than one term (but not a full year) and over £500 you can pay in 2 instalments, 50% at enrolment and 50% 2 months later.
- If your course is 1 year or longer then you can pay by 3 instalments 33% at enrolment, 33% on 31st Jan and the balance on 30th April.

Please speak with our Admissions Team for more details at enrolment and note that you are still liable for the course fee even if you withdraw from the course.

Unemployed Adults in Receipt of Means Tested Benefits

If you are unemployed, looking for work and are in receipt of a means tested benefit, all the qualification courses in this prospectus are free. You will need to provide supporting evidence to qualify for a government fully funded course.

Learners on a low Income

You do not have to pay any course fees if you meet both of the following criteria:

- You are in paid employment
- You earn less than £28,860 annual gross salary and live in London or earn less than £26,800 and live outside London.

You will need to provide proof of income. For example, this could be a wage slip within three months of the course start date or a current employment contract, if you are new starter, which states gross monthly/annual wages. Fee remission under this category is at our discretion and must be claimed before the start of the course. Refunds will not be given after the start of the course.

Level 2 Entitlement

If you are aged 19-23 years old, you may be entitled to free tuition if you do not already have a qualification at or above Level 2 or Level 3.

Level 3 Qualifications

Advanced Learner Loans are available.

Course Entitlements

All English and Maths Qualification courses (including GCSE if you do not already have a grade A-C or grade 4 or higher) and Essential Digital Skills Qualifications are free for those who don't yet have them.

Refunds

Refunds of full fees are only given if:

- a class is cancelled by us and there is no suitable alternative
- a learner is unable to attend for medical reasons and has an appropriate medical certificate

Administration, resource, examination and assessment fees are not refundable. The refund can be credited on your learner account to use for future courses, but this will be only valid if you are planning to enrol on a course within the same academic year.

Please note we unable to make refunds for absence due to changes in work commitments or in personal or financial circumstances or any other reason for not attending the course.

For further details about this entitlement and whether it applies to you please contact us, or access our Fees Policy by scanning the QR code below:

I really like Merton College, for its teaching, facilities and friendly atmosphere.

Support On Our Courses

We can offer support to help learners start or continue their learning with us:

Support with Childcare

We have limited funds to help with the cost of childcare whilst you are studying for a qualification with us. Please ask at enrolment for further details.

Additional Learning Support

We aim to make our courses accessible to everyone and help all our learners to achieve, whatever their current level of skills and ability.

If you think that you may need additional support to complete your course, please notify us at enrolment or discuss with your tutor once enrolled. Your request will be treated in confidence. A meeting will be arranged with the Learning Support Team to assess your learning needs.

Support with online learning

If your course requires you to use computer or a laptop, we may be able to loan you a device and advise you how to use it. We can also show you how to set up and use your own device for online learning.



Course Information and Start Dates

The website is updated with the latest courses for each academic term. We do add additional courses throughout the term or sometimes cancel courses due to enrolment numbers. For the most up to date course information, visit our website

stcg.ac.uk/merton

or contact us for more information.

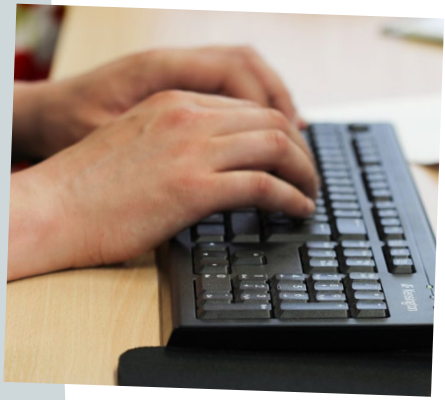
LYNN — Essential Digital Skills Qualifications

"My name is Lynn. After successfully completing the Entry Level Digital Skills course, I progressed on to the Level 1 course in September 2025.

This course has significantly improved my digital literacy, and I now use these skills daily. As a result, I feel more confident and motivated to seek employment, making effective use of my newly acquired digital skills.

I greatly appreciate the dedication of my tutor, Monika, who took the time to carefully break down each topic. Her patience, understanding, and consistent support throughout the course made a real difference to my learning experience.

I would highly recommend this course to anyone looking to build confidence and practical skills in digital technology."



mae@stcg.ac.uk

020 8918 7777 • stcg.ac.uk/merton

/mertoncoll @AdultEdMerton @AdultEducationMerton

Working on behalf of LONDON BOROUGH OF MERTON

SUPPORTED BY MAYOR OF LONDON

European Union
European Social Fund

Skills Funding Agency