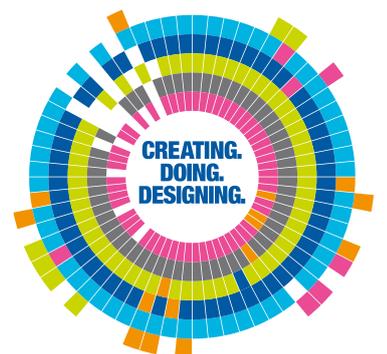




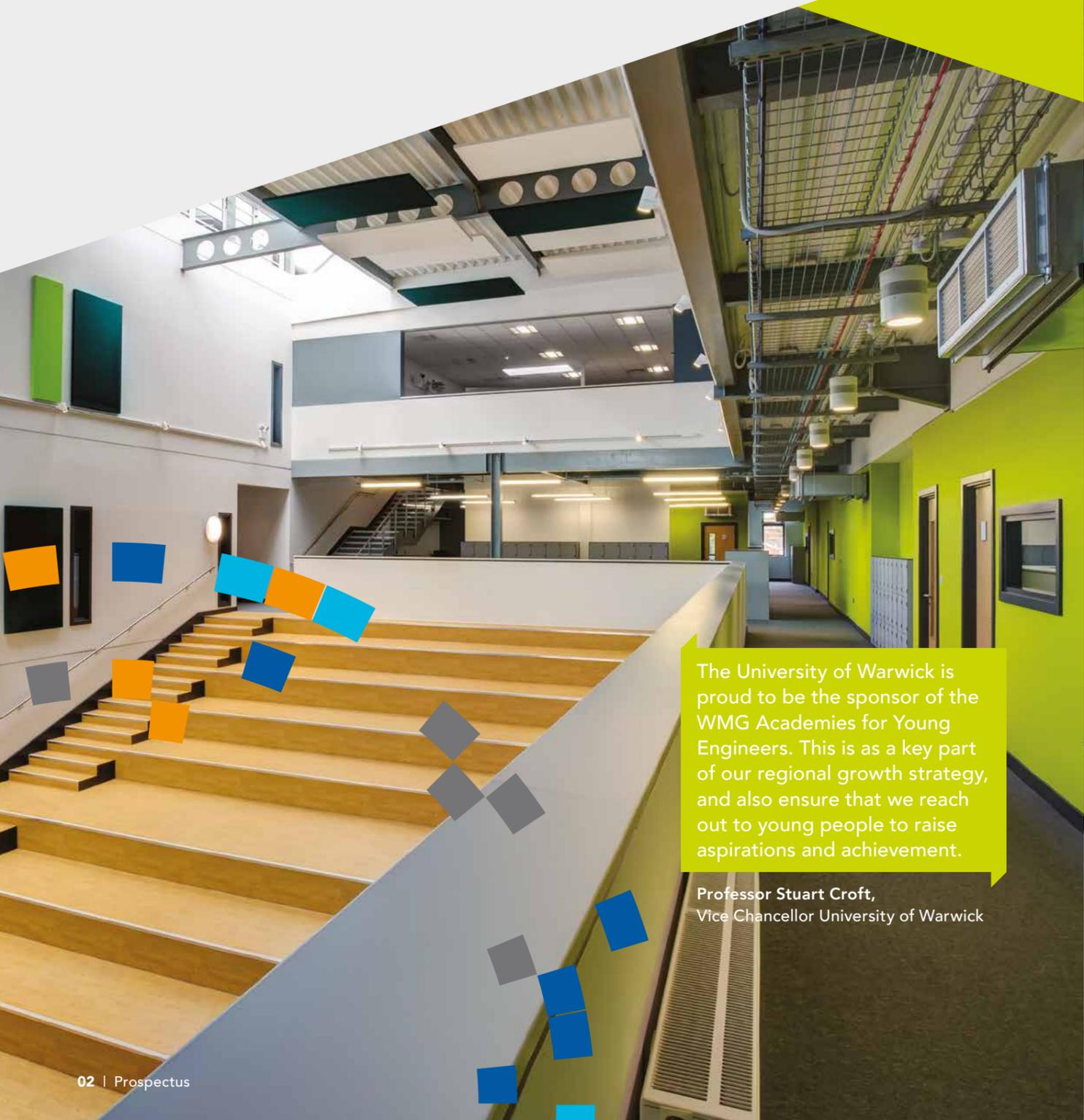
Prospectus





Innovation, exploiting new technologies and the deployment of technical skills are at the heart of WMG's mission and at the heart of the WMG Academy's vision for our future engineers. By ensuring our students have both the academic knowledge and practical skills required to enter employment, we are preparing them not just for their careers, but also to help change the world.

Professor Lord Bhattacharyya,
Chairman and Founder, WMG



The University of Warwick is proud to be the sponsor of the WMG Academies for Young Engineers. This is as a key part of our regional growth strategy, and also ensure that we reach out to young people to raise aspirations and achievement.

Professor Stuart Croft,
Vice Chancellor University of Warwick



Welcome from the Executive Principal

The WMG Academy of Young Engineers, Solihull is the second academy within the WMG Academy Trust. It works closely with its sister academy in Coventry (opened in 2014) and together they bring benefits to all learners within the WMG Trust.

As the Executive Principal for the WMG Academy Trust, and on behalf of the Trust, I am delighted to be leading both academies. Stewart Tait, Associate Principal for Solihull, will lead on the day to day operation of the academy and, together, we will work closely to ensure that the academy provides an outstanding education for its students.

I hope that through reading this prospectus you see how our vision is translated into reality and look forward to welcoming you into to our growing community. Please feel free to contact me or Stewart if you would like more information or to visit the WMG Academy.

Kate Tague
Executive Principal

We have a clear mission and vision for the WMG Academy, developed in partnership with leading employers, WMG and the University of Warwick; to be "business-like and business-led". We want to create an environment where young people with a passion for creating, doing and designing can acquire the technical and business skills required to become the engineers of the future.





Welcome from the Associate Principal

Our students will have the opportunity to access unrivalled industry standard resources, expertise and digital technology today that will provide the most sought after employees of tomorrow.

I feel immensely privileged to be the Associate Principal of Solihull's first engineering specialist University Technology College, sponsored by employers and the University of Warwick.

Our aim is to achieve outstanding outcomes for young people through a relentless focus on high quality teaching and learning, delivered by expert practitioners, as well as providing a broad and balanced curriculum for all.

Flexible pathways at Post 16 signpost to university courses or quality apprenticeships, whilst Key Stage 4 allows option subjects and a modern foreign language to access the much sought after EBAC qualification.

Our "business-like, business-led" vision drives everything we do. Working with a range of local, national and international companies, our students complete the engineering projects these partners set which form the basis of their assessment and curriculum. These projects compliment the core GCSE subjects of English, Maths, Science and GCSE option subjects that students can choose.

Alongside an innovative approach to teaching and state of the art and design facilities, I hold in extremely high regard the traditional values of creating a learning community where the environment is calm, supportive and encourages curiosity in young people.

The WMG Academy Solihull aims to bring out the best in young people and give them the leadership opportunities to develop themselves and others whilst securing the knowledge, technical skills and business behaviour we know employers value.

Stewart Tait
Associate Principal, Solihull

Introducing the WMG Academy for Young Engineers Solihull

The WMG Academy is characterised by the use of 'real life' project based delivery which has been supported by our employer partners and designed and delivered to meet the current and emerging needs of the engineering sector.

Our students experience new ways of learning. They will learn in applied and practical ways, integrating technical elements through the project based curriculum.

Arup are pleased to be part of such an exciting venture as the WMG Academy. We are already actively involved in developing this unique way of learning and believe it will help shape local students into young engineers for the future.

Kim Blackmore
Associate, ARUP

Students will work closely with our industrial and university sponsors, in an innovative and future-focused learning environment, to develop outstanding knowledge and skills within the academy's specialism of engineering and applied science and within a broad and rich general curriculum. This approach will allow our students to develop the employability skills that employer's value.

Learning will be different as students will often work in groups of varying sizes using the flexible layout of the Academy. The ethos of "business like and business led" runs throughout the academy in the way students work, behave, dress and study. Every aspect of the academy, including the brand new building and its ethos and culture, will reflect the best of the modern workplace.

At the heart of our ethos is the promotion of every learner's own personal and future professional development. Students who graduate from the academy will be confident and extremely well prepared to enter either the world of work, further or higher education, or an apprenticeship. They will help to address the engineering skills gaps as we create the next generation of engineers and scientists and apprentices who will work on exciting and challenging projects, innovating and creating the new products and processes that will influence the way we live in the future.



Engineering with Our Partners

Engineering is delivered differently at the WMG Academy for Young Engineers Solihull. Working with our employer partners to develop the engineering curriculum, students study live company-set projects.

Students take the learning from their engineering teaching and apply it to employer driven scenarios to develop solutions. These projects form part of their final assessment for their engineering qualifications. Through these projects, students develop their employability skills of team working, leadership, communication, independent learning and self-reliance. Their final task is often to present their work back to the relevant employer; having the opportunity to explain their ideas and getting feedback from the experts on their solutions.

We are currently working with the following employer partners: Jaguar Land Rover, Rolls Royce Controls and Data Services, ARUP, Automotive Insulations, Aston Martin, Dassault, Balfour Beatty, The Environment Agency and National Grid to embed in our curriculum an extended student experience.

Jaguar Land Rover are extremely excited about partnering the WMG Academy for Young Engineers and what it will mean for the support of engineering skills in the region. The close collaboration between the academy, university and local industry will make for a truly unique learning environment.

Jo Lopes,
Head of Technical Excellence,
Jaguar Land Rover

Our Curriculum

Curriculum: Year 10 and 11

In Key Stage 4, our curriculum is built around a core programme of learning. Students will build a solid foundation of knowledge and skills leading to GCSE qualifications and, where appropriate, the English Baccalaureate.

Our curriculum is designed to ensure that the majority of students take at least 9 (mainly GCSE) qualifications, with exceptions made for those students for whom a smaller number is more appropriate.

The core education programme will be enhanced through themes, linked to the technical specialisms and to employer set challenge projects. ICT will be integrated throughout all learning within the Academy.

The core curriculum is:

- ▶ GCSE Mathematics
- ▶ GCSE English
- ▶ GCSE Core and Additional Science (triple GCSE available)
- ▶ PE, PSHE and RE are all non-examined
- ▶ Level 2 Engineering (2-3 qualifications)

In addition students are able to choose either 2 or 3 choices such as:

- ▶ Triple Science (converting Double Science to the three separate Science)
- ▶ A Humanities subject
- ▶ Art and Design
- ▶ Business Studies
- ▶ GCSE Computer Science
- ▶ Product Design
- ▶ A Modern Foreign Language

Curriculum: Years 12 and 13

At Post 16 we will offer students a choice of flexible pathways. The Academy will work with students to select the most appropriate pathway for them, based on their performance at GCSE and their career aspirations.

The Level 3 Programme

The majority of post 16 students at the Academy will follow a level 3 programme, which means they will have passed a minimum of 5 GCSEs, including English and Maths, at grades A* to C. Students will normally be expected to have achieved a grade B at GCSE level to study a subject at A level and a grade A for students wishing to do A level Maths.

The 3 pathways below show our flexible approach to meeting the needs and aspirations of students.

Pathway A: For students wishing to study engineering at university or pursue an advanced apprenticeship. All students will study a Level 3 engineering qualification and up to 3 A-levels.

Pathway B: For learners wishing to study engineering combined with another subject at university, pursue an apprenticeship or go into Further Education. On this pathway the students will combine a larger Level 3 engineering qualification worth up to 3 A levels with an additional A level subject of their choice.

WMG Academy will offer the following A level subjects:

Art & Design, Biology, Business, Chemistry, Computer Science, Further Maths, Geography, Maths, Physics and Product Design.

Pathway C: This route is for students who want to follow an A Level only programme, with a focus on STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). Students can take up to 4 A level subjects on this pathway.

NB: Any student who does not have a minimum of a grade C in GCSE English or Maths will retake this as part of their Sixth Form taught programme.

Facilities and Location

Our business-like and business-led vision is reflected in our bespoke new building, an innovative learning environment which is unique. Located on Chelmsley Wood Road, our flexibly sized and varied learning bases allow for individual learning, team work or whole group teaching.

The Engineering Hall follows the process of 'design, create, do' with students able to design on the 'make and do' mezzanine and then 'create' using our industrial standard equipment of mills, lathes, Computer Numerically Controlled machines, fabrication, welding, bench fitting and jewellery making equipment to gain the technical and engineering skills they need. Electronics and science facilities are of the highest industry standard to mirror business environments.

There is a learning resource centre for students to independently learn with support and guidance, break out spaces on each floor for group work and an atrium for assemblies and the showcasing of work and exhibitions. Dining facilities open throughout the day are flexible to allow students to work and meet during study periods. The activity studio, and outside multiple use games area provide recreational and PE facilities for all. The Academy will also use facilities at the North Solihull Leisure Centre which is a 2 minute walk away.

The WMG Academy for Young Engineers Solihull embraces digital technology with a 'bring your own device' policy complimented with laptops, standard PCs and CAD machines available to students throughout the building outside of standard classrooms and learning bases. Our learners will work in a business-like environment very much like the world of work and our purpose-built learning environment reflects this.



Joining the WMG Academy

We are a state-funded academy with no specific selection criteria for entry into the WMG Academy for Young Engineers Solihull. However, we must emphasise that this Academy is for students with an interest in creating, doing and designing things. There will be an engineering-based focus with specialist attention being given to the areas which are applicable to local employers in the automotive, aerospace, digital technologies and high-value manufacturing sectors.

Applying to join in Year 10

Year 10 Admissions will open at the beginning of August each year and be overseen by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council. Application forms are available to download on the admissions page of your own local Authority admissions website.

Once completed, your application needs to be sent directly to the Local Authority where your son/daughter resides. If your Local Authority is not Solihull MBC, they will pass it directly to Solihull Admissions for processing. We hold regular drop-in sessions throughout the year for learners interested in studying with us and you are welcome to contact us and arrange to come in and discuss joining the WMG Academy at any time.

Applying to join in Year 12

Year 12 Admissions will open at the beginning of August and will be processed by the WMG Academy. Application forms will be available to download on the admissions page of our website. Alternatively you can call or email us and request an application form by post. We hold regular drop-in sessions throughout the year for learners interested in studying with us and you are welcome to contact us and arrange to come in and discuss joining the WMG Academy at any time.

Students who wish to study Post 16 will need to meet our minimum entry requirements and any additional requirements for specific courses.

Our admissions policy is available on our website and includes the processes in the event of being oversubscribed.



Student Life

We believe that education should be “business-like and business led”. Our curriculum covers all core subjects at Key Stage 4 and is structured around projects which use real-world business projects, set by our employer partners.

At Key Stage 5 students can follow traditional A-level subjects, enhanced by employer projects for the core engineering entitlement, or opt for a pathway based on a larger Level 3 qualification.

The WMG Academy Day

Our day is slightly longer than the standard school day, allowing time for individual learning, catch up sessions, mentoring and enrichment activities alongside the project work which forms the heart of our curriculum.

We cater for students to be on site between 07.30 and 18.00 (16:30 on a Monday and Friday) but the core hours we expect all students to be on site are 08.30 until 16.30. Students will be expected to partake in at least one enrichment activity a week or evidence the equivalent personal enrichment activity outside of the Academy.

Due to the extended academy day we do not set excessive amounts of homework as we expect much of the work and study to be done during academy time. There will of course be exceptions to this around revision for exams or any other extra projects the students may wish to take on board.

The ethos of the WMG Academy is business-like and we draw on business practice for both our student and staff assessment, monitoring the development of employability and life skills such as team-working, leadership and problem-solving.

Enrichment Activities

Activities we offer may include:

- ▶ Sport & fitness;
- ▶ STEM focussed activities such as F1 in Schools, Greenpower racing;
- ▶ Project-based activities such as national competitions and engineering challenges;
- ▶ National Award schemes such as Duke of Edinburgh Award and Young Enterprise;
- ▶ Engineering club;
- ▶ Science club.

Student Leadership

Students at the WMG Academy are given many opportunities to undertake leadership roles. The Student Learner Forum enables learners to be able to contribute to the strategic direction of the academy and be a sounding board and student voice forum between staff and employer partners. The Student Learner Forum are involved in the selection procedure of all staff.

Pastoral care and support

Our pastoral care is led by our dedicated team of tutors. All learners have an individual learning plan with academic, personal development and skills targets. These are negotiated between learners and their personal tutor and reviewed twice termly.

There are high expectations for standards of behaviour and personal conduct reflecting the professional environment of the WMG Academy for Young Engineers. This includes a dress code in line with the professional appearance that students would be expected to have in the work place.

Each day has dedicated timetabled pastoral time which includes: PSHE/ citizenship sessions, company competitions, mentoring, assemblies and time available for self-supported study.

Additional Educational Needs

The WMG Academy is committed to providing for the learning needs of all of our students. Additional support for learners is provided by the Learning Support Team under the leadership of the Academy SENCO. Students with additional learning needs and their parents are fully involved in all decisions about what and how additional support will be provided.

Beyond the Academy

From their first day at the WMG Academy to their last we will be working with our learners to help them prepare for their future careers. From technical skills through to communication and business skills, we'll do everything we can to help plan for future careers, whether that's as an apprentice, via university or straight into employment and further training.

Working in Partnership

Students

Our learners' journey with us starts as soon as they are offered a place. They will be invited to a guidance interview to discuss their current progress, their future career plans and to decide together on their curriculum in Y10 and Y12. Each student will have a personal tutor within the WMG Academy who will be their mentor and key point of contact.

Employers

The WMG Academy has a wealth of partners who support our curriculum, provide mentoring, inspire our strategic direction and support our careers guidance. With their support and expertise they ensure that the WMG Academy curriculum meets the needs of industry and is current practice.

Parents

At the WMG Academy we strongly believe that the support of parents is a key element of the success of their child. Parents will receive regular progress reports and are invited to attend consultation evenings with staff. The personal tutor as the main point of contact for parents will be able to discuss the student's individual personal learning plan and their targets.

Governance

The WMG Academy for Young Engineers Trust oversees both of our Academies in Solihull and Coventry. Each Academy has its own Governing Body with membership drawn from WMG, The University of Warwick, employer partners, educationalists, staff and parent governors.

WMG Academy for Young Engineers Solihull

Chelmsley Road
Solihull
Birmingham
B37 5FD

Telephone: 0121 289 3556

Email: solihull.info@wmgacademy.org.uk

Find us on:

 [WMG Academy Solihull](#)  [@wmgacademysol](#)  [Linkedin](#)

