



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Can I do the Access Course and still work?

Yes, but only part-time. The Access Course is demanding in terms of lessons and homework. You will need to see a specimen timetable to see if you can fit your work hours around it.

If you want to do the full-time Access course over one year, you are unlikely to have much time for paid work.

2. Is childcare available at college?

Yes, there is a nursery for students' children but it is very popular. You will need to have been interviewed and accepted a place by July for the September start to be fairly sure of a place.

3. How often does the course start?

The course runs each year from early September – there is no midway start.

4. Is the course available as an evening class?

Not at St. Vincent College but it is at Fareham College.

5. Will I have to pay for my courses?

Full Time Student fee - £440

Part Time Student fee - £220

If you are claiming Means Tested Benefit (MTB) the course is FREE if you have no full Level 2 qualifications or are aged 19-24 with no full level 3 qualifications.

6. Is there a grant available?

There is a means tested Learner Support Fund (LSF) available for students to apply for and also an Adult Learning Grant (ALG) for which you must be over 19 and starting your first full time Level 2 or Level 3 qualification. For those eligible, it provides childcare, support with course materials etc. At interview see our Finance Department about the LSF and ask at the College Information Office reception for the ALG information.



7. Do I have to do Maths and English GCSE?

It is not a course or college requirement but many universities will expect you to have them. They are both required for Nursing and Teaching. 'O' Levels or CSE Grade 1 may be sufficient.

8. Can I do other courses alongside my Access Course?

Yes, if they can be fitted into your timetable. For example, some students may do CLAIT or perhaps a beginners IT Course.

9. Will there be younger students in my lessons?

No, not on the Access Course but yes in any other lessons you do. Many adults enjoy working with younger students!

10. Will I get help to apply to University?

Yes, you will have a tutor and there is a full Careers service in College.

11. Can I do the Access Course if I don't want to go to University?

The Access Course is open to anyone over 21 and in certain circumstances over 19 but it is intended for those applying for University. Adults can do any of our other daytime courses, if you think you would prefer to go straight into a job. Apply to the College and this can be discussed at your interview.

12. I have not studied for ages; will I get help with study skills?

Yes, there is a weekly study skills session for all Access students. This covers useful areas like how to write essays or use the library. One-to-one tutorials are also available with your teachers if you need advice or assistance.