

Welcome

Welcome and thank you for engaging with this listening exercise as the University of Southampton Team starts to consider developing our Winchester campus in this lovely area of the city.



Why are we here?

We're investing in our campuses to create an environment that:

- provides our students with modern and fit-for-purpose learning spaces
- enables world-class research to take place
- encourages collaboration and innovation with businesses and other stakeholders
- complements the existing settings and retains popular surroundings
- is pleasant for people who live near and move through the area
- offers opportunities for local people to enjoy the benefits of various facilities

As part of our civic responsibility, we are committed to working closely with Winchester City Council.

Why Winchester?

The University of Southampton has a long history in the city of Winchester. Winchester School of Art (WSA) is part of the University and celebrated its 150 year anniversary in 2020.

2022

A RETURN TO THE GUILDHALL

Around 56 years after moving to Park Avenue, Winchester School of Art (WSA) returned to the Guildhall, leasing space to house its Centre for Fashion Futures.

2020

150 YEARS

After 150 years of educating and innovating, WSA welcomed an annual cohort of over 1,800 students from around the globe.

1999

NEW BUILDINGS

WSA's Park Avenue home was renovated and developed with the addition of three new buildings and upgraded facilities and studios.

1996

JOINING SOUTHAMPTON

In August 1996, WSA joined the University of Southampton, bringing with it over 800 students and just under 100 staff.

1966

PARK AVENUE

WSA moved to new home on Park Avenue, with campus opening in 1966.

1876

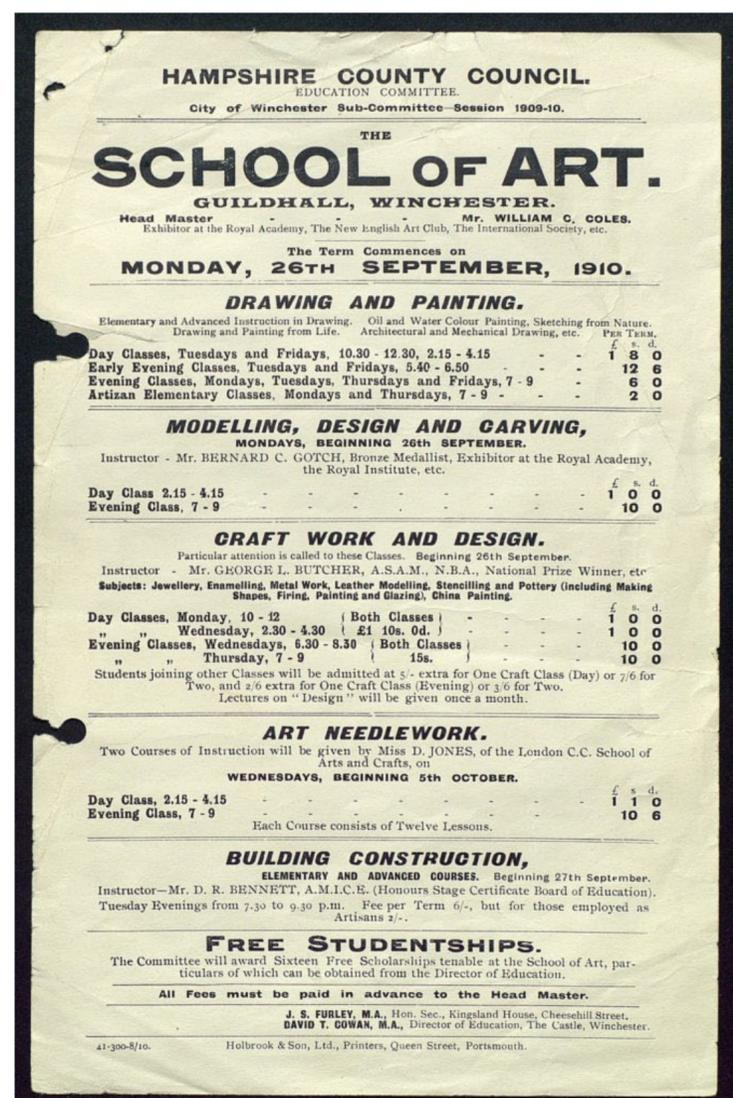
GUILDHALL

WSA moved to its first purpose-built premises in Guildhall Winchester. You can still see the sign there today, carved into the lintel above the door.

1870

WSA FOUNDED

Founded by Winchester College Dons, WSA held its first classes at the Bishop's Residence in Winchester, which adjoins the ruins of Wolvesey Castle.



University of Southampton and Winchester's community

You may not be aware, but the University of Southampton is already active within the community in Winchester.

The Winchester Gallery

The Gallery hosts 6–8 public shows per year.



Winchester Hat Fair

We have supported the Winchester Hat Fair with space and technical resources.



Winchester Fashion Week

WSA collaborates with the Winchester Bid on Winchester Fashion Week.



Alongside the above events we also:

- support the Theatre Royal's 'Playmakers' youth group, who use space here twice each week
- run an art and design Saturday club for 13–16 year olds as part of the national Saturday club programme
- run our own after-school art club for local young people

- collaborate on the delivery of Winchester Green Week
- provide student design teams to work with local retailers to design store front windows and other points of display

As long as we are in the city, we'll look to continue our great relationship with local people and organisations.

Our approach

RESPECTING YOUR PLACE

It's part of the way we work that we make sure that any of our campuses contribute to the lives of local people and fit in with the local area.

This means:

- we'll design any new buildings on our campus with Winchester's historic status and the nearby local open spaces in mind
- we'll look for ways for the facilities to enhance the day-to-day experience of local people

While we need modern buildings, they need to be both practical and beautiful.

We're keen to hear any suggestions from you on how this can be achieved. We will consult again once we have finalised our plans.

Sustainability

We've set a goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2030. This means that any development will be carried out in a sustainable way that manages our impact on the planet.

The University has developed a sustainability strategic plan that makes sure that when we make improvements to our campuses, we take into account biodiversity, travel, carbon and energy, sustainable investments, waste and recycling, sustainable purchasing and food and drink.

Unfortunately, our 1960's Winchester campus performs poorly against our environmental targets and we need to address this.

Improving our existing estate

The Winchester element of the University's Strategic Estates Plan hasn't taken shape yet. However, we did hear from local residents about how important it was to you that we get on with improving the campus we already have in your

city. The majority of our existing buildings date from the 1960s, and are in urgent need of improvement. We want to use our investment in these buildings wisely and deliver environmental and community benefits that the current buildings cannot provide.

By improving our existing estate we would be able to:

- make our buildings more sustainable, by finding ways to generate energy and reduce energy consumption, lowering our carbon footprint
- provide more teaching, learning and research space
- improve the quality of the facilities to make them modern and competitive
- look at how the campus can provide a hub for the region's creative and cultural industries
- allow for a gateway to the campus and enhance this area of the city
- improve catering and other services on the campus

In support of our future plans we need 'decant' space – space for teaching and learning to take place in as we invest in our existing buildings and expand our existing facilities.

We've rented additional space in WSA's former home in Guildhall Winchester so we can accommodate growth and improve our existing estate.

Future Expansion

The University has the potential to expand in Winchester and redevelop the River Park Leisure Centre site. The site was promoted for educational use in the recent draft Local Plan.

Development would be conditional on the retention of the Skate Park and retention or re-provision of the Indoor Bowling club.

A site for 350-400 bedspaces would also be required to support expansion of the University. This accommodation could not be accommodated in the North Walls area because of the risk of flooding. Nutrient neutrality will also need to be addressed.

Your feedback

We would love to hear your thoughts on our campus and potential future development opportunities. What are the key issues that you think we would need to address?

The map below shows our current campus and disused leisure centre site. The areas highlighted in red and yellow show the sites of potential development for the University of Southampton. The skate park cannot be developed on and is protected by a lease back agreement. As you can see, the parks are protected and cannot be developed on.



Tell us which part of the site you are referring to, for example ‘your campus should give a better gateway experience to the parks at the end of Park Avenue’.

Please do send any views to EstateDevelopment@soton.ac.uk

We will be accepting comments until the end of March 2023.

Summary and next steps

Thank you for coming to this listening session. It signals the beginning of an important and exciting stage for this area of Winchester and the University of Southampton.

The purpose of this exhibition is to set the scene and to hear from you before we go further.

A lot of work needs to happen before we have fully developed our business case, but when we do, the University will be sharing its plans with you and will welcome your feedback.

Over the coming months, the University will be reviewing your comments and commissioning further technical assessments, so please share anything that you think is important for us to consider.

We will collect your comments and feed them into any development plans for the site. We will consult fully with the public before any plans are submitted to Winchester City Council for approval.



Look again online:

Email your thoughts to EstateDevelopment@soton.ac.uk

The boards will be available to view online at
www.southampton.ac.uk/winchester-exhibition

