

**APPLY
TODAY**

Life-changing Education

Residential courses starting May – July 2025*

*A few non-residential courses are also available

- 1 day Introduction to Learning Courses
- Access to Higher Education Diplomas
- Education
- ESOL for Work
- Fircroft Foundations – for New Communities
- English, Maths and Digital
- Personal and Social Development
- Sustainable Thinking and Action
- Subject Tasters
- Working and Volunteering

Our courses are funded by the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) and are for people living in areas of the West Midlands County. However, people living in other areas of England may apply – see inside for details.





About Fircroft College of Residential Adult Education

We are the only residential adult Further Education college in The Midlands, based in an old manor house that once belonged to George Cadbury Jnr., who founded the college, situated on the Bristol Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham. It is easy to get to us by bus, bicycle, train and car and we have free parking and bicycle stands. We also have 6 acres of grounds which we use for some of our courses and are a perfect place to relax and refresh.

At Fircroft, we believe everyone deserves a second chance, especially people who have encountered many barriers in their lives that have prevented them from finding their true

potential. Our courses are designed to help you to progress and grow, supported by our unique residential experience that gives you the opportunity to escape your everyday life and focus on yourself, your course and your ambitions for the future.

We also have courses particularly for voluntary sector professionals and volunteers who want short (3 days, 2 nights), or longer courses to enhance their knowledge and skills when working with their service users and colleagues.

Come and see for yourself what a great place we are to stay and learn!

Important Information

Our class times

Most of our courses are residential, 3 days and 2 nights, and students stay overnight from day 1 to day 3.

Our normal course start days are Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

Day 1
Students arrive at 1.15pm
Lessons start at 2.00pm – 5.00pm

Day 2
Lessons start at 9.00am – 12.00pm
& 1.00pm – 5.00pm

Day 3
Lessons start at 9.00am – 12.00pm

For more information about our courses, please go to www.fircroft.ac.uk.





Access to Higher Education (Social Science and Humanities)

- **Criminology**
- **English and History**
- **Education**
- **Law with Human Rights**
- **Creative Writing and English**
- **Youth and Community Work**
- **Philosophy**

To apply for one of our diplomas please go to our website for more information and to register your interest. Once we have heard from you, we will be in touch to talk to you more about your application.

Please note: because this course is intensive there will be a rigorous application process between April and September 2025, including interviews with staff and Maths and English assessments.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Open Days

We hold Open Days most weeks at the college.

To book your place on any of our Open Days, go to www.fircroft.ac.uk/open-days. Please note – we request you arrive on time as you may not be able to attend if you are late.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Applying for a Course

Please apply for a course as early as possible. We do our best to process courses at least a week before they start but sometimes this is not possible so we appreciate your patience.

We need to speak to you before you start your course so please look out for our telephone calls and emails.

Access to Higher Education Diplomas

If you are at least 19 years old by 31 August 2025, our Level 3 Access to Higher Education diplomas are great stepping-stones to entering higher education. For many years our successful diploma students have all been offered places at university.

The diplomas are residential with a limited amount of non-residential places available and if you need help with your English and maths skills, we can help you get up to scratch while you are studying your diploma.

The courses are a mixture of classroom, online and independent learning. Below are just some of the subjects our students have gone on to study at university:

Access to Higher Education (Social Science and Health)

- **Psychology**
- **Nursing**
- **Mental Health Nursing**
- **Adult Nursing**
- **Counselling Skills**





Fircroft College FAQs

Who are Fircroft College's courses for?

With the West Midlands Combined Authority funding our courses, they are mostly for people living in areas of the West Midlands county, including:

Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Sandwell, Dudley, Solihull and Coventry.

People from other areas of England may be eligible to apply but this is not guaranteed – please contact our Admissions team for more information. Each course also has its own eligibility criteria and our Admissions team can give you more information once you have applied online or by email.

You also need to be over the age of 19 by 31st August 2024 to apply for our courses this academic year (August 2024 – July 2025).

How long are your courses?

Most of our courses are residential and last for 3 days, 2 nights. Students usually arrive at the college at 1.15pm and have a lesson that afternoon with a full day of learning the next day and departure by 12.00pm on the last day. Longer courses can last for a number of weeks and students stay for 3 days, 2 nights, each week.

How can I find out more information about your courses?

Please keep looking at our website where all the courses we have available are listed. To apply, please use the online application form on the website and if you need more information about a course or help with applying for a course, contact our Admissions team on **0121 472 0116** or email **admissions@fircroft.ac.uk**.

What are the fees?

If your individual annual income is less than £32,000 our courses could be FREE to you, including accommodation, meals and learning resources.

Our maths, English, ESOL and some IT courses are FREE to everyone.

For more information go to the "Fees and Eligibility" page on our website.

What are the entry requirements for your courses?

All courses have their own entry requirements and these are mentioned on our course website pages.

Are meals and accommodation, included?

Once you are enrolled onto a course, all the accommodation and meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner if relevant), as well as drinks at designated tea/coffee breaks, will be included and you will not need to pay extra for these.

Are all of your courses residential?

Most of our courses are residential but we also run some functional skills and taster day courses.

What are the bedrooms like?

All of our bedrooms are single and the majority of our bedrooms include their own bathroom.

When can I apply?

If the course is on the website you will be able to apply for it online. Please try to apply as early as possible before the course starts so that our Admissions team can process your application thoroughly.

If I apply for a course does that mean I can definitely do the course?

Our Admissions team will assess your application and will contact you to discuss

it with you. We always do our best to try and ensure you are on the right course to match your ambitions and skills level so that you get the most from your learning experience at the college before you progress elsewhere.

Do I need to stay overnight?

Yes. We are a residential college and most of our courses are for 3 days and 2 nights. Being a residential student has benefits such as having the ability to get away from the everyday and focus on yourself and your studies and socialising with new people who also want to learn. You also don't need to travel into college every day!

Please note that the college and grounds are alcohol free areas and drinking alcohol on our premises is not permitted.

Our Course Fees

If your annual income is less than £32,000 per year, our courses could be FREE to you.

For more information go to the "Fees and Eligibility" page on our website or contact our Admissions team on telephone number **0121 472 0116** or email **admissions@fircroft.ac.uk**.



Course Guide

Course details including dates and times may be subject to change. For the latest information please look at the website – www.fircroft.ac.uk – or contact the Admissions team on 0121 472 0116 or email Admissions@fircroft.ac.uk

Subject	Course Duration	Level	Course Start Date	Course End Date	Delivery Method	Days
Access to Higher Education Diplomas						
Our Access to Higher Education Diplomas are a supportive route to university. Register your interest at www.fircroft.ac.uk						
Access to Higher Education (Social Science and Health)	9 months	Level 3	01/09/2025	01/05/2026	Residential and non-residential	Full time/part time
Access to Higher Education (Social Science and Humanities)	9 months	Level 3	01/09/2025	01/05/2026	Residential and non-residential	Full time/part time
Taster Courses						
These courses are a great introduction to our residential courses and what it is like studying at Fircroft						
Introduction to Learning	1 day	All levels	23/05/2025	23/05/2025	Non-residential	Friday
Introduction to Learning	1 day	All levels	25/07/2025	25/07/2025	Non-residential	Friday
Education						
For people working, or looking for work, in the education sector.						
Award in Education and Training	3 weeks	Level 3	02/05/2025	08/06/2025	Residential	Friday – Sunday
Award in Education and Training	3 weeks	Level 3	27/06/2025	27/07/2025	Residential	Friday – Sunday
English						
These short English courses will help you to improve your English skills for work, volunteering and everyday life.						
English – Read for Meaning	3 days, 2 nights	Entry Level 3	07/05/2025	09/05/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
English – Write for Meaning	3 days, 2 nights	Entry Level 3	04/06/2025	06/06/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)						
These courses will help you to improve your English language skills.						
ESOL for Work	2 weeks	Level 1	23/07/2025	31/07/2025	Non-residential (3 days at the college each week)	Wednesday – Thursday and Tuesday – Friday
Functional Skills						
Digital Functional Skills						
Learn everyday IT skills to help you get up to speed in this digital world						
Digital Functional Skills	4 weeks	Level 1	09/06/2025	02/07/2025	Part-time residential (3 days, 2 nights each week)	Monday – Wednesday

Subject	Course Duration	Level	Course Start Date	Course End Date	Delivery Method	Days
English Functional Skills						
These English courses will steadily build your confidence with English, helping you to improve your English skills for work, volunteering and everyday life.						
English	8 weeks	Level 2	16/05/2025	04/07/2025	Non-residential (1 day each week)	Friday
English – Discussion and Presentation Skills	3 days, 2 nights	Entry Level 3	02/07/2025	04/07/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
Maths Functional Skills						
This maths course will steadily build your confidence with maths, helping you to fully understand important maths skills for work, volunteering and everyday life.						
Maths	12 weeks	Level 2	01/05/2025	17/07/2025	Non-residential (1 day at the college each week)	Thursday
Fircroft Foundations for New Communities						
This course is for you if you are from a new community and have lived experience of modern slavery and trafficking, helping you to learn new skills that will help you to progress.						
Fircroft Foundations for New Communities	4 weeks	Entry Level 3	21/05/2025	13/06/2025	Part-time residential (3 days, 2 nights each week)	Wednesday – Friday
Fircroft Foundations for New Communities	4 weeks	Entry Level 3	02/07/2025	25/06/2025	Part-time residential (3 days, 2 nights each week)	Wednesday – Friday
Maths						
Brush up on your maths with these short courses.						
Numbers	3 days, 2 nights	Entry Level 3	02/05/2025	04/05/2025	Residential	Friday – Sunday
Fractions, Decimals and Percentages	3 days, 2 nights	Entry Level 3	30/05/2025	01/06/2025	Residential	Friday – Sunday
Measures, Shape and Space	3 days, 2 nights	Entry Level 3	04/07/2025	06/07/2025	Residential	Friday – Sunday
Data Handling	3 days, 2 nights	Entry Level 3	28/07/2025	30/07/2025	Residential	Monday – Wednesday
Personal and Social Development						
These courses can help you to develop, focus on yourself and identify your next steps to achieve your life goals						
Resilience, Coping Strategies and Non-Conventional Therapies	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	05/05/2025	07/05/2025	Residential	Monday – Wednesday
Get Creative and Feel Good	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	14/05/2025	16/05/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
Understanding Dementia	2 days, 1 night	Level 1	27/05/2025	28/05/2025	Residential	Tuesday – Wednesday
Coping with Mental Health	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	28/05/2025	30/05/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
Understanding Addiction	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	28/05/2025	30/05/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
Coping with PTSD and Informed Care	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	04/06/2025	06/06/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday

Subject	Course Duration	Level	Course Start Date	Course End Date	Delivery Method	Days
Bereavement, Loss and Grief	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	04/06/2025	06/06/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
How to Juggle Life and Wellbeing	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	09/06/2025	11/06/2025	Residential	Monday – Wednesday
Understanding Autism	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	11/06/2025	13/06/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
Coping with Stress, Anxiety and Depression	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	16/06/2025	18/06/2025	Residential	Monday – Wednesday
Physical Health and Nutrition for Happiness	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	23/06/2025	25/06/2025	Residential	Monday – Wednesday
Understanding Addiction	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	25/06/2025	27/06/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
Addiction, Physical Health and Recovery	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	02/07/2025	04/07/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
Coping with PTSD and Trauma	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	14/07/2025	16/07/2025	Residential	Monday – Wednesday
Resilience, Coping Strategies and Non-Conventional Therapies	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	16/07/2025	18/07/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
Stand Up and be Counted	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	16/07/2025	18/07/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
Anger Management (Women)	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	21/07/2025	23/07/2025	Residential	Monday – Wednesday
Cost of Living: Creating Stability for Individuals and Family	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	21/07/2025	23/07/2025	Residential	Monday – Wednesday
Love Shouldn't Hurt: Understanding Domestic Violence	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	21/07/2025	23/07/2025	Residential	Monday – Wednesday
Coping with Mental Health	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	23/07/2025	25/07/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
Exploring the Outdoors for Wellbeing	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	23/07/2025	25/07/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
The Power and Psychology of Positivity	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	28/07/2025	30/07/2025	Residential	Monday – Wednesday
Anger Management (Men)	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	28/07/2025	30/07/2025	Residential	Monday – Wednesday
Emotional Health for Wellbeing	3 days, 2 nights	Level 1	28/07/2025	30/07/2025	Residential	Monday – Wednesday

Subject Tasters

These are short, introductory courses in a wide range of subjects.

UK and Citizenship: Britain's Role from Imperialism to Colonialism	3 days, 2 nights	Level 2	02/06/2025	04/06/2025	Residential	Monday – Wednesday
UK and Citizenship: Inequality, Race, Gender and Social Class	3 days, 2 nights	Level 2	23/07/2025	25/07/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
UK and Citizenship: Immigration from 1945 to Present Day and Multiculturalism	3 days, 2 nights	Level 2	07/07/2025	09/07/2025	Residential	Monday – Wednesday

Sustainable Thinking and Action

A practical, hands-on course using our 6 acres of grounds and visiting community gardens.

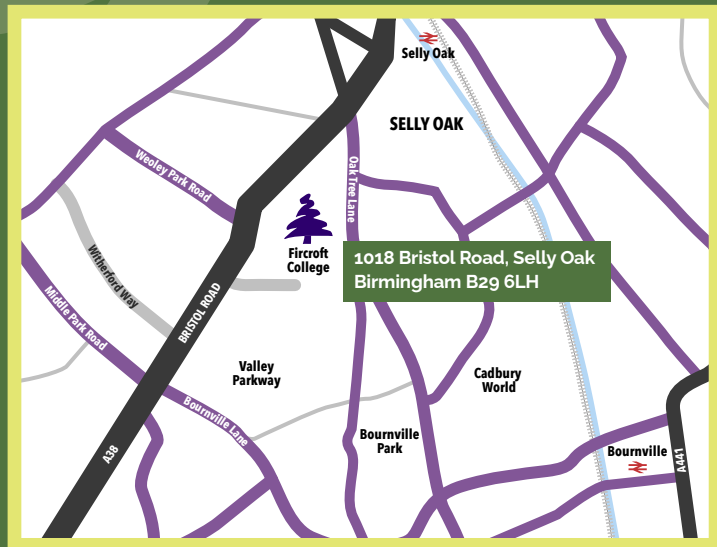
Cross Pollinator Course	3 weeks	Level 2	30/05/2025	27/07/2025	Part-time residential	Friday – Sunday
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Subject	Course Duration	Level	Course Start Date	Course End Date	Delivery Method	Days
Working and Volunteering						
These courses are for work and volunteering and they can help you to progress in your chosen job or volunteering role.						
Coaching and Mentoring Skills	3 days, 2 nights	Level 2	07/05/2025	09/05/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
Working with Domestic Violence and Abuse	3 days, 2 nights	Level 2	23/05/2025	25/05/2025	Residential	Friday – Sunday
Working with Homelessness and Poverty	3 days, 2 nights	Level 2	11/06/2025	13/06/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
Building your own Business	3 days, 2 nights	Level 2	16/06/2025	18/06/2025	Residential	Monday – Wednesday
Working with Domestic Violence and Abuse	3 days, 2 nights	Level 2	18/06/2025	20/06/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
Working with Mental Health Needs	3 days, 2 nights	Level 2	30/06/2025	02/07/2025	Residential	Monday – Wednesday
Introduction to Running Training Sessions	3 days, 2 nights	Level 2	16/07/2025	18/07/2025	Residential	Wednesday – Friday
Engaging and Building Communities	3 days, 2 nights	Level 2	18/07/2025	20/07/2025	Residential	Friday – Sunday
Supervision Skills	3 days, 2 nights	Level 2	25/07/2025	27/07/2025	Residential	Friday – Sunday
Longer Courses – all dates subject to public holiday closures.						
ILM Award in the Management of Volunteers	4 weeks	Level 3	02/05/2025	25/05/2025	Residential (3 days, 2 nights each week)	Friday – Sunday
ILM Award in Leadership and Management	5 weeks	Level 4	09/05/2025	08/06/2025	Residential (3 days, 2 nights each week)	Friday – Sunday
Certificate in IT Systems and Principles	10 weeks	Level 3	14/05/2025	18/07/2025	Residential (3 days, 2 nights each week)	Wednesday – Friday
Introduction to Counselling Skills	2 weeks	Level 2	16/05/2025	01/06/2025	Residential (3 days, 2 nights each week) 16th – 18th May and 30th May – 1st June	Friday – Sunday
Award in Introduction to Volunteering	2 weeks	Level 2	04/06/2025	20/06/2025	Residential (3 days, 2 nights each week) 4th – 6th June and 18th – 20th June	Wednesday – Friday
Skills for Aspiring Support Workers	3 weeks	Level 1	02/07/2025	21/07/2025	Residential (3 days, 2 nights each week) + one non-residential progression day	Wednesday – Friday + progression day on Monday 21st July

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You can apply for a course online through our website (www.fircroft.ac.uk). The Admissions team will contact you to discuss the course and will be able to offer information, advice and guidance about your application. You may be asked to complete an assessment.

If you would like help applying for a course please contact the Admissions team on 0121 472 0116 or email admissions@fircroft.ac.uk.



Join the conversation online today.

 **fircroftcollege**

t: 0121 472 0116

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