

News from The Hive

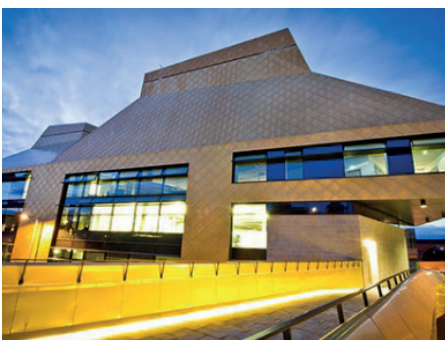
EPQ students get 1:1 support from University librarians

EPQ students can now sign up for an in-person appointment with one of our University of Worcester academic liaison librarians at The Hive. The librarian can help students find high quality research and offer guidance on referencing sources. We've enjoyed tackling the range of questions. Students have asked:

- Can you help me find books about renewable energy?
- Should the NHS treat smokers with lung disease – what do the statistics say?
- Do gender stereotypes in Disney Princess movies contribute to the gender gap in the C-Suite?
- Is there research about the impact of ambulance delays on stroke patients?
- Can you help me research design considerations for a Snoezelen Room, and their impact?

Students can choose to meet with a librarian in The Hive or email the Ask a Librarian team.

For local history, family history or military records, the Explore the Past team in The Hive can help.



Sixth Form Study Jam in The Hive

On Saturday 9th December from 10am-2pm there will be a Sixth Form Study Jam in The Hive, Worcester's joint university and public library. This is an opportunity for sixth form and college students to come and use the resources in The Hive, and to get support in finding and referencing research. The Hive provides access to over a quarter of a million books, and thousands of online research papers not freely available on the internet. Suitable for A-Level, Access to HE, BTEC National Diploma, Extended Project Qualification and T-Level; this is a great opportunity for students with coursework or an independent research project to access a wide range of suitable sources and experience using a university library independently.

Contact Ros Sykes for further information r.sykes2@worc.ac.uk

Study Happy Programme

As part of the desire to give the students at the University of Worcester an elongated induction period and to also contribute to our Study Happy programme, The Hive will be hosting a drop-in Student Marketplace event on Level 0 on Wednesday 22nd November 13:00-16:00 where students will be able to see what's on offer to them across the city.

In partnership with the Worcester Bid, students will be invited to come and see what local retailers, hospitality and leisure venues have for them and what the perks are of being a student in Worcester. There will be free samples on offer and a variety of discounts for a number of the local businesses in the city.

All sixth form and University of Worcester students welcome. Please share across your networks and on Social Media.

Enquiries should be directed to stephanie.jones@worc.ac.uk

Research workshops at The Hive

Would you like your students to have a go at University style independent research using a range of sources? Do your students have research-based coursework or independent projects to complete? We can offer a range of research workshops giving your students access to the University of Worcester books and journal articles available in The Hive, Europe's first joint university and county library.

Contact Ros for more information or to arrange a bespoke session for your learners.



Book a campus tour to visit The Hive and meet current students.

Email discover@worc.ac.uk





UNIVERSITY OF
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School of Science and the Environment

STEM secondary teachers supported by UW scientists

Members of the School of Science and the Environment at the University of Worcester have organised conferences for STEM secondary teachers in collaboration with the Midlands Science Learning Partnership. They were held in state-of-the-art laboratories on the St John's campus in '22 and '23.

These provided STEM teachers with insights into current research and much-valued practicals and resources, directly transferable into their classroom. This included aspects of motion capture, forensic techniques, bioinformatics, protein sequencing and genetics. Activities were aligned with the school science curriculum and teachers' preferences. We had extremely positive and enthusiastic feedback regarding how useful the resources were: 'It was a brilliant day with a fascinating keynote, thoroughly enjoyable and varied workshops, and lots of useful information and ideas to take back to school.'

We are looking forward to another conference in early summer of '24 and are also planning CPD for school laboratory technicians.

Please do contact Susanna Prankel (Biology, <https://www.worcester.ac.uk/about/profiles/dr-susanna-prankel>) and Kate Unwin (Forensic Science, <https://www.worcester.ac.uk/about/profiles/kate-unwin>) with expressions of interest and wish lists of skills or subjects that you would like covered - passing on our enthusiasm to your students.

Helping birdlife on the campus

The School of Science and the Environment is committed to help biodiversity on campus. Much of the work at present revolves around campus birdlife. We have installed signs that give information about common birds. Both of these signs are sited in areas where we have bird feeders. They provide helpful pictures and text but also, crucially, QR codes that link to the relevant RSPB pages where people are encouraged to listen to how depicted birds sound. Three years ago, in association with the local RSPB group, we initiated a programme of land use change on Lakeside campus. This meant ploughing up 2 hectares of what was previously under-utilised lawn grass and sowing with mixed seeds to provide winter cover and feed aimed at finches. This has resulted in the establishment of a good local wintering linnet flock.

We have initiated a series of walks around campus aimed primarily at anyone who is interested but especially anyone who is keen to learn how engaging with nature (and especially birds) can help improve mental health. The local RSPB group have persuaded the University to install swift boxes to help declining swift populations. We are also engaged in monitoring bird populations on the campus using set walks and uploading data onto two citizen science platforms, eBird and BirdTrack. This has allowed us to get a feel for the baseline of the birds on campus in order to monitor the success of the various activities we are undertaking.

