**FAQs**

What is the South Coast Institute of Technology?

The South Coast Institute of Technology is a partnership of Colleges, Universities and Employers working together to enhance technical education opportunities for students wanting to pursue a career in Maritime, Engineering, or Digital industries.

How many Institutes of Technology are there in the UK?

The Department for Education has Licenced 21 Institutes of Technology in England. See map for details

There were 12 created in the first wave in 2019 and a further nine created in the second wave in 2022.
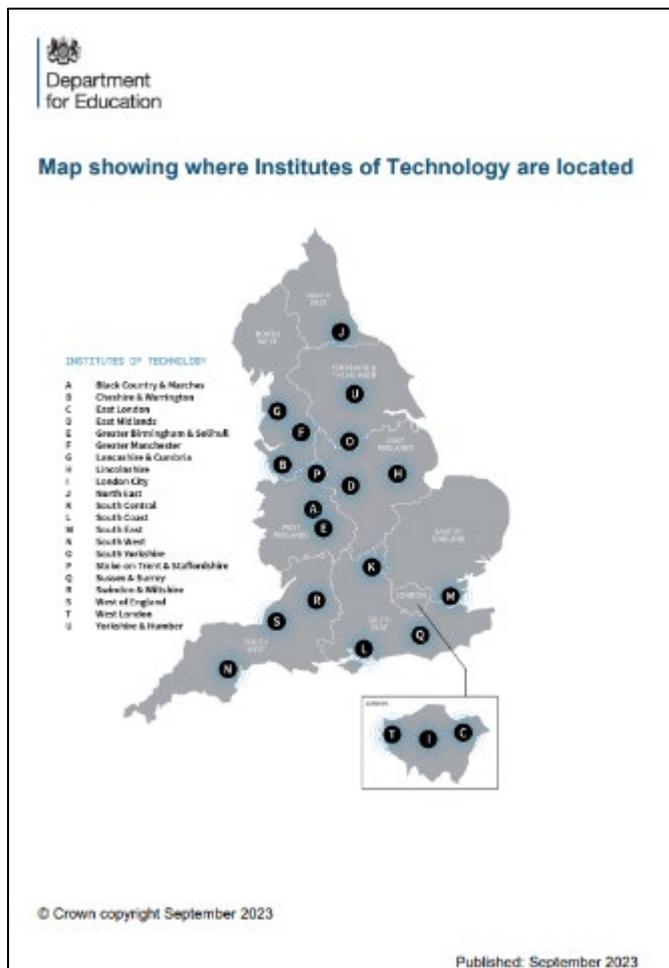
What is the vision and mission of the South Coast Institute of Technology?

Vision

To increase economic and social prosperity on the South Coast through enhanced collaboration and technical education and employment opportunities in the maritime, engineering, and digital industries.

Mission

There are three pillars to our mission:

1. We connect employers, educational institutions, and students
   - We open channels of communication
   - We encourage the sharing of knowledge, skills, and understanding
   - We look for opportunities to collaborate

2. We inspire awareness of and engagement in maritime, engineering, and digital talent pipelines
   - We have clear and progressive career pathways
   - We offer a wide range of technical qualifications that give students choice and flexibility
   - We actively seek to remove barriers to learning and employment

3. We deliver real-world learning that prepares students for careers in the maritime, engineering, and digital industries
   - We research skills gaps and employer needs
   - We invest in industry-standard facilities and equipment
   - We provide high quality teaching, learning and assessment that promotes innovation and creativity and is supported through employer partnerships

What are the Values of the South Coast Institute of Technology?

We have adapted the values of Southampton Solent University who are the lead partner in the DfE licence agreement.

The values are:

Respect

- I treat others with respect and value everyone's contribution.
- I listen with an open mind to the views and ideas of others.
- I communicate effectively and with respect, ensuring I use appropriate language and tone.
- I handle confidential or sensitive information with discretion.

Ownership

- I take responsibility for my work and its completion.
- I work with focus, pace and commitment to delivery my objectives and work.
- I take responsibility for my own learning and remain up-to-date and current with relevant legislation, regulations, policies and research as is relevant to my role.
- I welcome feedback on my performance to support my ongoing development.

Inclusivity

- I welcome diversity and recognise the value of others' strengths and different skills experience and knowledge.
- I encourage others to express their views and ideas.
- I work collaboratively with others, seeking feedback on proposed ideas and solutions.
- I communicate with others and seek feedback through a variety of different methods.

Engagement

- I understand the South Coast IoT vision and mission statements and how my work contributes.
- I keep up-to-date and informed on South Coast Institute of Technology news, progress and events.
- I strive for continuous improvement and look for improved ways of doing things.
- I anticipate potential challenges and actively seek solutions.
- I actively participate in new initiatives and contribute my ideas.

Integrity

- I take responsibility for my actions and behaviours.
- I accept and learn from my mistakes.
- I have good attention to detail and ensure accuracy in my work.
- I adhere to South Coast Institute of Technology policy, procedures and regulations in delivering my work.
- I have professional, open and constructive conversations, focused on finding a way forward.

Teamwork

- I work effectively with colleagues across the South Coast Institute of Technology to support the delivery of the South Coast Institute of Technology's vision and mission statements.
- I share my knowledge and expertise with all those I work with.
- I work collaboratively to share ideas, identify solutions and continuous improvements and to accomplish a common goal.
- I communicate effectively with colleagues, contribute constructively at meetings and share and celebrate our success.

Who are the educational members of the South Coast Institute of Technology?

Currently the South Coast Institute of Technology has six education partners. There are two universities and four colleges in the group.

- Southampton Solent University
- University of Portsmouth
- South Hampshire College Group
- Havant & South Downs College
- Isle of Wight College
- Brockenhurst College

What do we get for being a member of the South Coast Institute of Technology?

In total the South Coast Institute of Technology was awarded nearly £15m of capital funding to improve its technical education facilities. Each organisation asked for and received a share of this capital investment to help them improve their facilities.

Name of partner	Name of project	DfE Capital grant (approx.)
Southampton Solent University	Refurbishment	£6.4 m
HSDC	Refurbishment	£2.5 m
SHCG - Fareham	CEMAST extension	£2.5 m
IoW College	CECAMM extension and L Block Refurbishment	£2.1 m
SHCG - Eastleigh / City	Refurbishment	£0.9 m
Brockenhurst College	Equipment only	£0.4 m

Being a member of the South Coast Institute of Technology also provides us a fantastic opportunity to be part of a much bigger regional initiative to work collaboratively and build successful talent pipelines into high demand industries. This offers us a unique marketing opportunity to enhance our reputation, enhance recruitment and cement our position at the heart of maritime, engineering and digital talent development in the region.

Why did each partner get a different amount of money?

Each partner put their own capital project request together based on their curriculum, goals, and needs. Some of the projects include new builds, whilst others are refurbishments and

one of the colleges only requested investment in high spec equipment rather than additional or new facilities. All of these variables affected the amount of money they requested.

What do we have to do for this investment?

For the investment each education partner committed to recruit a growing number of students onto Level 3, 4 and 5 technical education courses in the subject areas of Maritime, Engineering, and Digital. Each partner has identified courses that it wants to include in this portfolio of courses. Collectively there are nearly 100 courses in the portfolio.

By year 5 collectively we have committed to recruit at least 1,859 new students each year onto our technical maritime, engineering, and digital courses.

We have also committed to grow the number of students from under-represented groups on to these courses. Specifically, we are committed to increasing the number of Women and BAME students onto Maritime, Engineering, and digital courses.

Why have you chosen to focus on the under-represented groups of Women and BAME students?

At the time of writing the application to become an Institute of Technology both of these groups were significant under-represented across the maritime, engineering, and digital industries.

As a benchmark in 2021 census[1], 51% of the labour market was female, and 19.3% of the labour market was ABMO. Currently:

- Females are underrepresented in maritime: whilst 45% of the global Maritime workforce are female[2], the distribution of women across maritime sectors is variable. Women are most likely to be found in corporate functions – making up over 50% of the Crewing, HR, Finance, Marketing and Admin Support roles. Only 15% of Executive Leadership roles are held by women. Whilst women seafarers make up just 2% of the workforce and are predominately found in the cruise sector[3].
- Females and BAME are underrepresented in Digital Technology: 26% of workers in tech were female and 15.2% of tech workers were BAME.[4]

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[1] https://www.ethnicity-facts-figures.service.gov.uk/uk-population-by-ethnicity/demographics/working-age-population/latest/#download-the-data

[2] https://spinnaker-global.com/0_05-04-2023-uk-maritime-pay-gap-and-gender-diversity

[3] https://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/pages/WIM-Survey-2021-report.aspx

[4] https://technation.io/diversity-and-inclusion-in-uk-tech/key-statistics/

- Females and BAME are underrepresented in Engineering: 12% of those working in engineering were female and 9% of the engineering workforce were from ethnic minority backgrounds. [5]
- Females and BAME are underrepresented in Construction. 5.4% of construction workers are from a Black, Asian or ethnic minority background. 11% of the construction workforce are female and just 1% of workers 'on site' are female.[6]
- Females and BAME are underrepresented in Computer Technology: Women made up 19% of the UK IT industry[7] whilst ethnic minority represented (18%).[8]
- Females are underrepresented in Media Engineering. Women make up just 22% of engineers in the media industry.[9]
- Females and BAME employees are underrepresented in the Games industry: 30% of people working in the games industry are female and only 10% are BAME.[10]
- Females are underrepresented in STEM: 27% of the STEM workforce are women and 13% of STEM workforce are BAME. [11]

Which of our courses are part of the South Coast Institute of Technology?

The South Coast Institute of Technology focusses on careers pathways rather than courses in isolation.

In total the South Coast Institute of Technology have woven more than 330 courses into 50 coherent maritime, engineering, and digital career pathways through Levels 2 – 7.

Each career pathway is made up of:

1. Feeder courses that develop the foundation knowledge, skills, and behaviours required for students to progress on to our Level 3, 4 or 5 technical qualifications.

2. Level 3, 4, 5 and 6 technical qualifications that we report to the DfE. These are referred to as our Key Performance Indicator (KPI) courses. The total number of new starters on these courses has to be > 1500 new starts / yr after five years. There are nearly 100 KPI courses in the South Coast Institute of Technology portfolio of courses.
    - < 15% of these can be at Level 3
    - $\geq$ 65% of theses must be at Level 4 and 5
    - $\geq$ 85% of these can be Level 4+

[5] https://www.engineeringuk.com/media/232364/edi-strategy-final.pdf
[6] https://www.cic.org.uk/policy-and-public-affairs/diversity-and-inclusion
[7] https://www.bcs.org/policy-and-influence/diversity-and-inclusion/bcs-diversity-report-2021-women-in-it/gender-key-findings/
[8] https://www.bcs.org/policy-and-influence/diversity-and-inclusion/bcs-diversity-report-2021-ethnicity/ethnicity-key-findings/
[9] https://www.ibc.org/trends/why-diversity-does-not-guarantee-inclusion/7516.article
[10] https://ukie.org.uk/news/2022/03/ukie-publishes-the-2022-uk-games-industry-census
[11] https://www.britishscienceassociation.org/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=3d51130a-458b-4363-9b2b-d197afc8382a

3. Progression courses which including Level 6 top ups and post graduate qualifications that make up part of the lifelong learning journey beyond the Level 4 and 5 technical qualifications.

In total there are over 230 further feeder and progression courses that form part of our career pathways and are promoted on our South Coast Institute of Technology website but are not KPI courses.

Other than capital funding what other benefits are there of being in the South Coast Institute of Technology?

- Enhanced reputation
- Enhanced recruitment and retention
- Enhance student experience
- Enhanced staff experience
- An opportunity to apply for further protected funding.

What does it mean for students if they enrol on a South Coast Institute of Technology course?

Students studying on a course that is part of the South Coast Institute of Technology can expect:

- A course that is aligned to local skills gaps
- Access to industry standard facilities
- High quality technical education including
  - o Courses built on industry standards
  - o Delivered by staff that have a good industry experience / knowledge
  - o Hands on practical learning that reflects the knowledge, skills, and behaviours needed in industry
  - o Enriched by employers – guest talks, live briefs, site visits, work experience
- And a 'highly sought after' lanyard pin badge!

What does it mean for staff if they teach on a South Coast Institute of Technology course?

For most staff it is business as usual. You just need to:

- Promote maritime, engineering, and digital careers through outreach work with schools and / or through taster days and open days.
- Keep working with employers to make sure your courses are aligned to local skills gaps
- Maintain your facilities to meet industry standards.
- Deliver high quality technical education.
- Stay up to date with the latest industry knowledge, skills, and behaviours.

- Make sure your teaching and assessment are authentic, reflecting the knowledge, skills, and behaviours required by industry.
- Maintain excellent links to employers through guest lectures, site visits, real world briefs etc.
- Encourage students to choose appropriate follow-on courses for their career aspirations even if that progression is with a different South Coast Institute of Technology education partner.

What staff get out of us being a member of the South Coast Institute of Technology?

- Significant investment in your teaching facilities.
- Support with promoting your courses.
- Support finding industry partners and employer engagement.
- Support with curriculum development.
- Recognition and rewards for outstanding teaching, course leadership and employer engagement.
- Enhanced opportunities to develop your own CV and career progression including:
    - Subject specific knowledge exchange between education partners.
    - CPD opportunities with industry partners.
    - Research collaboration opportunities.
- And of course, a 'highly sought after' GOLD South Coast Institute of Technology lanyard pin badge!

What is the employers' involvement with the South Coast Institute of Technology?

We have three types of employer partner.

Platinum employer partners – these employer partners have committed to the South Coast Institute of Technology as an anchor partner of the licence agreement with the Department for Education. They have also committed a letter of intent offering greater than 10K of financial and / or in-kind support / year.

Gold Employer partners – these employer partners are not legally bound to the partnership but have committed a letter of intent offering greater than 10K of financial and / or in-kind support / year.

Silver employer partners – these employer partners, usually SMEs are supportive of the South Coast Institute of Technology but have committed a letter of intent offering less than 10K of financial and / or in-kind support / year.

Their offers of support can include a wide range of activities including:

- Employer advisory groups
- guest talks
- specialist equipment demonstrations
- site visits
- real world assessment briefs
- research collaboration
- staff development opportunities
- attendance at careers events
- mentoring of students or staff
- volunteering staff at school stem ambassadors
- work experience opportunities
- apprenticeships
- T Level placements
- educational scholarships / bursaries for underrepresented students
- sponsorship of facilities projects and outreach activities

For further details of employer partners see www.southcoastiot.ac.uk

What is the leadership and governance structure of the South Coast Institute of Technology?

The day-to-day leadership of South Coast Institute of Technology is undertaken by the Director of the South Coast Institute of Technology.

They chair an Operational Group made up of senior leader representatives from each education partner.

The Operational group are informed by industry skills & careers advisory groups, and a marketing group.

The Operational Group report to a South Coast Institute of Technology Governing Body made up of the executive education leaders, employers, and strategic partners.

The Governing Body is accountable to both Southampton Solent University (who hold the licence agreement), and the Department for Education.

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│      Accountable Body             │
│ Solent University Board of Governors │
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      │ South Coast Institute of Technology │
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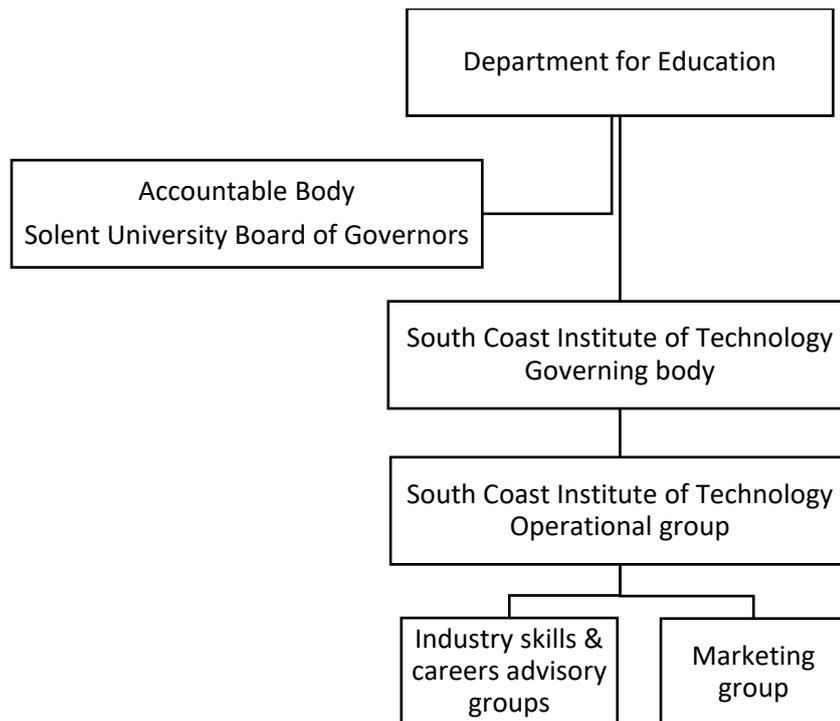
Who should **prospective students / students** contact if they have a question about the South Coast Institute of Technology?

If you are a current student and have a question about your course talk to your course leader or personal tutor.

If you have a question about any other aspect of your education you can find further information about who to contact on your relevant providers' website

- Solent   https://www.solent.ac.uk/about/contact-us
- UoP   https://www.port.ac.uk/about-us/contact-us
- Brockenhurst   https://www.brock.ac.uk/contact/
- SHCG   https://shcg.ac.uk/contact-us/
- HSDC   https://www.hsdc.ac.uk/contact-us/
- IOW   https://iwcollege.ac.uk/contact-us

Who should **staff** contact if they have a question about the South Coast Institute of Technology?

If you have a question about the South Coast Institute of Technology, then the first point of contact should be your senior leader representative on the operational group. Alternatively, you can email us on hello@southcoastiot.ac.uk

Where can I find out more information about Institutes of Technology?

You can find out more about Institutes of Technology at
www.institutesoftechnology.org.uk/

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