

INTRODUCTION FROM CHRIS OLDHAM

As we head into the 2018-19 academic year, I would like to thank everyone for the tremendous amount of work completed in time for our new arrivals at all three campuses. Arrivals Day and Welcome Week will see us all as busy as ever greeting new students and ensuring they feel at home, I hope we all get time to enjoy this hectic period.



ACCOMMODATION ESSEX: TEAM SPIRIT IN ACTION

As we hurtle towards Arrivals Day, housekeepers in [Accommodation Essex](#) are preparing for the new students heading to Essex on 30 September. The team are busy during the summer months in providing a hotel-type service to the many guests staying for conferences, summer schools, or even holiday breaks. They then deep clean the bedrooms and kitchens in preparation for the next academic year.

Gemma Walton, who has worked here for five years and gained an NVQ in team leading, has been based at Eddington, one of the South Towers, for the last three years. She is looking forward to Arrivals Day.



"It's such a nice day to work, you get to take the students and their families to the flats and sometimes they are in the flats we look after.

"I love my job, especially when the new students move in. You can get so friendly with them, especially the ones who have come here from abroad, you become like a surrogate mum. I had one flat full of Australians, they were very friendly and it was sad to see them go."

Tina Phillipson and Angela Buchanan both work in South Courts.



Tina helped at the trolley park last year. "It's nice for the students when they then see a familiar face when you go into the flat during the week. We are always here if they need a chat and we can send them in the right direction if they are experiencing any issues.

Angela, who only joined the team in January, said: "We all take great pride in our work. There is a good team spirit and every day you achieved something new."

STEM BUILDING OPEN

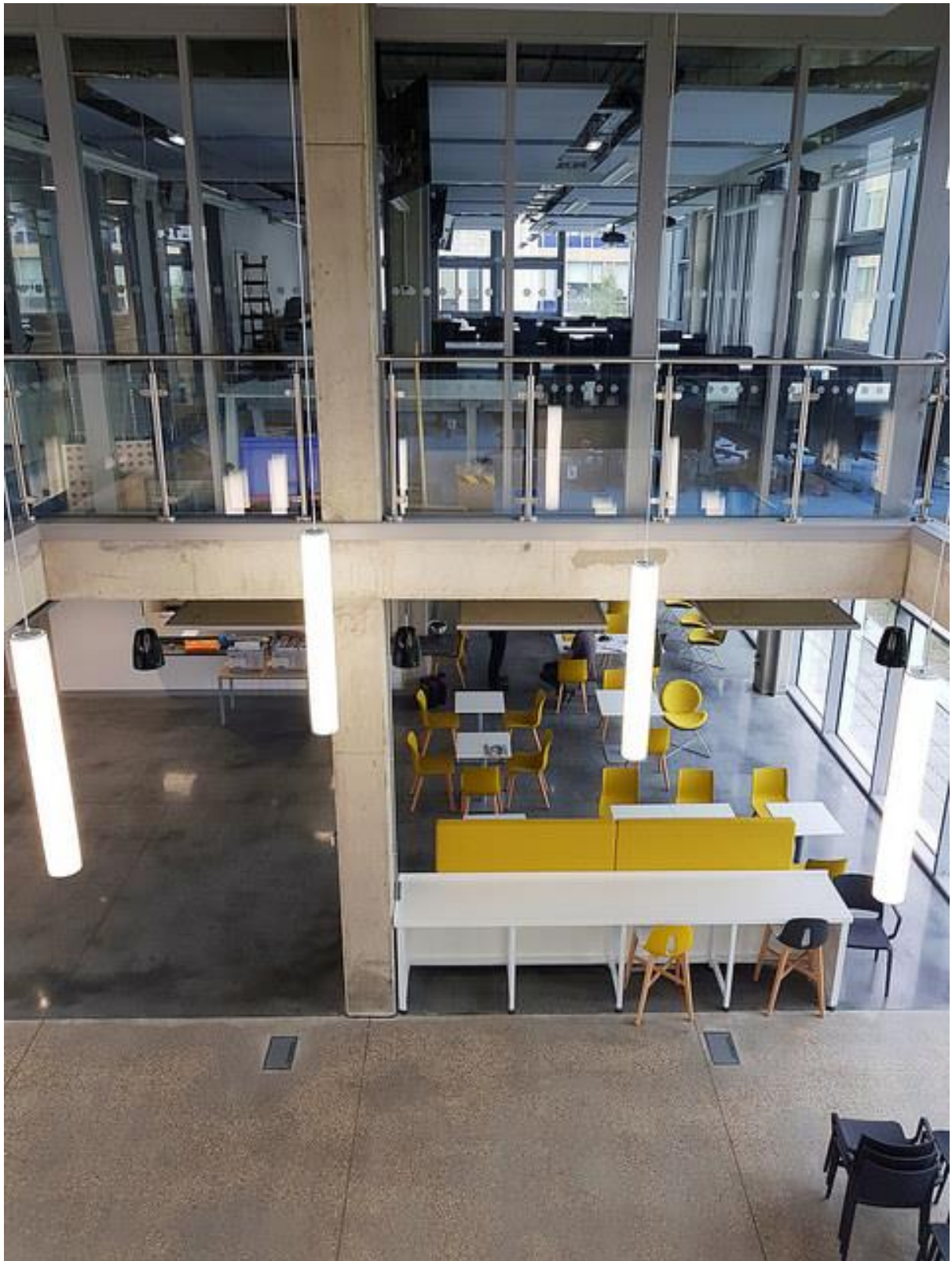
Residents have started to move into the new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) building, ready for the start of the new academic year.

The £15 million five-storey building features state of the art facilities including: a 200-seat IT exploratory learning space, an exhibition space, laboratories, a new café, Bytes, and a 180-seat wet lab at the School of Biological Sciences.

Project Manager Chris Woodman said: "The new STEM building is a very exciting development for our Colchester Campus and promises to be a fantastic facility that will give all our students the very best chance of success. It will transform Square 1 into a dedicated science square with new collaborative learning spaces and interdisciplinary teaching facilities – as well as social space to continue our outreach work with local schools."

Paul Cavalier, Partner at Ingleton Wood, the property and construction consultancy, added: "The building has been designed to meet the university's environmental targets, helping to reduce the Colchester Campus's carbon footprint".

You can see photos of the build online <https://www.flickr.com/photos/145370145@N07>



LOUGHTON POND – ESTATES CLEAN-UP

The pond at the Loughton Campus is transformed following a massive clean-up over the summer. The pond is around 30 metres by 15 metres in size, and holds 76,000 litres in the water. The surrounding area to the pond is home to various willow trees and greenery. The water itself hosts a variety of wildlife including frogs, toads, water snails, insects and tadpoles.

Large amounts of duckweed had gathered in the pond and existing pump was not enough to move the water around, causing it to stagnate and smell.

The clean-up dredged up lots of rubbish, debris, waste and even a large tree trunk. An extra pump and an ESPA water system were added to help irrigation and provide an efficient water management system.

Loughton pond before



Loughton pond after



APPRENTICESHIP HIGHLIGHT

Dannielle Jenkins is delighted to be staying at [Wivenhoe Park Day Nursery](#), after successfully completing her apprenticeship.



Now aged 19, Dannielle started her apprenticeship in May 2017. Alongside working four days a week in the nursery, she has completed her Level Three Diploma in Early Years at the Colchester Institute.

“I have worked in all the different rooms at the nursery”, said Dannielle who is now working with children, aged one and two.

“I really enjoy working here. We have so many resources and can take the children out and about around campus.

“It was definitely worth doing the apprenticeship. The training scheme was very good and the assessor could easily come to visit me here at the nursery.

Dannielle is planning to take advantage of the training opportunities offered to staff at the nursery. “I want to do the NVQ in team leadership and then I would like to do more around Special Educational Needs.

“If you know anyone who is looking to do an apprenticeship, do advise them to look for a reputable company and for structured training. It was a lot easier learning and sharing in a group.”

WHEELS IN MOTION AT WIVENHOE HOUSE

[Wivenhoe House hotel](#) general manager Oliver Brown joined other hospitality leaders on a 530km charity cycle ride from London to Reims in France this September.



The cycle ride included a pit stop at Wivenhoe House on Friday 7 September. The 30 cyclists made a detour on their way to Harwich to see the work of the Edge Hotel School students. A celebratory welcome was extended to the weary riders who then headed to Harwich to cross to the Netherlands.

The team, sponsored by Sky, then rode down The Hook of Holland to Belgium and through France to their final destination.

Oliver said: "I managed as much training as possible over the busy summer. I was delighted when the group agreed to stop at Wivenhoe House to see the work we do here to produce future UK hospitality leaders."



STAFF UPDATES

ESSEX REBELS



Come and watch The Essex Rebels competing in the Women's British Basketball League for the first time this year. The team will pair up with the Essex Leopards, who play in the National Basketball League, to play eight double headers at the new Essex Sport Arena.

Tickets for the games will be for sale on Eventbrite soon.

	Leopards Div 1			Rebels WBBL	
30-Sep				Sevenoaks Suns	6pm
06-Oct	BA Crusaders	6.00p m		Durham Palantines	3.30p m
13-Oct	Nottingham Hoods	6.00p m		Nottingham Wildcats	3.30p m
28-Oct	Manchester Magic	4.30p m		Cardiff Met Archers	7pm
03-Nov	Derby Trailblazers	6.00p m		Leicester Riders	3.30p m
24-Nov	Leicester Warriors	6.00p m		Manchester Mystics	3.30p m
25-Nov	Reading Rockets (Cup)	5.30p m			
02-Dec	Team Newcastle	2.00p m		Team Northumbria	4.30p m
22-Dec				BA Lions	7pm
09-Feb				BA Lions	3.30p m
17-Feb				Sevenoaks Suns	7pm
17-Mar	Bradford Dragons	4.30p m			
24-Mar	Thames Valley Cannons	4.30p m		Caledonia Pride	2.00p m
14-Apr				Oaklands Wolves	3.30p m

CHUMS



Summer CHUMS was a roaring success with 283 Mini and Junior CHUMS taking part in a range of sports, from brand new cheerleading and gymnastics, to professional tennis coaching and climbing. To celebrate their achievements, we put on a CHUMS mini graduation ceremony to highlight their hard work and fun, positive attitudes over the summer.



ESSEX FOOD NEW OUTLETS

Shelby can you please write something for the new outlets to be opened September

