

GREat Skills Programme 2023-2024

Outreach and Educational Partnerships Team

GREat Skills is a programme of workshops designed to support students in developing key skills relevant to their academic learning and to aid in their preparation for the transition to university and beyond. The programme consists of workshops focusing on personal, transferrable, and academic skills.

Participation in these packages also contributes to the required number of workshops for students to be eligible for our [GREat Skills Scholarship](#), a £2000 cash scholarship in their first year of study. Further eligibility criteria apply.

Who are our workshops aimed at?

- Year 12 And 13
- FE Year 1 And 2

What information do we require?

- Which dates and times would you like to book?
- In-person, virtual or a mixture of delivery?
- How many students will there be?
- Do your students have any accessibility requirements?

How can you support us?

- Ensure that all students register at the beginning of their first workshop, using our form so that we can measure the effectiveness of our activities.
- If booking a package or multiple sessions, provide or allow us to collect a register of students who attend each workshop following the first session.
- Ensure all students and staff members complete the evaluation form at the end of each workshop so that we can continually improve our workshops.

Timelines

- Give as much notice as you can when booking a package.
- We can arrange a virtual meeting with you to gauge requirements.

Contact Details

If you would be interested in booking or finding out more about our workshops, please contact us at outreach@gre.ac.uk.

GREat Skills Packages

Outreach and Educational Partnerships Team

These recommended packages ensure that all students attending our workshops are positively impacted in their current studies and well informed to start their progression into university and beyond. It also contributes to the number of outreach activities required for students to be eligible for the [GREat Skills Scholarship](#). We can provide an additional workshop which takes students through the scholarship application form and provides guidance on the process.

Packages include optional workshops run by our [STAART](#) team. STAART supports students with a disability, long-term health condition, neurodivergence, and/or mental health condition to thrive at university. We may also be able to customise packages based upon your requirements.

Each workshop requires approximately 1 hour for delivery however we can be flexible with timings if required and is available for in person or virtual delivery.

Yr12/FE Yr1 General Package

Title	Content
Developing Resilience	Understanding the meaning of resilience and key characteristics and skills required for building resilience. Students will be able to describe methods for overcoming challenges and developing personal resilience by the end of the session.
Digital Literacy	Students will explore the key components to digital literacy such as finding, creating, and sharing online content and complete various activities to strengthen their digital literacy skills.
Revision Techniques	Exam periods – be it GCSEs, A Levels, mocks – can often be a stressful time. The activities within this revision masterclass are designed to help students: discover the revision styles that work best for them; identify the most effective ways to help them save time and retain information; and help manage common anxieties.
<i>Optional STAART quiz: Know your strengths and learning style(s)</i>	<i>Fun quiz to help your students determine their strengths and possible career paths. This quiz helps students know their learning style(s) and various strategies to match these style(s).</i>

Yr13/FE Yr2 General Package

Title	Content
Independent Learning	Students will be able to identify their learning style, explain the importance of effective note taking and tools which can be utilised and the benefits of good 'time management' skills.
Academic Writing	This practical workshop helps myth-bust the notion that "academic writing" is a complex piece of work. The activities focus on the skills students will need for any piece of academic-style writing they may have to complete, e.g., an EPQ log; university-level essays; or an apprenticeship/work report. Techniques explored in this workshop include: - objective thinking; reading the question; and the importance of proofreading.

Understanding Feedback	A crucial session for students to understand the definition of feedback and the importance of it. Students will evaluate different feedback examples and be able to develop a feedback action plan.
<i>Optional STAART Workshop: Thrive not Strive at University</i>	<i>Academic, social and wellbeing tips to get the most out of your university experience.</i>

EPQ/Academic Project Package

Title	Content
Choosing your Question	Covers motivations for completing the research project/ EPQ or an academic piece of writing. Students will have an opportunity to select a research topic of their choice (if applicable) and evaluate a potential research question/hypothesis by the end of the session.
Selecting & Evaluating Sources	The range of sources available are varied, this session teaches students to alter search items to find resources, to be able to scan and survey to quickly decide the relevance of sources and evaluate the reliability of sources of information based on timeliness, author, purpose, and proximity.
Referencing & Avoiding Plagiarism	A key session for students to understand the importance of referencing when completing academic work. Students will be able to evaluate when it is necessary to include references and be able to write references and insert appropriately making use of online tools where available.

Faculty of Education, Health, and Human Sciences Package

Title	Content
Active Listening & Communication	Students will explore the importance of these key skills used in everyday life and learn techniques to improve these through various activities.
Time Management	Students will explore the importance of time management and complete various activities, with some tips and tricks on how to strengthen this skill.
Managing Stress	Students will identify potential causes of stress (before/present/future), describe some of the effects of too much stress and use strategies and support networks to manage stress.
<i>Optional STAART Workshop: Lifestyle for Learning</i>	<i>Tips for maintaining your physical and mental health to ensure you are ready for university learning.</i>

Faculty of Liberal Arts and Sciences Package

Title	Content
Attention to Detail	Understanding the importance of attention to detail and ways to improve this core skill using various activities.
Academic Writing	This practical workshop helps myth-bust the notion that “academic writing” is a complex piece of work. The activities focus on the skills students will need for any piece of academic-style writing they may have to complete, e.g., an EPQ log; university-level essays; or an apprenticeship/work report. Techniques explored in this workshop include: -objective thinking; reading the question; and the importance of proofreading.
Independent Learning	Students will be able to identify their learning style, explain the importance of effective note taking and tools which can be utilised and the benefits of good time management skills.
<i>Optional STAART Workshop: Introduction to Notetaking and Note-making</i>	<i>An introduction to notetaking and note-making systems, methods, and metaphors, also introducing the NOTE template.</i>

Faculty of Engineering and Science Package

Title	Content
Independent Learning	Students will be able to identify their learning style, explain the importance of effective note taking and tools which can be utilised and the benefits of good time management skills.
Problem Solving	Students will learn to accurately assess a situation and arrive at a positive solution using a model that can be applied to solve any problem with engineering as an example.
Attention to detail	Understanding the importance of attention to detail and ways to improve this core skill.
<i>Optional STAART Workshop: STEMM@uni</i>	<i>Academic, social and wellbeing tips for STEMM subjects in university.</i>

Business School Package

Title	Content
Teamwork & Networking	This interactive workshop is designed to help students develop their confidence when working in groups, as well as speaking to new people. Filled with collaborative activities, this session gives students an insight into the importance of developing professional relationships.
Leadership	Students will identify what leadership means and understand the importance in not just academia, but also in day-to-day life skills. The importance and need to develop self-awareness and evaluate own leadership style will be included too.
Critical Thinking	Students will be able to identify and describe what critical thinking is, understand the importance of it and develop these essential skills with various activities to be able to use these in any examples.
<i>Optional STAART Workshop: Introduction to (free) Learning Technology</i>	<i>Introduction to free learning technology which includes mind mapping, speech-to-text, text-to-speech, colour overlays and bespoke databases of vocabulary.</i>