

Suffolk Skills Zone

Show off your skills

Suffolk Skills Zone, which is sponsored by Suffolk New College, is the place to be if you're looking to find out more about the courses on offer - and the vocational skills you can learn - at three of the county's four further education establishments. Meet the students from Suffolk New College, West Suffolk College and Easton & Otley College and talk about their aspirations and the job opportunities that could be available to you.

Parts of the agricultural industry are facing a jobs crisis, with not enough people entering the land-based industries. Only last month the local building industry in Suffolk was short of about 200 bricklayers because there are not enough skilled people. As a county, we desperately need skilled people in the industries allied to food and farming, for example bricklaying and mechanical engineering, as they play an essential supporting role.

This vocational education is vital for the whole of our community, so make sure you visit the stands 2 to 15, to see the demonstrations and discover a potential career direction for yourself or someone you know.

Hospitality

Hospitality students from Suffolk New College are offering interactive fun that you can come along and participate in. Come 'have a go' at a range of skill, quiz and competition activities.

Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy

Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy students from Suffolk New College are offering an exciting range of 'have a go' activities to enable you to learn how to create stylish



Students showing off their skills.

Pictures: SAA

hair and beauty effects. This includes nail art work, nail painting and hairstyling on blocks to create plaits, twists and decorative hair strand colours using hair chalks.

Business, Tourism and Care

The students from Child Care invite you to try a range of interactive activities. Make a mask, play in the sand or, just try something new and creative!

Creative Arts

Following their popularity at last year's show, the Creative Arts and Media (CAM) and Education students from Suffolk New College will be again in the skills marquee offering hands on demonstrations for visitors to enjoy.

Plastering

Students from Easton & Otley College will be carrying out demonstrations of plastering surfaces, fibrous work, running moulds and more.

Flint Knapping

This display demonstrates an ancient craft of flint work, flint knapping and modern techniques used today. West Suffolk College brickwork students will be hard at work building over the two days. The flint is sourced in the west of the county and is knapped here to the different sizes and shapes using traditional hand skills.

Engineering

Students from Suffolk New College will demonstrate hand fitting and marking out skills, using a range of measuring, marking out and basic hand tools.

Skills Activity Area

Students from Easton & Otley College will be involved with various activities. Activities will include a large jigsaw, giant Jenga, making dice to take away, spark

plug challenges, pit bike and metalwork CNC lathe.

The Suffolk Skills Zone will also be holding a handful of competitions. These will include:

Brickwork

The 100th anniversary of the Battle of Passchendaele provides an opportunity for the students of Suffolk New College, Easton & Otley College and West Suffolk College to commemorate this event, by constructing a concave solid brick wall. Displaying the George cross, the flag section of the wall will be constructed of a projecting basket weave panel. The base and top of the wall will be built in brick-on-edge and contrasting colours will be used between the George cross and flag.

Carpentry

To mark the centenary of WWI, the carpentry skills competition will involve the three colleges all making a hexagonal tree seat, as somewhere to sit and reflect in years to come. To give the build competition real purpose each college can choose to take its seat back to campus to serve as a permanent reminder. This will be constructed using traditional hand skills on site, with some of the timbers being carved ready.

Painting and Decorating

Students from Suffolk New College, Easton & Otley College and West Suffolk College will be demonstrating the various painting and decorating skills required to decorate an internal room that features a fireplace and alcoves. This year it will include demonstrating skills of graining and marbling, wallpapering, transferring images using grids, sign writing and stencilling and will be judged on all elements of the competition ranging from surface protection to the visual finish.