

English Classes in the Southampton Area 26/27							
Public- in news and updates Sector Colleges							
Provider start time	Beginners class	Intermed. class	High Int /Advanced / IELTS class	Requirements for Asylum Seekers to access	Crèche	Contact details	Location
Southampton College Adults 7thSept 2026 Family learning late Sept 2026	Yes Pre-entry E1 and E2 yes	Yes E3 and L1 yes	Yes to Level 2 No IELTS.	Must be here 6m+, show ARC, and be on NASS Functional skills incl. adult literacy and maths fully funded. ESOL only part funded -cost is £800 per year but free if earning less than £25,750 per year Free for parents of school or pre-school aged children	Yes no	Natasha Gregory 023 8057 7653 natasha.gregory@shcg.ac.uk www.shcg.ac.uk 023 8048 4848 enquiries@southampton-city.ac.uk Apply online to arrange an interview	Southampton College St Mary's SO14 1AR Venues in Shirley, Bassett
16-19 year olds 7th Sept 2026	yes	yes	yes	Fully funded if aged 16-19		See above	
Itchen College 16-19 only Weds 2nd Sept 2026	no	yes	yes	Free, but must be here 6m, aged 16-19 and show ARC	yes	023 8043 5636 Ext 209	Itchen College, Middle Road, Bitterne, Southampton SO19 7TB
Itchen College Adult Education ESOL starts from 7th Sept 2026 Functional Skills Weds 9th Sept 2026	Yes Entry 2 Mon 9.30-2.30	Yes Entry 3 Thurs 9.30-2.30	Yes ESOL Levels 1 and 2 Level 2 Weds or Fri 9.30-2.30 Functional skills L1 and L2 Weds 6-8.30 pm	All learners must be here 6m+, and show ARC. All learners pay £10 ESOL class cost is £725 but govt funding available for asylum seekers, refugees with LTR, in receipt of certain benefits or have an income below £25,750. per year,	no	Becky Hawke rhawke@itchen.ac.uk acet@itchen.ac.uk 023 8044 6156 Barney Selman b.selman@itchen.ac.uk	ESOL Daytime classes:: Masonic Lodge, Albion Place, Southampton, SO14 2DD. Functional skills Evening class Itchen College, Middle Road, Soton SO19 7TB
Eastleigh College 14th Sept 2026- 16-17 full time ESOL also available	Yes pre-entry E1 and E2	Yes E3 and Level 1	Yes to Level 2 No IELTS	See Southampton College above	no	Natasha.curzi-micallef@shcg.ac.uk 02380911024 or Bernadette.Thompson@shcg.ac.uk	Eastleigh College campus, Chestnut Avenue Eastleigh SO50 5FS
Richard Taunton College 23rd or 25th Sept 2026 if sufficient numbers	No	Yes E3 /L1 Mon or Weds 5-7pm	No	See Itchen College above	no	admissions@richardtaunton.ac.uk 023 8051 4776	Richard Taunton College, Hill Lane S'oton SO15 5RL
Community Based providers							
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Above Bar Church Mondays Term time only 7th Sept 2026 Term time only 9th Sept 2026	English Language Cafe 11.00 – 12.00 E1 and E2 Weds 9.30 – 11.30	English Language Cafe 11.00 – 12.00	English Language Cafe 11.00 – 12.00 Int + Conversation group Weds 9.30 – 11.30	Free	Not at present but toys available with parents' permission	Contact the church office. 023 8022 8275 office@abovebarchurch.org.uk For Weds classes please contact the church office first as numbers are limited office@abovebarchurch.org.uk	69, Above Bar Street, Southampton SO14 7FE					
Highfield Church Tues 15 Sept 2026	English conversation Tuesdays 10-11.30	English conversation Tuesdays 10-11.30	English conversation Tuesdays 10-11.30	free	no	Rhiannon Nicholson operationsmanager@highfield.church 023 8055 8234	Highfield Church, Highfield Lane, SO17 1RL					
Hope City Church Southampton Term time only 7th Sept 2026	English Language Club Mon pm 1.15 – 2.45 all levels	English Language Club Mon pm 1.15 – 2.45 all levels	English Language Club Mon pm 1.15 – 2.45 all levels	Free	No, but toys are available in same room as club sessions	Philippa Knight 07543 637500 hello@hopecitysouthampton.com	The Hope Centre, Drayton Close, Weston SO19 9JN Contact Philippa for more details					
Christchurch 5:15pm - 6:25pm on Tuesdays in term time	All welcome	pronunciation and grammar - all levels	Conversation all levels	Free and snacks and drinks available	No but children allowed if supervised by their parents	Contact Alan fel@christchurchsouthampton.org.uk Find out more at https://christchurchsouthampton.org.uk/in-the-community/free-english-classes	Burgess Road Library					
New Community Church Central Hall 9.30-11.30am, Wednesdays (term-time)	Creative English all levels	Creative English all levels	Creative English all levels	free	no	Contact Rachel Comer rachel.comer@newcommunity.org.uk Find out more at https://newcommunity.org.uk/community-hub-activities	Room 4 at Central Hall, St Mary Street, SO14 1NF					
The Lighthouse Church * Term time only 8th Sept 2026 Intermediate Beginners 10th Sept 2026	Beginners Thurs 10-12	Intermediate Tues 9.30-11.20	Advanced ESOL not available but see * ETB below	Free for Asylum Seekers £12 per term if have income	no	Contact Lavinia Phillips 07963627263 lavinia_phillips@hotmail.com For Intermediate classes contact Liz Wilson elizabethwilson945@yahoo.com	The Lighthouse Church Brinton's Rd SO14 0BB					

The Lighthouse Church ETB (English through the Bible)		weekly on Fridays 10-11.30 am, fortnightly on Saturdays from 10.00 – 11.45 am	weekly on Fridays 10-11.30 am, fortnightly on Saturdays from 10.00 – 11.45 am			Lavinia : 079 6362 7263 lavinia_phillips@hotmail.com	Zoom
Private Language Schools							
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Lewis School of English 15 Oct -26 Nov 2026 2 evenings a week – online or face- to- face 11 Feb – 25 March 2027 2 evenings a week– online or face- to- face	Yes	yes	no	Private Language school that runs Cert TESOL training courses for teachers. These classes taught by trainees are free. Learners must register in advance and participate in all classes.	No	Classes are offered as part of the trainee teachers' practice. Contact 023 8022 8203 Abby Croucher abbyc@lewis-school.co.uk	The Lewis School of English, 30-33 Palmerston Road, Southampton SO1 1LL
ESOL Levels				International English Language exams			
Pre Entry – Listening and Speaking only; two levels: Step 1 and Step 2				There are no Advanced classes funded by the government, but higher level students aiming for interenational English qualifications can apply to Refuaid https://refuaid.org/			
Entry 1 - Basic				It gives loans and support to advanced level learners to take the IELTS, the OET (Occupational English Test) and other international English Language exams			
Entry 2 - Elementary							
Entry 3 - Pre-intermediate				Exam Boards for ESOL Exams in Southampton			
Level 1 - Intermediate				CLEAR students take Trinity College ESOL exams			
Level 2 - High Intermediate. (Equivalent to IELTS 6.0 / 6.5)				WEA and Bfluent students take City and Guilds			
				Itchen College adult ESOL students take Gateway qualifications			
				Southampton College students and Eastleigh College ESOL students take Ascentis.			
<i>This chart was compiled and last updated on July 17th 2026 by Ruth Carr</i>							
ruth.carr@swvg-refugees.org.uk							
<i>Please let me know of any corrections or additions.</i>							