Framework Masterplan
Following a three-year process, our Framework Masterplan, a vision for the evolution of the campus to 2031, is nearing completion.

At the end of last year, we again sought feedback on our progress during a consultation process that included events in Canterbury, Blean, Tyler Hill and on the University campus. A big thank you to all of you who took the time to engage with our vision for the campus and send us your comments.

We are about to publish that feedback and our responses to it in the Framework Masterplan Step 2 Consultation Statement.

In addition, a draft copy of the completed Framework Masterplan in full will be available for comment from some time in March.

Both the Consultation Statement and the Framework Masterplan draft will be available online at www.kent.ac.uk/masterplan with a limited number of hard copies in the Templeman Library, The Beaney, Blean Village Hall, The Tyler’s Klin and the City Council offices in Military Road.

Hotel/conference facility
The University has identified an area on its Canterbury campus for the potential development of a high-quality conferencing hotel.

The decision follows recent advice and recommendations from external consultants on a range of factors, including market conditions in the Canterbury area, as part of the development of the University’s Framework Masterplan and its underlying principles.

The University already has an award-winning conference business, which this year welcomed more than 200,000 people from around the world to its residential provision. However, it is clear that there is an ever-increasing demand for a high-quality conference venue. The proposed location – north of University Road and south of Turing College – offers maximum flexibility for the size of building and scale of conferences that could be held there.

Medical School
We have recently applied for planning permission for a new building to house the Kent and Medway Medical School (KMMs). The three-story building, situated between the Ingram and Sibson buildings on the Park Wood Road, will provide teaching space for up to 300 students as well as offices for clinical, academic and administrative staff. We hope to begin work this summer.

National award for student support for second year running
The University has been recognised for the second year running for its outstanding support for students at the Times Higher Education (THE) Awards.

Kent's project, known as OPERA, to improve access to learning for all by implementing a range of accessibility initiatives, was recognised at the UK higher education sector's top awards ceremony in November.

A further endorsement for Kent’s inclusive student experience, this award comes only one year after Kent won the same award for its acclaimed Student Success Project.

The University was also shortlisted at the 2018 Awards for Outstanding Research Supervisor of the Year for the work of Professor Nicola Shaughnessy in its School of Arts.

Proposed new building for KMMs
Making a difference to our region

Since our founding more than 50 years ago, the University of Kent has had a huge impact on our region’s economic, social and cultural life.

Below are just some of the ways we make a difference to our local communities (figures based on 2015/16 academic year unless stated otherwise):

Driving economic growth
The University and its students generated £0.9bn for the south east regional economy in 2015/16.

Spending by our students, staff and visitors generates an additional £357.9m for the south east economy, with an immediate impact of £162.4m in the Canterbury and Medway areas.

“The University has a hugely positive impact on the city centre, not only in terms of its direct economic impact, but also in terms of how they engage with the work that we do... We work together to promote Canterbury, communicating one shared story to encourage students, locals and visitors to explore the city.”

Lisa Carlson, Chief Executive of Canterbury Business Improvement District (BID)

Our extraordinary people
We are one of the region’s largest employers with 3,900 directly-employed staff.

Our activities also support more than 3,490 jobs outside the University, 90 per cent of those jobs based in the south east.

We are the largest employer in Canterbury and one in ten jobs is dependent on our activities or those of our students. Almost a quarter of our workforce lives in the city, contributing around £1.7m in taxation to the Canterbury economy.

Our apprenticeships scheme provides opportunities for local young people to earn while they learn in trade or professional roles.

“I would definitely recommend an apprenticeship at the University. It’s a great way to gain new skills and earn while you learn. The team here have been really supportive and have helped me to develop my trade skills and my confidence.”

Charlie Champion, who completed his Level 2 Plumbing Apprenticeship with our Estates team

Supporting business
Our dedicated start-up incubator, the Hub for Innovation and Enterprise, has supported the launch of more than 130 companies since 2010, creating 190 new jobs in Canterbury. Hub companies contributed £8.8m to the local economy between 2013 and 2018.

More than 250 local business leaders have had the opportunity to network and share ideas at our Business Executive Forum events, led by Kent Business School.

Local companies have also linked-up with our researchers, through our Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) programmes, to benefit from operational, technological and strategic improvements.

“The support from the Hub’s team of mentors has been invaluable, helping us establish our own network of industry contacts and providing advice on the development of our business. They helped fill the gaps in our knowledge about the legal side of starting a business and have given us great advice on how to market ourselves effectively.”

David Browne, a Kent alumnus who founded Convert Energy with Hub support
Welcoming global visitors

Off-campus spending by our international students is worth £77.4m to the regional economy.

We welcome thousands of visitors to our campuses each year to study, attend conferences, participate in cultural events on site, or stay in our accommodation during a break in the city.

We also host more than 135,000 people from around the world at more than 1,000 residential events on our campus every year – that's equivalent to more than 40 per cent of the total annual number of overnight visitors to Canterbury.

We are the largest conference venue in the south east and the business generated by our conference and events activities creates jobs for around 35,000 full-time staff and 500 part-time or contract employees.

Changing lives

Our community of more than 2,300 student volunteers delivered more than 90,000 hours of help and support for more than 130 local organisations or individuals in Kent in 2016-17.

We work with more than 45 secondary schools in the region to provide activities to encourage local children to consider further study. More than 18,000 primary and secondary school pupils took part in our outreach programmes, which were delivered by more than 340 Student Ambassadors, in 2016-17.

“Tankerton FC is a grassroots football club, run entirely by volunteers so I got involved in supporting the administrative side and pulling together funding bids. After securing some funding, we were able to launch a new deaf team for five to 12-year-olds in January 2018. The children show real passion for football and play with a smile on their faces. It’s hugely rewarding to see them make new friends and develop their skills.”

Liz Flaxman, Risk and Compliance Officer at Kent and volunteer for Tankerton FC

Legal support for local people

Kent Law Clinic provides a free legal service to members of the local community and, since 1992, has helped its clients to obtain or defend sums totalling £5.6m.

More than 270 students participated in the Law Clinic’s work in 2016-17, helping to provide support and advice to more than 1,400 people.

The Clinic holds weekly advice sessions at community locations in Canterbury and the surrounding area, where local solicitors and barristers volunteer their time to provide free legal advice to the public.

Culture and the arts

Gulbenkian arts centre at our Canterbury campus attracts leading performers from around the world and welcomes more than 97,000 visitors to more than 1,000 events every year.

More than 10,000 local young people have also engaged with the arts through Gulbenkian’s ART31 scheme each year since its creation in 2016.

In 2017, Gulbenkian became an Arts Council of England National Portfolio Organisation, in recognition of the quality of its performance art programme and participatory activities.

In March 2018, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Arts Council England, setting out our shared commitment to expanding opportunities to engage with arts and culture in Kent.

“I love ART31 because you get to go behind the scenes on all sorts of new shows and productions. It’s really exciting to see how they are all produced and programmed. It really helps to build your confidence and is brilliant for helping you develop your creative skills.”

Gray, Member of ART31 Youth Board

Student Volunteer Week

Kent Students took part in 15 events, from volunteering projects to fundraisers, in support of 11 organisations and charities from 12-16 November.

It was all part of Student Volunteer Week, which aims to engage more students in volunteering activities and to recognise the achievements of our student volunteers.

Kent Union ran nine volunteering projects, totalling almost 200 hours. These included wrapping up to 60 donated Christmas presents for children and making cards for staff at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital’s Children’s Ward, tidying and weeding at Wildwood Discovery Park, and sorting through hundreds of donated shoeboxes for Blythwood Shoebox Appeal that go to homes over Eastern Europe.

Ten events were student-led, with Books to Africa sorting through donated books, British Sign Language running a well-attended taster session, KCA (Kent Community Action) collecting socks to be donated to Catching Lives in exchange for lemonade, and Student Action for Refugees running a football game between refugees and students.

The fundraisers included UKC Netball raising over £286 for Rising Sun, Stage Spiders and RaG raising nearly £380 and Student Action for Refugees raising over £26. A total of nearly £700 was raised for charity.

You can find out more about our regional impact on our website: www.kent.ac.uk/impact

The website includes three films talking to individuals and organisations we’ve been working with, made by Spark Film Production, a Canterbury-based film production and animation company.
We’re working together with Canterbury Christ Church University (CCCU), Canterbury City Council and Kent Police to provide our local residents with key dates and useful contacts for information and advice.

**Dates for your diary**

- **Monday 14 January to Friday 5 April** – Spring Term at Kent
- **Monday 21 January to Friday 17 May** – Semester 2 at CCCU
- **Thursday 28 February** – Postgraduate Open Evening at CCCU
- **Tuesday 5 March** – Postgraduate Open Evening at Kent (Canterbury campus)
- **Saturday 23 March** – Award Ceremonies at CCCU
- **Saturday 6 April** – Kent and Medway Medical School (KMMS) Open Event (Kent and CCCU)
- **Thursday 11 April** – Postgraduate Open Evening at CCCU
- **Monday 15 April to Friday 26 April** – Easter Holidays at CCCU
- **Tuesday 7 May to Friday 14 June** – Summer Term at Kent
- **Sunday 9 June** – Undergraduate Open Day at CCCU
- **Saturday 6 July** – Open Day at Kent (Canterbury campus)

For more key dates visit:

- Kent – [www.kent.ac.uk/community/dates](http://www.kent.ac.uk/community/dates)
- CCCU – [www.canterbury.ac.uk/termdates](http://www.canterbury.ac.uk/termdates)

**Community events – on campus and in the city**

- **War Horse**: The Marlowe Theatre The Friars, 27 February to 16 March. [https://marlowetheatre.com/your-visit/tickets-booking/](https://marlowetheatre.com/your-visit/tickets-booking/)
- **Song Bird/Word Bird Festival**: To mark International Women’s Day weekend (Saturday 9 to Sunday 10 March), this mini-festival at Gulbenkian will be followed by a This Girl Can Family Day. [https://thegulbenkian.co.uk/event/word-bird/](https://thegulbenkian.co.uk/event/word-bird/)

**Who to contact**

If you are experiencing problems with your neighbours, use the contacts below for information and advice.

**Noise**

T: 01227 862 202  
E: envhealth@canterbury.gov.uk  

**Rubbish**

T: 0800 031 9091  
E: help.canterbury@serco.com  

**Parking**

T: 01227 862 429  
E: parking.enforcement@canterbury.gov.uk  

**Crime or anti-social behaviour**

T: 101 to report non-urgent crime  
T: 999 to report an emergency  
Find out who your Police Constable or Police Community Support Officer is by entering your postcode at [www.kent.police.uk](http://www.kent.police.uk)

**Students**

Both universities take the concerns of our neighbours very seriously. If residents experience anti-social behaviour, whether they believe it to be by students or not, they should contact the agencies listed above as they have the power to intervene. However, if you need further support both universities have a community liaison person who can provide further advice.

- **University of Kent**  
  E: communityliaison@kent.ac.uk
- **Canterbury Christ Church University**  
  E: communityliaison@canterbury.ac.uk

**IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH FOR FREE**

If English is not your first language and you’d like to improve, we’re offering free English language classes this summer. The classes, at the University’s Centre for English and World Languages, take place every weekday from 17 June to 18 July. Find out more on our website: [www.kent.ac.uk/cewl/courses/celta/free-english-classes.html](http://www.kent.ac.uk/cewl/courses/celta/free-english-classes.html)  
E: cewlcelta@kent.ac.uk  
T: 01227 824401

**SPORTS FOR ALL THIS EASTER**

Make the most of the Easter break with our special one-month Kent Sport membership, giving you access from 1 to 30 April to facilities including our modern gym and fitness and dance classes. For children, there’s our holiday sports camp, EasterZone, from Monday 8 to Friday 12 April. Find out more on our website: [www.kent.ac.uk/sports](http://www.kent.ac.uk/sports)
University recognised in UK’s Best Breakthroughs list

Pioneering research by Professor Martin Warren in Kent’s School of Biosciences has been named as one of the UK’s 100 Best Breakthroughs of the last century for its significant impact on people’s everyday lives.

Professor Warren’s research discovered how the diets of vegetarians and vegans could be improved by increasing the amount of Vitamin B12 (known as cobalamine) in plants, which normally lack this nutrient altogether, by proving that common garden cress can absorb it. Cobalamine-enhanced plants could help address the challenge of providing a nutrient-complete vegetarian diet in an increasingly meat-free world.

The Best Breakthroughs list was compiled by Universities UK as part of a MadeAtUni campaign to change public perceptions of universities and bring to life the difference they make to people, lives and communities across the UK.

Professor Dame Janet Beer, President of Universities UK, said: ‘Universities really do transform lives. The technology we use every day, the medicines that save lives, the teachers who inspire – all come from UK universities and the important work being done by academics.’

Find out more at: https://madeatuni.org.uk/

Small Business Charter award

Kent Business School (KBS) has been awarded the Small Business Charter in recognition of the support it provides to small businesses in the region and the work it does across the University to support student entrepreneurship.

The Small Business Charter (SBC) award is a national kitemark awarded by small businesses to recognise business schools, which demonstrate excellence in supporting student enterprise, small businesses and the local economy.

In awarding the accreditation, the SBC assessors said there were several elements of KBS’s work that it found impressive. In particular, they cited the Accelerator Space for Innovation and Responsible Enterprise (ASPIRE) for providing excellent networking space for students and graduates starting up their own businesses and exciting opportunities for further development through mentoring and skills workshops.

The SBC also noted that the support for small businesses by the business school, Kent Innovation & Enterprise, and the University as a whole is far-reaching and has a significant economic benefit to the region. Specifically, it said the University’s commitment to local and regional suppliers through its procurement procedures has led to contracts for 1,667 small businesses and has put £26m back into the regional economy.

Kent Business Summit

The Kent Business Summit was also cited as another excellent initiative that showcases the close working relationship that KBS has with local small business representative bodies such as the Federation of Small Businesses, Institute of Directors and Locate in Kent.

The 2019 summit, at KBS on 11 January, was attended by over 300 delegates who heard from keynote speakers including Mark Valleley, Technical Manager for Transport for the South East and Deirdre Wells OBE, CEO of Visit Kent.

IT support for local tradespeople

If you’re a tradesperson, we want to hear from you!

Our student-led Kent IT Consultancy (KITC) is keen to help local tradespeople, such as domestic builders, become more digital.

It’s doing this by investigating the opportunities (and barriers) that tradespeople face in adopting digital technology – both in the short-term, such as launching a new website, and longer-term like use of VR (virtual reality) to improve quote processes.

If you’re a local tradesperson, get in touch with KITC now and help us to help you! www.kitc-solutions.co.uk/contact/
Welcome to our new community garden

A new community garden has opened on our Canterbury campus, designed to become a sustainability hub centred on growing food. It will become a collaborative outdoor space for staff, students and members of the local community to use for a range of activities.

The Kent Community Oasis Garden (KentCOG) is being developed by the University’s Student Wellbeing team with partners including local charity Kent Enterprise Trust (KET).

The garden provides a space for relaxation and learning new skills, with opportunities to take part in numerous seasonal initiatives including growing plants, wildflowers and vegetables. The garden is located along the Crab and Winkle pathway to the far east of the Canterbury Campus past the Park Wood accommodation.

Helping with its design – with an emphasis on accessibility – is Gardeners’ World local expert Mark Lane. Other organisations actively involved with the garden include the Whitstable and Herne Bay Beekeepers group, Kent Union and its student-run Gardening and Foraging Society. Plants have been donated by the Canterbury Chartham Wyevale Garden Centre and Vincent Nurseries in Herne Bay.

The launch of the garden also fits in with several of the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals that the University has pledged to follow.

KentCOG would love to hear from any members of the public with skills in gardening, foraging, design, art or permaculture who are interested in helping to develop the garden.

Email us now at kentcog@kent.ac.uk

Find out more about the project on the KentCOG blog: https://blogs.kent.ac.uk/kentcog/

Apply to Kent for the future you aspire to

- Excellent teaching – TEF Gold
- Excellent student support – Times Higher Education Awards winner 2018
- Excellent employability – 95% of responding Kent graduates in employment or further study (DHLE)

www.kent.ac.uk