

Southwark Health Skills Centre



“Together we are raising the profile of health and social care careers; showcasing the breadth, value and flexibility of the rewarding long term employment opportunities for local people; meeting NHS skills needs; and increasing the diversity of the NHS workforce.”

Julie Screatton

Chief People Officer
Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust



The Southwark Health Skills Centre provides the people of Southwark and surrounding boroughs with access to career pathways in health and social care, whatever their age or educational starting point. Its aim is both to educate and train new recruits and to upskill existing staff. It offers a range of opportunities for all, from schoolchildren through to existing health and social care employees, including health sector outreach; careers inspiration; recruitment and education advice; and health sector specific employability programmes. The Centre has been created by LSBU Group in partnership with Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust and Health Education England. It is situated just 5 minutes' walk from Guy's Hospital and has a central role in supporting the Trust's strategy to develop local talent and build a workforce pipeline that reflects the diversity of the population that it serves.

LSBU Group is a pioneering group of likeminded specialist educational organisations providing high- quality, student-centred professional and technical education for the people of South London. It offers career-based pathways through education, enabling people of all characteristics and talents to achieve their full potential. The Group includes London South Bank University (LSBU), South Bank Academies (University Academy of Engineering South Bank and South Bank University Technical College), South Bank Colleges (Lambeth College), and South Bank Enterprises, as well as LSBU's Passmore Centre for Apprenticeship, which has links to nearly 1000 businesses.

The Southwark Health Skills Centre offers education and training from pre-entry to post-doctoral level, for clinical and non-clinical roles, with each delivered by experts from the relevant institutions within LSBU Group and supported by staff from Guy's and St Thomas'. The Centre draws especially on the expertise of LSBU's Institute of Health and Social Care, which is a leading provider of health and social care education and training; South Bank Colleges; and South Bank UTC, with its specialisms in Health and Social Care and Health Engineering, and of which Guy's and St Thomas' is a sponsor.

Careers Centre

This Centre has been created to engage, inform and advise local people about the breadth and flexibility of the wide range of clinical and non-clinical healthcare career pathways at all levels at Guy's and St Thomas' and in the wider NHS. The Centre offers information and advice, both in person and remotely, about education and training pathways through LSBU Group and elsewhere, including apprenticeship, undergraduate study and direct entry programmes. Also available are pre-employment skills and interview training for those seeking employment in the sector.

The Centre includes London's only HealthTec Centre - a state of the art immersive interactive suite - providing schoolchildren, college students and adults with opportunities to learn experientially about different roles in the NHS. Using these exciting facilities, experienced health practitioners and teachers lead tailored interactive programmes providing engaging insights into careers in the health sector in South London.

School pupils can learn about the wide range of careers in the NHS and how to access them - from well-known clinical roles such as nursing, to less well-known careers in the sector in fields like human resources and facilities management. Older learners from outside the NHS are able to participate in joint Guy's and St Thomas'/LSBU Sector Skills Work Academies to learn more about the locally available opportunities, and receive help in accessing them. Those looking to change careers within the NHS can access information and upskilling programmes to help them on their way.

The Centre is also a hub for joint outreach programmes involving LSBU and Guy's and St Thomas' as well as other stakeholders, including local Clinical Commissioning Groups, Primary Care Networks and borough councils.



Entry and Development Programmes

The Centre, through South Bank Colleges, offers a range of health and social care entry programmes. These include pre-apprenticeship programmes in English, maths, ESOL and digital skills to enable current and prospective Guy's and St Thomas' staff to embark on advanced and higher apprenticeships. The Centre also offers leadership development programmes that support those already employed in the sector to progress to the next level.

Courses include:

- Health focused Level 3 ILM Diploma with English, maths and digital skills
- Skills for Life programmes; entry level to Level 2
- Health related ESOL programmes
- English and maths for current Guy's and St Thomas' employees
- Higher Diploma for Care Workers
- Digital skills courses

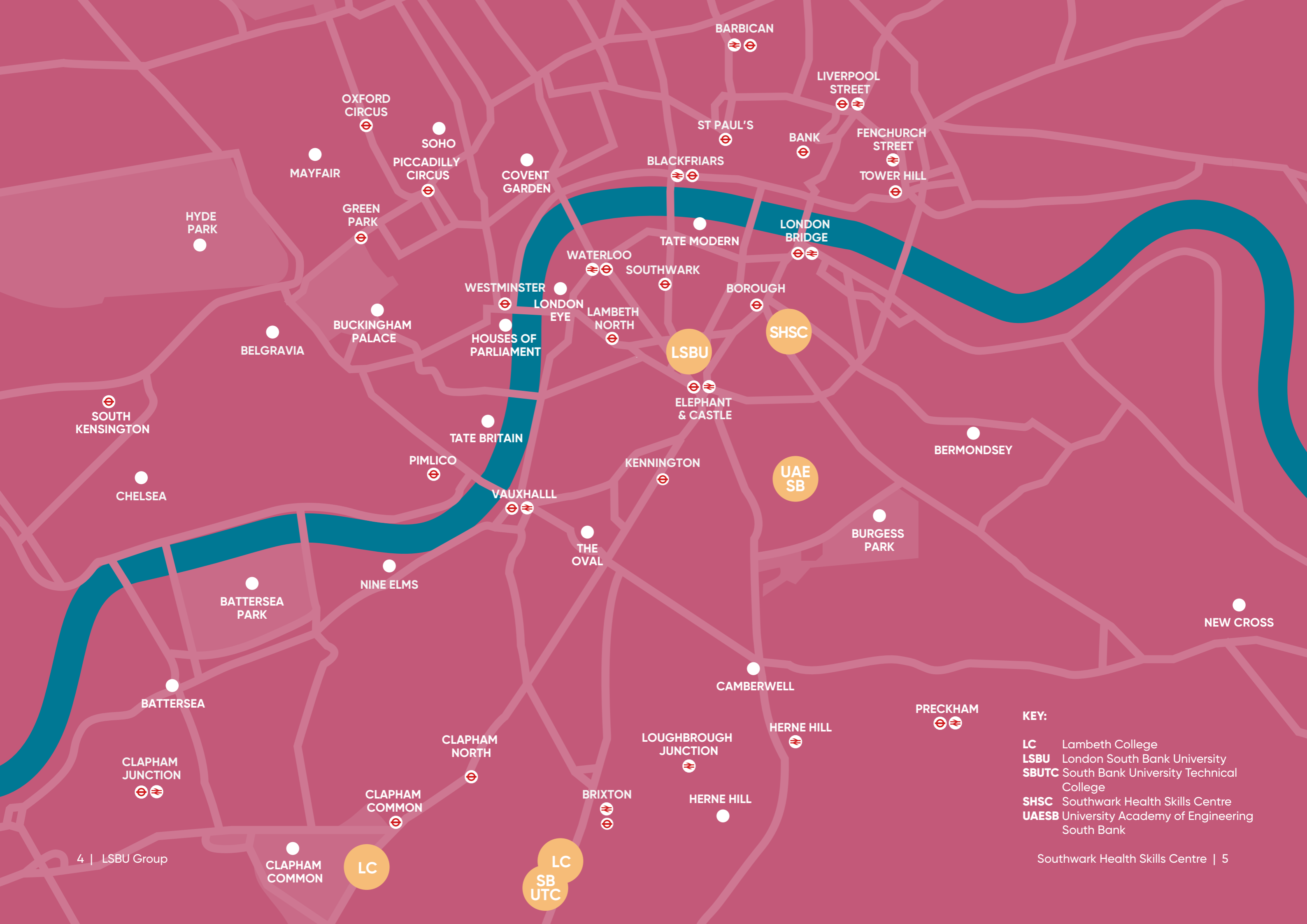
Health Skills Suites

Specialist simulation suites help meet the growing demand for health and social care training at Levels 2-4. This is facilitating the increased recruitment needed to fill a significant workforce and skills gap in the NHS in London. The Education Programmes that access these facilities include Nursing and Allied Health Professions Degrees and Nursing Associate Higher Apprenticeships.

These facilities also support careers education by providing school pupils and others with opportunities to enjoy a life-like experience of working in the NHS, giving valuable, recognised experience to support future job applications.

Executive Education and CPD for the Health Sector

The Centre is home to LSBU's renowned Health Systems Innovation Lab (HSIL) and Primary Care Innovation Hub (PCIL). High quality conference, training and teaching facilities service the increasing demand for LSBU's highly regarded strategic and systems leadership programmes and other executive and senior/ clinical leadership education.



- KEY:**
- LC** Lambeth College
 - LSBU** London South Bank University
 - SBUTC** South Bank University Technical College
 - SHSC** Southwark Health Skills Centre
 - UAESB** University Academy of Engineering South Bank

