



Accredited by the
BRITISH COUNCIL
for the teaching
of English in the UK



INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE



COURSE GUIDE

DO MORE



**SOUTH & CITY COLLEGE
BIRMINGHAM**



WELCOME

I would like to welcome you to South & City College Birmingham.

We are one of the biggest colleges in the UK and we are based in its second biggest city, Birmingham.



Over 13,000 students choose to study at South & City College Birmingham making us one of most successful government-funded colleges of further education in the UK.

I know how important it is to make the right choice about where to study and I know how difficult it can be to decide which course, college and country to study in. At South & City College Birmingham we want to offer the best education, best cultural experience and best chance to be successful in the future that any college can.

We are proud to be a Student Route sponsor, and as such are able to offer a range of courses, including English language programmes.

We have an excellent English department which was recognised as 'dynamic and vibrant' by Ofsted – the official inspectors for colleges and schools. If you, or the students you represent, are looking to improve English language skills we can offer you the right training and education to meet your needs.

If you have any questions, or if you would like to talk to someone about any part of the college lifestyle, please contact our international team and we will be happy to help you.

Our main International Course Guide will provide you with information on our vocational courses; Level 3 through to degree.

Mike Hopkins, Principal



4 Great reasons to choose us



5 Where you'll study



6 Accommodation



7 Places to visit



8 Why Birmingham?



10 Study visa



11 European Route



12 International student support



13 English language school courses



16 How to apply



18 Our campuses

All course information is subject to change as deemed necessary by the college. For up-to-date information please check when you apply or enrol on your course.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
sccb.ac.uk/international



REASONS TO CHOOSE US

We know you have a choice of where and what you wish to study, and it can be a difficult decision. So here are a few reasons why you should choose South & City College Birmingham...

SUCCESS

South and City College Birmingham is one of the largest and most successful colleges with over 13,000 students and some of the highest achievement rates in the country.

STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES

Our campuses boast state-of-the-art facilities including a training concert venue, sound and mixing suites, fashion workshops, hair and beauty salons,

motor vehicle workshops, a training restaurant, sports facilities and one of the UK's largest construction training centres.

LOCATION

Many of our international courses are taught from our Digbeth Campus, in the heart of the city. From here you will be within easy reach of many exciting places via public transport and also have many places of interest available on your doorstep in this wonderful city.

EXPERIENCE

We run trips and events throughout the year to make sure you have the chance to experience as much of the UK and its culture as possible. You will be invited to go on at least one trip each term for free. The college has in the past gone on trips to London, Stratford-upon-Avon (the birthplace of Shakespeare) and Manchester.

DEDICATED INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

The college has a team of experienced staff who are here to look after you and give you ongoing support. From your application right through to what you'll do after finishing the course.

Accredited by the



for the teaching
of English in the UK

QUALITY...

Accredited by the British Council for the teaching of English.
High quality English Language courses you can trust.



WHERE YOU'LL STUDY

BG **BORDESLEY GREEN CAMPUS & CONSTRUCTION CENTRE**

📍 Bordesley Green, Birmingham B9 5NA

D **DIGBETH CAMPUS**

📍 High Street Deritend, Digbeth, Birmingham B5 5SU

F **FUSION CENTRE**

📍 334-339 Bradford Street, Digbeth, Birmingham B5 6ES

GH **GOLDEN HILLOCK WOMEN'S CENTRE**

📍 Golden Hillock Road, Small Heath, Birmingham B10 0DP

HG **HALL GREEN CAMPUS**

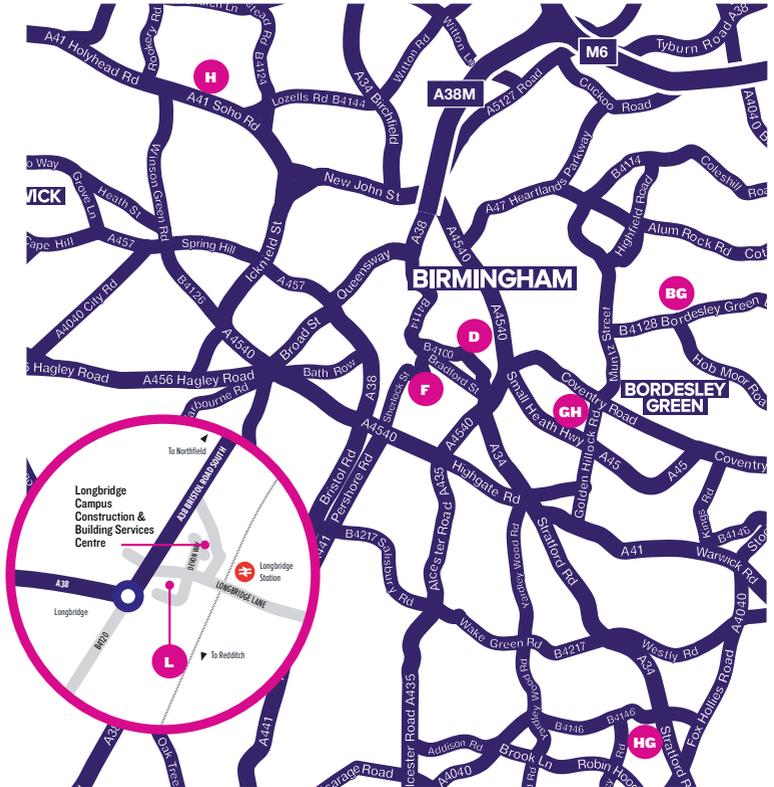
📍 Cole Bank Road, Hall Green, Birmingham B28 8ES

H **HANDSWORTH CAMPUS**

📍 Soho Road, Handsworth, Birmingham B21 9DP

L **LONGBRIDGE CAMPUS (BOURNVILLE COLLEGE)**

📍 1 Longbridge Lane, Longbridge, Birmingham B31 2AJ (Sat Nav B31 2TW)



SOUTH & CITY COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE AT DIGBETH

The international office is located at the main Digbeth Campus, in the centre of the city of Birmingham. Many of our international courses are taught from here.

We also offer summer courses in a range of subjects.

The Digbeth Campus has a state-of-the-art auditorium, where many performances are put on throughout the year. In addition you will find a canteen, common room, coffee bar, gym, library, computer rooms and much more.

In 2017 South & City College merged with Bournville College, opening up many opportunities and the provision on offer.

You will find details about which campus your chosen course is taught at in the course information further on in the guide.

The college has excellent links with local accommodation providers.
Where you stay will play a key part in your experience of studying in the UK.

ACCOMMODATION

The international team will provide you with information about the different accommodation options. You will need to consider a number of things including:

- **Your budget**
- **Where you would like to stay**
- **What kind of accommodation you want**
- **How you would travel to college – how long will it take and what kind of transport will you use?**

There are three main types of accommodation available in Birmingham:



1 HALLS OF RESIDENCE

£95-£150 per week

There are a number of halls of residence located near to our Digbeth Campus. These are private en-suite rooms with shared facilities such as a kitchen, common room and laundry facility.

2 HOMESTAY – LIVING WITH A FAMILY

From £140 per week

Staying with a local family can be a great way to experience UK culture. The facilities available will depend on which family you are placed with. Arrangements can be self-catering or half board (this is where most meals are provided by the family).

3 STUDENT HOUSE

£70-£100 per week

You may prefer to find a shared house with other students, and there are many options in and around the city centre. You will have your own room but will share other facilities with the others in the house.

The college does not own or endorse any residential accommodation. The prices listed above are a rough guide price. When you are ready to explore your options in more detail please contact us for a list of local accommodation providers.

PLEASE NOTE:

The college does not accept any responsibility in relation to the actions of the accommodation providers who operate independently to the college.



PLACES TO VISIT



South & City College Birmingham is one of the largest and most successful general further education colleges in the West Midlands.

The college is based in the middle of the UK in the city of Birmingham, where there are excellent transport links available making it easy for you to visit other cities and towns around the rest of the country.

MANCHESTER

Home of Manchester United and Manchester City premier ship football clubs and the Trafford Centre for designer shopping.

By train: 1 hour 30 mins

BICESTER VILLAGE

Luxury outlet shopping village home to many designer labels and high street brands.

By train: 1 hour

LONDON

There are loads of public attractions including Buckingham Palace, London Eye, Big Ben as well as shopping.

By train: 1 hour 30 mins

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

Visit the birthplace of the playwright, William Shakespeare, with many attractions including museums and the Royal Shakespeare Company, where you can watch a theatre show.

By train: 50 mins

LIVERPOOL

Liverpool boasts the largest collection of museums and galleries outside of London, including The Beatles Story.

By train: 1 hour 35 mins

THE COTSWOLDS

Enjoy a cream tea and browse around the shops in one of the famous honey-colour limestone villages in a beautiful rural setting.

By train: 1 hour 25 mins

THE PEAK DISTRICT

Enjoy a walk or picnic in the picturesque and beautiful countryside setting of The Peak District and get a real sense for the British countryside.

By car: 1 hour 40 mins

(to Buxton)

Birmingham itself is a fun, vibrant and dynamic city, with lots to offer visitors from every walk of life. The city centre is a fusion of attractive squares, modern shopping arcades and centres, pubs, bars and restaurants, and fine museums, theatres and art galleries – truly a global city.

WHY BIRMINGHAM?



SHOP UNTIL YOU DROP!

Love shopping? Then Birmingham is the place for you with the Bullring and Grand Central shopping malls, home to over 160 shops. There is also the Mailbox for designer shopping and in the city centre there are a host of independent arcades and shops including a number of vintage and retro shops.

BIG SPORTS FAN?

Birmingham has a big sporting scene! Edgbaston Stadium is home to Warwickshire Cricket Club and the venue for many international cricket matches. Football fans can have their fill with Birmingham City, Aston Villa, West Bromwich Albion and Wolverhampton Wanderers. Tennis fans can catch the annual LTA women's tournament at The Priory Club – the birthplace of lawn tennis.

NEED A NIGHT OUT?

There are over 70,000 students in Birmingham and so there are plenty of bars and clubs, many of which host student nights. The city has a number of music venues such as the Genting Arena, the Barclaycard Arena and the Birmingham O2 Academy for big music concerts.

LOVE GREAT FOOD?

Yes, we do too. Birmingham has an eclectic mix of cultures and this is reflected in the restaurants and food on offer. Cuisines from all over the world are on offer right on your doorstep including the great British staple – fish and chips!



ATTRACTIONS

From Cadbury World to the Sea Life Centre, Stratford, the home of Shakespeare, the Black Country Living Museum to the annual Christmas markets – there are a lot of attractions to keep you busy during your time in Birmingham. London is only 1hr 30mins away by train.

ART AND CULTURE

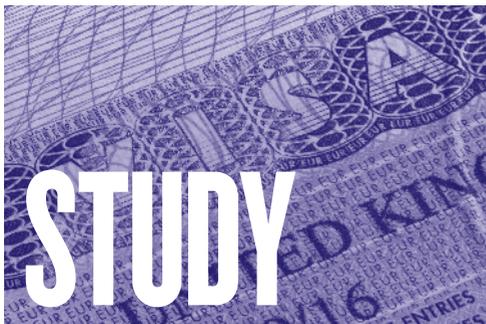
Birmingham has more than 500,000 works of art in one square mile and Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery has the world's largest Pre-Raphaelite collection, including some 2,000 art works. Once titled the city of a thousand trades during the industrial revolution, you can visit the Jewellery Quarter where some trades still remain. You can also get your fill of culture at the Ikon Gallery, Barber Institute of Fine Arts, Symphony Hall, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Birmingham Royal Ballet and Birmingham Opera Company.

NEED A BIT OF GREEN SPACE?

Feeling that you need a bit of green space? There are a number of outside areas and city parks in and close to Birmingham City Centre including Cannon Hill Park and Sutton Park, the largest urban park in Europe. Sarehole Mill is only a couple of miles out of the city and was the childhood haunt of J.R.R. Tolkien and is said to be the inspiration for The Hobbit and the Lord of the Rings.

ESCAPING THE CITY IS EASY

Need to escape the city? Birmingham is perfectly placed to get yourself around the country – the coast is only a 2 hour drive.



VISA

UK Visas and Immigration or UKVI (formerly known as UKBA) is a department of the Home Office responsible for visas and immigration. To study in the UK you will need to have the relevant visa.

You can study English Language for up to 11 months on a Student Visitor visa. It is important you understand the whole visa process before you apply. The information opposite will give you an idea of how the current process works for Student Visitor visas at the time of this guide being printed. For details regarding Student Route visas visit our website.

We will consider your application to study English on a Student Route visa if:

- you can demonstrate B1 English
- you have an offer for university/college study and require pre-sessional study to improve your IELTS score

VISIT VISA

You can now study up to 6 months of an English Language Course on a visit visa. For further information please contact the international team.

STEP 1

Check if you need a visa

You can check online at the Home Office website if you require a visa. To find out please visit: www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa

STEP 2

Understand the requirements of your visa type

For a Student Visitor visa you must prove that you:

- are 16 or over
- have been offered a place on a course in the UK at an accepted place of study
- have enough money to support yourself without working or help from public funds, or that relatives and friends can house and support you
- can pay for your return or onward journey

STEP 3

Gather together supporting documents

When you make your visa application you will need to supply the following:

- a current passport or travel document
- one passport sized colour photograph
- proof you can support yourself and pay for your course e.g. bank statements, scholarship evidence
- details of where you intend to stay and your travel plans

Students from certain countries are required to prove they have had tuberculosis testing.

STEP 4

Apply for your visa

- you must apply online
- you'll have to have your fingerprints and photograph taken at a visa application centre

To apply visit: www.visa4uk.fco.gov.uk

You will be asked to:

- register an account (you will need an email address)
- fill in the application form in English
- pay for the visa fee online (in most cases)
- print out your form
- book and attend an appointment at a visa application centre

EUROPEAN ROUTE



EU, EEA AND SWISS NATIONALS

EU (alongside EEA and Swiss) citizens who arrive before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020, and relevant family members, will be eligible for the EU Settlement Scheme. They have until 30 June 2021 to make an application under that scheme.

EU citizens who do not qualify under EU Settlement Scheme (or other routes protected by the Withdrawal Agreement) arriving in the UK from 1 January 2021 will need to apply and qualify for entry or stay on the same basis as non-EU citizens.

EU citizens will therefore need to get a visa for all activities other than short-term visits and all EU citizens coming to the UK for more than six months will be able to prove other rights and entitlements via online services.

Most EU citizens will not need to attend a Visa Application Centre (VAC) to enrol their biometrics and will instead provide facial images using a smartphone self-enrolment application form.

EU students will need to apply for the new Student Route if they arrive in the UK after 31 December 2020.

CLICK HERE to see a useful introductory guide on the new PBS Immigration System specifically tailored to EU students, published by the Home Office.



ARRIVING IN THE UK

Birmingham airport is only a 15 minute train journey from the city centre. Direct trains from London to Birmingham operate frequently and take around one hour 30 minutes so if you are arriving at London airports such as Gatwick, Heathrow or Stansted you can still travel to the college in a short space of time.

We can assist with:

- **Airport collections**
- **Transport to accommodation**
- **Welcome packs**

Please discuss requirements for groups with us.

STUDENT INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT

ARRIVING AT THE COLLEGE

Our dedicated international team will be on hand to give you a warm welcome when you first arrive at South & City College Birmingham.

The team will be on hand throughout at the international helpdesk at Digbeth Campus to offer assistance in finding the right support for any issues whether it's with the college or another organisation if needed.

Student inductions will include information about:

- opening a bank account
- registering you with a doctor, dentist or other health bodies
- finding out about social events
- police registration
- progression advice
- general welfare issues

Whether you would like to gain a recognised language qualification, improve your IELTS score for entry to a course, or are simply looking to improve your English for leisure, we have a course to suit all English Language needs.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL



General English Language
General English with Academic Skills
Pre-Sessional: English for Academic Purposes

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of English in the UK

GENERAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE

English levels: IELTS 3.0 to 4.0, CEFR A2 to B1
Hours per week: 21/25

SUMMARY

This course is for international students at elementary and pre-intermediate level (IELTS 3.0 to 4.0 or CEFR A2 to B1) who want to develop their English skills for progression to General English with Academic skills or vocational courses. There are 25 hours of classes per week.

DESCRIPTION

Your teachers will use a range of different teaching and learning methods to enable you to learn English and communicate in a variety of situations. To improve your speaking you will work on your conversational skills and on delivering short presentations. You will focus on the accurate use of grammar and pronunciation while broadening your vocabulary in practical real life situations.

This course aims to build up all key English language skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening:

- increase your confidence in the use of English
- support you in gaining a wider range of vocabulary
- enable you to achieve greater accuracy in grammar
- allow you to achieve greater fluency in speaking English and improve your pronunciation

On this programme you will study speaking and listening in a variety of different situations. You will develop your reading skills and improve your written communication.

ENTRY CRITERIA

You should be 16 years of age or over. Although placement is usually based on recognised UKVI IELTS scores, students will be given an assessment on arrival in the UK so that we can accurately record your starting point and map out your learning journey.

Visa requirements: short-term Student Visa (up to 11 months).

WHAT NEXT?

Students who complete this programme can progress onto an intermediate level course or onto vocational options across the college.



GENERAL ENGLISH WITH ACADEMIC SKILLS

English levels: IELTS 4.5 to 7.5, CEFR B1 to C1
Hours per week: 21/25

SUMMARY

This course is for international students at intermediate, upper intermediate or advanced level (IELTS 4.5 to 7.5 or CEFR B1, B2 and C1) who want to develop their English skills for progression to university or to access better career opportunities. There are 25 hours of classes per week.

DESCRIPTION

This course will improve your English Language skills and support you to develop academic skills and prepare you for further study. It will help you to improve skills such as:

- writing assignments
- taking part in discussions
- listening in a variety of situations and contexts
- note-taking in lectures
- reading academic texts
- exam techniques
- greater accuracy of grammar
- IT based learning
- presentation skills

We will provide you with:

- an initial assessment to identify your starting point
- an individual learning plan which will be personalised to your individual needs and future targets and focus on the main areas you need to improve

- regular assessments, tutorials and reviews to track your progress
- embassy student progress reports
- college Certificate following course completion and the option to take Cambridge qualifications.

FEES

Course fees are available on our website. Fees do not include accommodation. Cambridge English qualifications are optional and involve an accreditation fee.

ENTRY CRITERIA

You should be 16 years of age or over. Although placement is normally based on IELTS scores, students will be given an assessment on arrival in the UK so that we can accurately record your starting point and map out your learning journey.

Visa requirements: short-term Student Visa (up to 11 months)

WHAT NEXT?

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to access a range of higher education opportunities in the UK and abroad and improved employment opportunities.

GENERAL

INFORMATION

FOR ALL ENGLISH LANGUAGE COURSES:

Age: 16+

Course length:

Minimum of 6 weeks. Course length is dependent on visa.

Maximum class size: 20

It is unusual for the class size to reach the maximum before groups are split but it may occur on occasions.

Start dates: Any Monday

Location:

Digbeth Campus

PRE-SESSIONAL: ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES

English levels: IELTS 4.5 to 7.5, CEFR B1 to C1
Hours per week: 25

SUMMARY

This course is for international students who have a conditional offer for university study with one of our partner universities but do not currently meet the English language requirements. There are 25 hours of classes per week.

DESCRIPTION

The aim of the course is to develop academic language and skills needed for study in higher education establishments. We have a range of pre-sessional courses which allow progression within the range of IELTS 4.5 to IELTS 7.5 (CEFR: B1 to C1).

The course will help you to communicate more effectively in academic situations using all of the four language skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing. It will help you to develop your skills in areas such as:

- academic writing
- research and critical thinking
- presentations
- lecture note-taking and application of learning
- formal communication
- independent study
- interactive discourse and reflection.

We will provide you with:

- an initial assessment to identify your starting point
- an individual learning and study plan which

will be personalised to your individual needs and future targets and focus on the main areas you need to improve

- regular assessments, tutorials and reviews to track your progress
- embassy student progress reports

To successfully complete the pre-sessional course you will need to meet the entry requirements of our partner universities. This will involve completing a set of course assessments and sitting a contributory final assessment.

Teaching methods will include:

- IELTS style weekly tests
- lectures
- presentations
- group discussions and debates
- ongoing assessment progress reviews
- personalised support and guidance

ENTRY CRITERIA

You should be 16 years of age or over. You will need a recent IELTS certificate at B1 and above in all 4 components. Although placement is normally based on IELTS scores students will be given an assessment on arrival in the UK so that we can accurately record your starting point and map out your learning journey.

Visa requirements:

- Short-term Study Visa (11 months)
- Student Route: You should hold a conditional offer for one of our partner universities and a recent IELTS UKVI certificate (minimum B1 for visa).

WHAT NEXT?

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to access University Level courses at one of our partner institutions in the UK.





HOW TO APPLY

STEP 1

Your first enquiry

Before starting your application you should read the information about the course and the college so you make the right choice for your needs. Please contact the international office for further information.

STEP 2

Complete our Student Route application form

Fill in the English Language application form and send it to the international team along with copies of the following supporting documents:

- Certified copies of relevant academic qualification certificates, including recognised international English language qualifications you have taken.
- A clear copy of your passport cover and your personal details page with your picture visible and copies of any previous visas.

STEP 3

Process application

We will let you know we've received your application and then process it.

If you are suitable for the course we will send you an offer letter detailing the start and end dates and fees.

STEP 4

Accepting your offer

The offer letter includes details of how to pay for the course. Payment or proof of sponsorship will be required to accept your place. We will then send you a visa letter.

STEP 5

Visa application

You will now need to make your visa application.

The college will offer you support with the process or you can have your agent support you. You should read the information on the UK Visas and Immigration website before applying:
www.gov.uk/study-visit-visa

For more information on how to apply for Student Route please visit

www.sccb.ac.uk/international

and click the 'HOW DO I APPLY' button.





**DON'T JUST
THINK IT
DO IT**

STEP 6

Visa approval or visa refusal

If you have been successful, you must notify the college of the outcome as well as the details of your travel arrangements. Scan and send us the copy of the visa page if your visa has been granted.

If the visa is refused then you must send the visa refusal letter to us.

STEP 7

Arrival in the UK

You must report to the college's Digbeth campus upon arrival for induction and enrolment. We will need to see all of the original documentation you previously provided copies of and your passport and visa.



You should read the information on the UK Visas and Immigration website before applying:
WWW.GOV.UK/STUDY-VISIT-VISA

OUR CAMPUSES



BORDELEY GREEN CAMPUS & CONSTRUCTION CENTRE

📍 Bordeley Green, Birmingham B9 5NA



DIGBETH CAMPUS

📍 High Street Deritend, Digbeth, Birmingham B5 5SU



FUSION CENTRE

📍 334-339 Bradford Street, Digbeth, Birmingham B5 6ES



GOLDEN HILLOCK WOMEN'S CENTRE

📍 Golden Hillock Road, Small Heath, Birmingham B10 0DP





HALL GREEN CAMPUS

📍 Cole Bank Road, Hall Green, Birmingham B28 8ES



HANDSWORTH CAMPUS

📍 Soho Road, Handsworth, Birmingham B21 9DP



LONGBRIDGE CAMPUS (BOURNVILLE COLLEGE)

📍 Longbridge Lane, Longbridge, Birmingham B31 2AJ (Sat Nav B31 2TW)



LONGBRIDGE CONSTRUCTION & BUILDING SERVICES CENTRE

📍 4 Devon Way, Longbridge, Birmingham B31 2TS

GET IN TOUCH

If you have any questions about the college, our courses or the application process then please feel free to contact the international team or visit our website.

ONLINE:

www.sccb.ac.uk/international

CALL:

+44(0) 121 694 6235

EMAIL:

international@sccb.ac.uk

FOLLOW US and be part of the conversation:



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~~DO NOT~~ WRITE HISTORY

A close-up portrait of a young woman with blonde hair, looking slightly to the right. The image is partially obscured by the text 'DO NOT' and 'WRITE HISTORY'.

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DO MORE



**SOUTH & CITY COLLEGE
BIRMINGHAM**