WEST MIDLANDS
PHAGE HUNTERS

"Unleash the Power of Invisible Allies"

02/12/2026

10am - 2:30pm

Dr. Sammy Kay
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CEES - School of Science
ae1633@coventry.ac.uk



- Hands-on, University learning experience
- Take part in real research on bacteriophages
- Test your own water samples for phages
- Authentic laboratory experience
- Fully risk-assessed and supervised
- Fun, interactive, and suitable for all levels
- A chance to imagine your future in science

Contact Us:

024 7688 7688

coventry.ac.uk

Whitefriars St, Coventry CV1 5FB

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Workshop Overview

Agenda:

10:00 am–10:15 pm: Welcome & introduction, meet the team, orientation & fire Safety

10:15 am–10:45 pm: Mini Lecture *"Superbug Showdown: Viruses That Fight Back!"*

10:45 am–12:25 pm: Group Workshop: "AMR Avengers: Build Your Own Awareness Mission"

12:15pm –12:45 pm: Lunch Break (*Note: Lunches are **not** provided*)

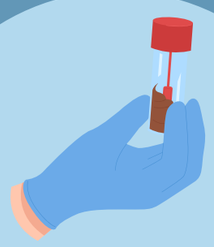
12:45 pm –2:10 pm: Hands on Laboratory Session

2:10pm – 2:30pm: Goodbye and Certificates





What You Need to Bring on the Day:



3 x rainwater samples from an outdoor environment *



Packed lunch for your midday break.



School uniform so you can proudly represent your school.

Do NOT bring tap water or bottled water, as they will not work for the experiment!

Do NOT bring any water associated with waste, drains or animals for safety reasons.

What You Will Learn On The Day:

1. What Superbugs are and why they are a global challenge
2. What a Bacteriophage is and how scientists find them
3. How phages can help fight antibiotic resistance
4. How to work safely in a real university laboratory
5. What studying science at university is really like



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Key Information

Students:

- This is a fun, hands-on science day, not a test!
- You don’t need any experience, we’ll show you everything.
- Everyone can take part, whatever your ability.
- You’ll try real experiments used by real scientists.
- Your ideas and creativity matter.
- Meet other enthusiastic students
- Ask questions, explore and have fun
- Experience what University is like
- Discover something new!



Teachers

- Fully supervised by Coventry University’s trained academic and technical staff. Teachers will be required to attend all sessions.
- Provides students with authentic exposure to university teaching and laboratory work.
- Designed to inspire confidence, curiosity, and interest in STEM pathways.
- All activities are risk-assessed and follow strict safety guidelines. All activities are considered (Category 1) of negligible risk
- Students engage in real research, contributing environmental samples to an ongoing project.
- A structured, well-supported day suitable for mixed-ability groups
- Helps students envision life after school and explore potential future careers



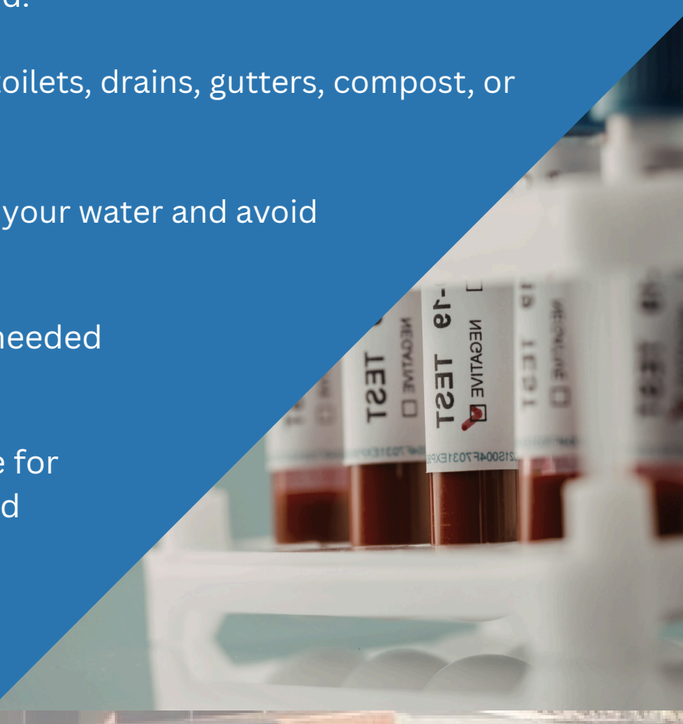
Parents

- All activities are fully risk-assessed and supervised by trained university staff.
- Students work with safe, school-appropriate laboratory methods and equipment.
- The session teaches about antimicrobial resistance and harmless environmental bacteriophages.
- No dangerous pathogens or hazardous materials are used.
- Students receive guidance and support throughout the day, no prior experience needed.
- The experience is designed to build confidence, curiosity, and an understanding of real science.
- Adjustment will always be made for any additional requirements or needs where possible.
- A safe, structured introduction to university life and STEM learning



*Sample Requirments

- Please bring a small sample of environmental water that you would normally encounter outdoors.
- Suitable examples include rainwater, puddle water, or water from paving stones or outdoor surfaces.
- Samples should be taken from clean looking areas and not from anything that appears dirty or contaminated.
- Please do not collect water from toilets, drains, gutters, compost, or waste areas.
- Use the provided tubes to collect your water and avoid touching the water directly.
- Only a small amount of water is needed (approximately 10 mL).
- Any samples that are not suitable for the activity simply cannot be used



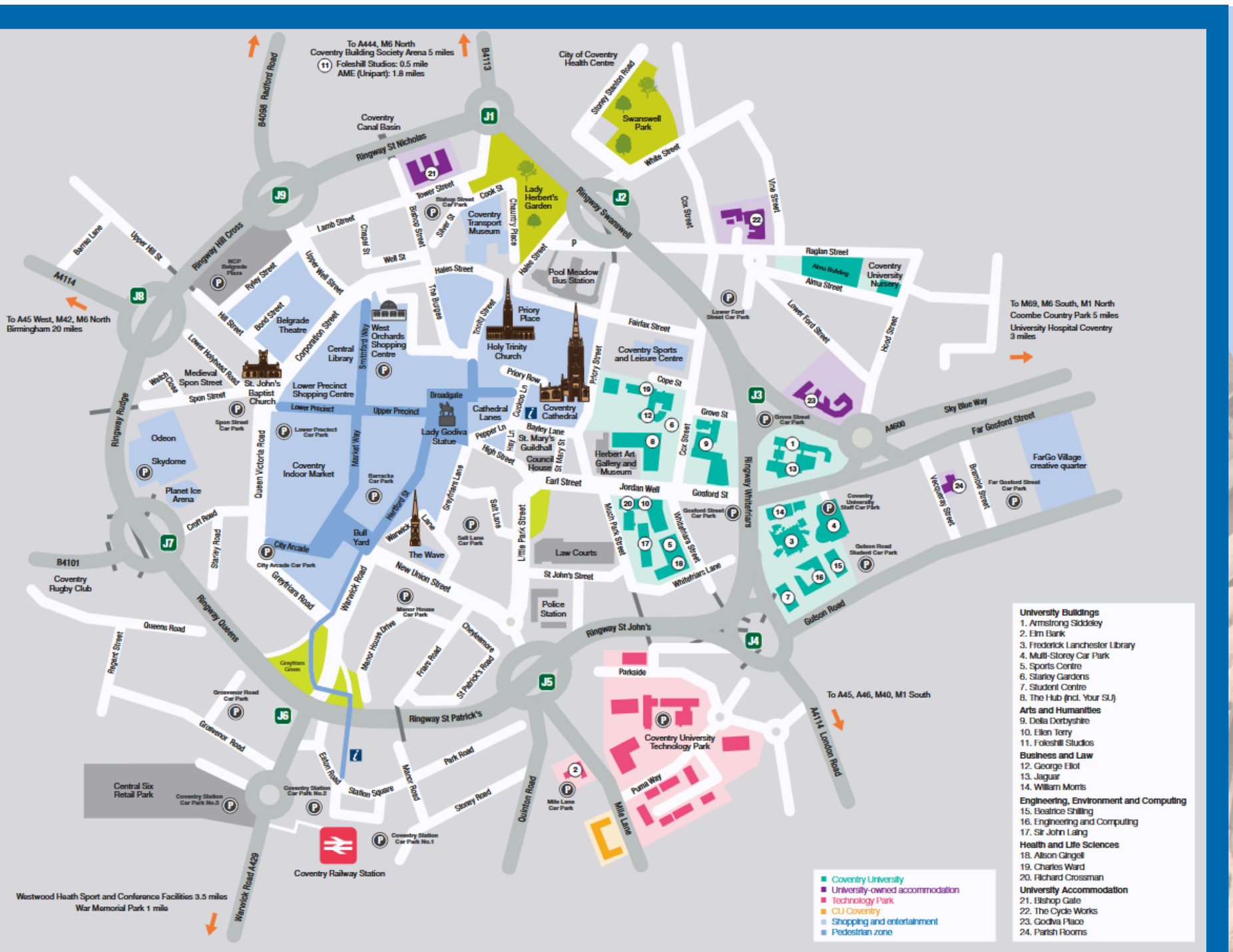
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Arrival Details





If your group requires parking, please contact us in advance so we can advise on availability.

There are several nearby Coventry City Council car parks within short walking distance, available for a small fee.

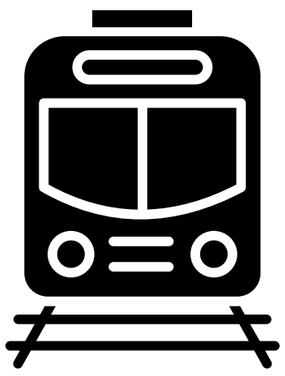


The workshop will take place at:

Allison Gingel Building
Whitefriars St,
Coventry
CV1 5FB



Coventry lies at the heart of a motorway network. Once you get to the city centre there are signposts to the University from all the relevant ring road junctions.



The rail station is towards the south of Coventry city centre (Station Square CV1 2GT), a 10-20 minute walk from most campus buildings.



If you are arriving in Coventry at the central Pool Meadow bus and coach station, it is a short walk up riory Street to the campus.

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