

## Programme Specification: Undergraduate

### For Academic Year 2026/27

#### 1. Course Summary

<b>Names of programme and award title(s)</b>	BEng (Hons) Mechatronic Engineering BEng (Hons) Mechatronic Engineering with International Year BEng (Hons) Mechatronic Engineering with Work Placement Year
<b>Award type</b>	Single Honours
<b>Mode of study</b>	Full-time
<b>Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award</b>	Level 6
<b>Normal length of the programme</b>	3 years; 4 years with either the International Year or Placement Year between years 2 and 3
<b>Maximum period of registration</b>	The normal length as specified above plus 3 years
<b>Location of study</b>	Keele Campus
<b>Accreditation (if applicable)</b>	See section 12
<b>Regulator</b>	Office for Students (OfS)
<b>Tuition Fees</b>	<p><b>UK students:</b></p> <p>Fee for 2026/27 is £9,790*</p> <p><b>International students:</b></p> <p>Fee for 2026/27 is £18,200**</p> <p>The fee for the international year abroad is calculated at 15% of the standard year fee</p> <p>The fee for the work placement year is calculated at 20% of the standard year fee</p>

**How this information might change:** Please read the important information at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>. This explains how and why we may need to make changes to the information provided in this document and to help you understand how we will communicate with you if this happens.

\* These fees are regulated by Government. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study in response to changes in government policy and/or changes to the law. If permitted by such change in policy or law, we may increase your fees by an inflationary amount or such other measure as required by government policy or the law. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

\*\* These fees are for new students. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study by an inflationary amount. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions for full details. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

#### 2. What is a Single Honours programme?

The Single Honours programme described in this document allows you to focus more or less exclusively on this subject. Thus it enables you to gain, and be able to demonstrate, a distinctive range of graduate attributes.

### 3. Overview of the Programme

Mechatronics engineering combines mechanical, electrical, electronic, and computer systems into intelligent, automated solutions that are transforming industries from advanced manufacturing and robotics to clean energy and autonomous systems. It is a discipline where engineering creativity and technical mastery merge to design systems that are efficient, responsive, and sustainable. Every project can improve performance, reduce environmental impact, and shape the technologies of tomorrow.

Mechatronics Engineering follows a systematic course structure utilising four interlinked strands that provide progressive development of the attributes of an engineering professional.

1. **Engineering Fundamentals** provide the scientific and technical principles needed to interpret and solve complex problems together with the foundational concepts of mechanics, material science, and energy transfer processes.
2. **Engineering Skills** develop hands-on competence through laboratory work, workshops, technical communication, and project management.
3. **Engineering Simulation and Mathematics** enable advanced analysis, modelling, and precise communication of engineering concepts.
4. **Professional Practice** focusses on your career as a professional mechatronic engineer, helping you to acquire the professional attributes, specialist knowledge and skills that will help you to compete post-graduation.

From the start of your degree, you will build a foundation in mechanics, materials, electrical circuits, digital electronics, programming, and simulation tools, alongside introductory automation and robotics. Specialist mechatronics study begins with statics and dynamics, logic systems, microcontrollers, and the integration of sensors and actuators, while developing early CAD and control skills. As you progress through your degree you will learn to deal with complex applications, developing expertise in system modelling, control theory, advanced manufacturing systems, and embedded programming. In your final year, you will integrate core knowledge to address global sustainability and clean energy transition challenges. You will gain insight into cutting-edge research in areas such as robotics and automation for renewable energy, sustainable manufacturing, and Industry 4.0-enabled systems, including advanced embedded control, system optimisation, and compliance with international standards. You will develop key skills in leadership, teamwork, communication and research through completion of two major projects, an individual research dissertation and a collaborative industry-led design project.

Professional practice is embedded across every Level of study, developing teamwork, ethics, communication, and personal growth. You will encounter a range of Professional Challenge Projects, based on an industry-led scenarios, helping you to apply and contextualise your new skills to real-world problems. You will be offered a range of added value experiences such as international year and work placement year.

As a successful graduate, you will be able to pursue professional careers such as Robotics Engineer (e.g. designing and programming autonomous systems for manufacturing, healthcare, or exploration), Automation Engineer (e.g. developing intelligent control systems for industrial processes), Control Systems Engineer (e.g. designing precision motion control for aerospace or automotive applications), Systems Integration Engineer (e.g. combining mechanical, electrical, and software components into fully functional products), and Research Scientist/Engineer (e.g. advancing Industry 4.0 technologies, AI-driven robotics, or sustainable automation solutions).

### 4. Aims of the programme

The broad aims of the programme are to enable you to:

- Gain knowledge and understanding of mechatronic engineering through both guided study and independent research.
- Develop and evidence a range of key employability and professional skills including critical thinking, communication, evidence-based problem solving, and data analysis.
- Undertake a range of individual and group research-led projects that are informed by industry and societal needs.
- Gain relevant experience and insight into a range of different career pathways associated with mechatronic engineering.

### 5. What you will learn

The intended learning outcomes of the programme (what students should know, understand and be able to do at the end of the programme), can be described under the following headings:

- Subject knowledge and understanding
- Subject specific skills
- Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

## Subject knowledge and understanding

Successful students will be able to:

- Mechatronic engineering, its practical applications, and underpinning scientific and mathematical principles, including relevant regulator frameworks and standards.
- Mathematical and computational models and apply these to design, analyse, and solve mechatronic engineering problems, selecting suitable methods and recognising uncertainty and limitations in analysis.
- How to evaluate materials and components for mechatronic engineering applications, considering properties, performance, and context-specific requirements.
- How to apply principles and methods of mechatronic engineering design within general and specialist contexts, integrating ethical, social, sustainability, systems thinking and quality system considerations.
- How to apply specialist mechatronic engineering principles including mechanical systems, electronics, control theory, and embedded programming to analyse, design, and evaluate integrated electromechanical systems.
- Robotics, automation, sensors/actuators, and machine vision, including AI-enhanced control and human-machine interaction.

## Subject specific skills

Successful students will be able to:

- Identify and analyse complex mechatronic engineering problems, developing creative and systematic solutions that are safe, secure, sustainable, and compliant with statutory requirements.
- Manage the design process from conception to delivery, producing products, services, or systems that meet specifications, using sketches, diagrams, and appropriate documentation.
- Use practical tools, laboratory instrumentation, and IT resources effectively for design, analysis, prototyping, and communication, recognising limitations and uncertainties.
- Work safely and ethically in relevant mechatronic engineering environments, applying quality system principles, legal requirements, and professional practices.
- Design, model, and test mechatronic and robotic systems using CAD, simulation software, embedded platforms, and rapid prototyping, ensuring compliance with performance, safety, and industry standards.
- Integrate sensors, actuators, and control algorithms into functional prototypes, applying real-time programming, diagnostics, and optimisation for efficiency and reliability.

## Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

Successful students will be able to:

- Source, evaluate, and synthesise information from diverse sources for application in mechatronic engineering activities.
- Apply reasoning and inclusive practices to make evidence-based, balanced decisions in familiar and unfamiliar contexts.
- Communicate effectively to a range of audiences using appropriate media, including visual, verbal, and written formats.
- Manage personal and professional development through reflective practice, independent learning, and goal setting.

## Keele Graduate attributes

The Keele Graduate Attributes are the qualities (skills, values and mindsets) which you will have the opportunity to develop during your time at Keele through both the formal curriculum and also through co- and extra-curricular activities (e.g., work experience, and engagement with the wider University community such as acting as ambassadors, volunteering, peer mentoring, student representation, membership and leadership of clubs and societies). Our Graduate Attributes consist of four themes: **academic expertise, professional skills, personal effectiveness, and social, environmental and ethical responsibility**. You will have opportunities to engage actively with the range of attributes throughout your time at Keele: through your academic studies, through self-assessing your own strengths, weaknesses, and development needs, and by setting personal development goals. You will have opportunities to discuss your progress in developing graduate attributes with, for example, Academic Mentors, to prepare for your future career and lives beyond Keele.

## 6. How is the programme taught?

Diversity, flexibility, and inclusivity are at the heart of our education strategy. Learning and teaching methods used on the programme vary according to the subject matter and level of the module. They include the following:

**Laboratory practicals:** Take place in one of our state-of-the-art science labs. These give you first-hand experience in a range of scientific techniques and have been designed to ensure you develop both independent and team-based skills.

**Digital learning resources:** Digital learning resources are designed to support in person teaching, ensuring that all core content is recorded. Our aim is to offer a more inclusive learning environment that gives you more flexibility to decide how, when, and where to study.

**Live, campus-based interactive lectures:** Delivered by experts in the field, including external guest speakers. Interactive lectures focus on active learning and aim to provide opportunities for you to discuss key content and consolidate your learning.

**Live, campus-based tutorials and workshops:** Often designed to support those areas that we know can be difficult, such as statistics. Tutorials and workshops are often delivered in small groups designed to promote social learning, develop a sense of community, and to give you an opportunity to apply your knowledge and deepen your understanding of core issues through discussion with other students and your tutors.

**Live, online drop-in sessions:** Provide opportunities for you to raise questions in a safe and flexible environment.

Apart from these formal activities, we operate an open-door policy so you can ask for a meeting with any of our tutors across the year to discuss particular areas of difficulty or concern. You will also have access to specialist advice and support through our Academic Mentors, Disability Inclusion Tutors, Student Experience and Support Officers, and a range of central services including Counselling and Mental Health, Careers and Employability, and Student Finance.

## 7. Teaching Staff

University life is not just about the content of your degree. It is also an opportunity to network and to meet people working in fields that excite you. Our staff include world-leading researchers, practitioners, and experts in learning and teaching that choose to specialise in pedagogic research. This rich diversity of staff expertise ensures that our programmes remain current and delivered to the very highest educational standards. You can find out more about our staff using the following link: (<https://www.keele.ac.uk/scps/>)

The University will attempt to minimise changes to our core teaching teams, however, delivery of the programme depends on having a sufficient number of staff with the relevant expertise to ensure that the programme is taught to the appropriate academic standard.

Staff turnover, for example where key members of staff leave, fall ill or go on research leave, may result in changes to the programme's content. The University will endeavour to ensure that any impact on students is limited if such changes occur.

## 8. What is the structure of the Programme?

The academic year runs from September to June and is divided into two semesters. Each semester will generally have 12 weeks of teaching, and an additional 3 weeks of final assessments. Details of each semester can be found using the following link: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/students/academiclife/keydates/>.

Our programme is organised into modules. Each module is usually a self-contained unit of study, and each is usually assessed separately with the award of credits on the basis of 1 credit = 10 hours of student effort. An outline of the structure of the programme is provided in the tables below.

For further information on the content of modules currently offered, please visit: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/modulecatalogue/>

A summary of the credit requirements per year is as follows:

Year	Compulsory	Optional	
		Min	Max
Level 4	120	0	0
Level 5	120	0	0
Level 6	120	0	0

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## Module Lists

### **Level 4**

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Fundamental Concepts in Engineering Science: Static Systems I	EGN-10001	30	Semester 1
Fundamental Mathematics for Engineers	EGN-10005	15	Semester 1
Professional Engineering Practice 1 in Mechatronic Engineering	EGN-10017	30	Semester 1-2
Fundamental Concepts in Engineering Science: Dynamic Systems I	EGN-10003	30	Semester 2
Coding and Computational Design for Engineers	EGN-10007	15	Semester 2

### **Level 5**

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Extended Concepts in Engineering Science: Static Systems II	EGN-20001	30	Semester 1
Further Mathematics for Engineers	EGN-20005	15	Semester 1-2
Extended Professional Practice in Mechatronics Engineering	EGN-20017	30	Semester 1-2
Extended Concepts in Engineering Science: Dynamic Systems II	EGN-20003	30	Semester 2
Systems Engineering and Modelling	EGN-20007	15	Semester 2

### **Level 6**

<b>Compulsory modules</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Period</b>
Devising Sustainable Engineering Processes and Products	EGN-30001	30	Semester 1
Individual Research Project	EGN-30003	30	Semester 1-2
Integrated Design Project	EGN-30005	15	Semester 1-2
Professional Practice 3 in Mechatronic Engineering	EGN-30023	30	Semester 1-2
Robotics and Automation for Clean Energy Transition	EGN-30013	15	Semester 2

## **Level 6 Module Rules**

Due to professional body requirements, EGN-30003 and EGN-30005 cannot be condoned. Students unable to reach the 40% pass threshold for this module may be able to repeat the year either in full or on a modular basis.

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## **Learning Outcomes**

The table below sets out what students learn in the programme and the modules in which that learning takes place. Details of how learning outcomes are assessed through these modules can be found in module specifications.

<b>Subject Knowledge and Understanding</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
<p>Their mechatronic engineering discipline, its practical applications, and underpinning scientific and mathematical principles, including relevant legal frameworks and standards.</p>	<p>All modules</p>
<p>Mathematical and computational models and apply that to design, analyse, and solve mechatronic engineering problems, selecting suitable methods and recognising uncertainty and limitations in analysis.</p>	<p>Fundamental Mathematics for Engineers - EGN-10005 Coding and Computational Design for Engineers - EGN-10007 Further Mathematics for Engineers - EGN-20005 Systems Engineering and Modelling - EGN-20007</p>
<p>How to evaluate materials and components for mechatronic engineering applications, considering properties, performance, and context-specific requirements.</p>	<p>Fundamental Concepts in Engineering Science: Static Systems I - EGN-10001 Fundamental Mathematics for Engineers - EGN-10005 Extended Concepts in Engineering Science: Static Systems II - EGN-20001 Extended Concepts in Engineering Science: Dynamic Systems II - EGN-20003 Further Mathematics for Engineers - EGN-20005 Devising Sustainable Engineering Processes and Products - EGN-30001</p>
<p>How to apply principles and methods of mechatronic engineering design within general and specialist contexts, integrating ethical, social, sustainability, systems thinking and quality system considerations.</p>	<p>Professional Engineering Practice 1 in Mechatronic Engineering - EGN-10017 Extended Professional Practice in Mechatronics Engineering - EGN-20017 Individual Research Project - EGN-30003 Integrated Design Project - EGN-30005 Professional Practice 3 in Mechatronic Engineering - EGN-30023</p>
<p>How to apply specialist mechatronic engineering principles including mechanical systems, electronics, control theory, and embedded programming to analyse, design, and evaluate integrated electromechanical systems.</p>	<p>Fundamental Concepts in Engineering Science: Static Systems I - EGN-10001 Fundamental Concepts in Engineering Science: Dynamic Systems I - EGN-10003 Fundamental Mathematics for Engineers - EGN-10005 Extended Concepts in Engineering Science: Static Systems II - EGN-20001 Extended Concepts in Engineering Science: Dynamic Systems II - EGN-20003 Further Mathematics for Engineers - EGN-20005 Systems Engineering and Modelling - EGN-20007 Devising Sustainable Engineering Processes and Products - EGN-30001 Robotics and Automation for Clean Energy Transition - EGN-30013</p>
<p>Robotics, automation, sensors/actuators, and machine vision, including AI-enhanced control and human-machine interaction.</p>	<p>Professional Engineering Practice 1 in Mechatronic Engineering - EGN-10017 Systems Engineering and Modelling - EGN-20007 Devising Sustainable Engineering Processes and Products - EGN-30001</p>

<b>Subject Specific Skills</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Identify and analyse complex mechatronic engineering problems, developing creative and systematic solutions that are safe, secure, sustainable, and compliant with statutory requirements.	Fundamental Concepts in Engineering Science: Static Systems I - EGN-10001 Fundamental Mathematics for Engineers - EGN-10005
Manage the design process from conception to delivery, producing products, services, or systems that meet specifications, using sketches, diagrams, and appropriate documentation.	Coding and Computational Design for Engineers - EGN-10007 Professional Engineering Practice 1 in Mechatronic Engineering - EGN-10017 Extended Professional Practice in Mechatronics Engineering - EGN-20017 Professional Practice 3 in Mechatronic Engineering - EGN-30023
Use practical tools, laboratory instrumentation, and IT resources effectively for design, analysis, prototyping, and communication, recognising limitations and uncertainties.	All modules
Work safely and ethically in relevant mechatronic engineering environments, applying quality system principles, legal requirements, and professional practices	All modules
Design, model, and test mechatronic and robotic systems using CAD, simulation software, embedded platforms, and rapid prototyping, ensuring compliance with performance, safety, and industry standards.	Professional Engineering Practice 1 in Mechatronic Engineering - EGN-10017 Extended Professional Practice in Mechatronics Engineering - EGN-20017 Individual Research Project - EGN-30003 Integrated Design Project - EGN-30005 Professional Practice 3 in Mechatronic Engineering - EGN-30023
Integrate sensors, actuators, and control algorithms into functional prototypes, applying real-time programming, diagnostics, and optimisation for efficiency and reliability.	Coding and Computational Design for Engineers - EGN-10007 Professional Engineering Practice 1 in Mechatronic Engineering - EGN-10017 Systems Engineering and Modelling - EGN-20007 Extended Professional Practice in Mechatronics Engineering - EGN-20017 Individual Research Project - EGN-30003 Integrated Design Project - EGN-30005 Professional Practice 3 in Mechatronic Engineering - EGN-30023

<b>Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Source, evaluate, and synthesise information from diverse sources for application in mechatronic engineering activities.	All modules
Apply reasoning and inclusive practices to make evidence-based, balanced decisions in familiar and unfamiliar contexts.	Coding and Computational Design for Engineers - EGN-10007 Professional Engineering Practice 1 in Mechatronic Engineering - EGN-10017 Systems Engineering and Modelling - EGN-20007 Extended Professional Practice in Mechatronics Engineering - EGN-20017 Individual Research Project - EGN-30003 Integrated Design Project - EGN-30005 Professional Practice 3 in Mechatronic Engineering - EGN-30023
Communicate effectively to a range of audiences using appropriate media, including visual, verbal, and written formats.	All modules
Manage personal and professional development through reflective practice, independent learning, and goal setting.	Coding and Computational Design for Engineers - EGN-10007 Professional Engineering Practice 1 in Mechatronic Engineering - EGN-10017 Systems Engineering and Modelling - EGN-20007 Extended Professional Practice in Mechatronics Engineering - EGN-20017 Individual Research Project - EGN-30003 Integrated Design Project - EGN-30005 Professional Practice 3 in Mechatronic Engineering - EGN-30023

## 9. Final and intermediate awards

Credits required for each level of academic award are as follows:

<b>BEng (Hons) Mechatronic Engineering</b>	360 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at levels 4, 5 and 6 You must accumulate at least 270 credits in your main subject (out of 360 credits overall), with at least 90 credits in each of the three years of study, to graduate with a named single honours degree in this subject.
<b>Diploma in Higher Education</b>	240 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher and at least 120 credits at level 5 or higher
<b>Certificate in Higher Education</b>	120 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher

Ordinarily, you will graduate with the degree title *BEng (Hons) Mechatronic Engineering*. However, alternative titles are awarded in the following situations:

**International Year option:** *Mechatronic Engineering* students who successfully complete an international year in addition to the above have the following suffix added to their degree title: *with International Year*. Students who do not complete, or fail the international year, will be transferred to the three-year version of the programme.

**Work Placement Year option:** *Mechatronic Engineering* students who undertake an industrial placement and successfully complete NAT-30010 *Professional Placement Year* have the following suffix added to their degree title: *with Work Placement Year*. Students who do not complete, or fail the work placement year, will be transferred to the three-year version of the programme.

## 10. How is the Programme Assessed?

The wide variety of assessment methods used on this programme at Keele reflects the broad range of knowledge and skills that are developed as you progress through the degree programme. Teaching staff pay particular attention to specifying clear assessment criteria and providing timely, regular and constructive feedback that helps to clarify things you did not understand and helps you to improve your performance.

Our assessment strategy will help you to develop and evidence your ability to:

**Provide evidence-based solutions to current scientific problems.** This is assessed through a range of reports, portfolios and literature reviews.

**Present scientific findings.** These are lab reports or experimental projects that test your ability to pose scientific hypotheses, design experiments, understand methodologies, present findings, analyse data and situate your work in the current literature. Other assessments will also develop your skills in accessing, manipulating and presenting the outcomes of computational investigations.

**Communicate effectively with a range of audiences.** These can include scientific posters, public information documents, or oral presentations, as well as more standard laboratory reports, problem sheets and literature reviews.

**Work professionally.** Your third year, independent research project will give you an opportunity to demonstrate a range of professional skills such as leadership, innovation, time keeping, communication and the ability to work safely and ethically.

**Work effectively in a team.** Most often this is assessed through group presentations but can also include a variety of team-based projects.

**Solve problems in a time-limited fashion.** Often in the work environment we are asked to solve problems in a relatively short amount of time. Invigilated examinations will help you to evidence these skills.

Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess your achievement of learning outcomes. You will also be assessed formatively to enable you to monitor your own progress and to assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Feedback, including guidance on how you can improve the quality of your work, is also provided on all summative assessments within three working weeks of submission, unless there are compelling circumstances that make this impossible, and more informally in the course of tutorial and seminar discussions.

## 11. Contact Time and Expected Workload

This contact time measure is intended to provide you with an indication of the type of activity you are likely to undertake during this programme. The data is compiled based on module choices and learning patterns of students on similar programmes in previous years. Every effort is made to ensure this data is a realistic representation of what you are likely to experience, but changes to programmes, teaching methods and assessment methods mean this data is representative and not specific.

The figures below are an example of activities that a student may expect on your chosen course by year stage of study. Contact time includes scheduled activities such as: lecture, seminar, tutorial, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and labs, supervised time in labs/workshop, fieldwork and external visits. The figures are based on 1,200 hours of student effort each year for full-time students.

### Activity

	Scheduled learning and teaching activities	Guided independent Study	Placements
<b>Year 1 (Level 4)</b>	24.8%	75.3%	0%
<b>Year 2 (Level 5)</b>	28.2%	71.8%	0%
<b>Year 3 (Level 6)</b>	24.3%	75.7%	0%

## 12. Accreditation

This programme is seeking accreditation with the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET).

## 13. University Regulations

The University Regulations form the framework for learning, teaching and assessment and other aspects of the student experience. Further information about the University Regulations can be found at:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>

If this programme has any exemptions, variations or additions to the University Regulations these will be detailed in an Annex at the end of this document titled 'Programme-specific regulations'.

## 14. What are the typical admission requirements for the Programme?

See the relevant course page on the website for the admission requirements relevant to this programme:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/>

### English for Academic Purposes

Please note: All new international students entering the university will provide a sample of Academic English during their registration. Using this sample, the Language Centre may allocate you to an English language module which will become compulsory. This will replace any GCP modules. *NB:* students can take an EAP module only with the approval of the English Language Programme Director and are not able to take any other Language modules in the same academic year.

English Language Modules at Level 4:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2)
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

English Language Modules at Level 5:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2)
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

English Language Modules at Level 6:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2); ENL-90005 Advanced Business English Communication
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

**Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)** is considered on a case-by-case basis and those interested should contact the Programme Director. The University's guidelines on this can be found here:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/programmesandmodules/recognitionofpriorlearning/>

## 15. How are students supported on the programme?

We operate an open-door policy. This means that you can contact any of our staff via email to request a meeting or discuss any problem that you may be experiencing. You can also contact any of the following people for additional advice or support:

- Programme Director or Director of Education for programme-, discipline- or School-related issues
- Module Lead for module-related issues
- Demonstrators for help during labs
- Academic Mentors for academic help and guidance
- Student Experience and Support Officers for more personal or pastoral help
- Early Resolution Officer to help advocate for you, for example, if you would like to raise a complaint
- Student Voice are a group of students from your programme that can advocate for you to the school

Student Services also offer a comprehensive range of specialist services that help you at any time from enrolment to graduation. The following link will provide more information:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/students/student-services/>

## 16. Learning Resources

Workshops and tutorials are delivered in modern teaching rooms across the University, including up-to-date PC suites for data analysis and computational workshops. Practical sessions are held in dedicated teaching laboratories which provide modern and well-equipped facilities. Learning resources available to you on the programme include:

- An extensive collection of books and journals held in the University Library on campus
- Access to a comprehensive range of ebooks, journals and published papers all available online
- The Keele Learning Environment (KLE) which provides easy access to a wide range of learning resources including lecture materials, detailed assessment briefs, past examination papers, online quizzes, videos or screen casts, and other guidance/supporting resources.

## 17. Other Learning Opportunities

### Study Abroad (International Year)

A summary of the International Year, which is a potential option for students after completion of year 2 (Level 5), is provided in Annex A.

### Work Placement Year

A summary of the international year, which is a potential option for students after completion of Year 1 (Level 4) or semester 1 of Year 2 (Level 5), is provided in Annex B.

## 18. Additional Costs

If you elect to take a placement between levels 5 and 6 then you will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from your placement provider, and if necessary, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the placement provider additional costs may include parking permits, travel and transport, suitable clothing, DBS checks, and compulsory health checks.

A small stipend may be available from the placement provider for work placements, but this will need to be explored on a placement-by-placement basis as some organisations, such as charities, may not have any extra money available. Students should budget with the assumption that their placement will be unpaid.

International students who require a Tier 4 visa should check with the Immigration Compliance team prior to commencing any type of paid placement to ensure that they are not contravening their visa requirements.

These costs have been forecast by the University as accurately as possible but may be subject to change as a result of factors outside of our control (for example, increase in costs for external services). Forecast costs are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they remain representative. Where additional costs are in direct control of the University we will ensure increases do not exceed 5%.

As to be expected there will be additional costs for inter-library loans and potential overdue library fines, print and graduation, and for any replacement laboratory coats, safety glasses and lab books beyond what is initially provided to you.

## 19. Quality management and enhancement

The quality and standards of learning in this programme are subject to a continuous process of monitoring, review and enhancement.

- The School Education Committee is responsible for reviewing and monitoring quality management and enhancement procedures and activities across the School.
- Individual modules and the programme as a whole are reviewed and enhanced every year in the annual programme review which takes place at the end of the academic year.
- The programmes are run in accordance with the University's Quality Assurance procedures and are subject to periodic reviews under the Revalidation process.

Student evaluation of, and feedback on, the quality of learning on every module takes place every year using a variety of different methods:

- The results of student evaluations of all modules are reported to module leaders and reviewed by the Programme Committee as part of annual programme review.
- Findings related to the programme from the annual National Student Survey (NSS), and from regular surveys of the student experience conducted by the University, are subjected to careful analysis and a planned response at programme and School level.
- Feedback received from representatives of students in all three years of the programme is considered and acted on at regular meetings of the Student Staff Voice Committee.

The University appoints senior members of academic staff from other universities to act as external examiners on all programmes. They are responsible for:

- Approving examination questions
- Confirming all marks which contribute to a student's degree
- Reviewing and giving advice on the structure and content of the programme and assessment procedures

Information about current external examiner(s) can be found here:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/ga/externalexaminers/currentexternalexaminers/>

## 20. The principles of programme design

The programme described in this document has been drawn up with reference to, and in accordance with the guidance set out in, the following documents:

- a. UK Quality Code for Higher Education, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education: <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code>
- b. [QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Engineering](#)
- c. [UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence and Commitment \(UK-SPEC\)](#)
- d. [Accreditation of Higher Education Programmes \(AHEP4\)](#)
- e. [IET Academic Accreditation Visit and International Accreditation Visit ADAMS Submission Guidance](#)
- f. Keele University Regulations and Guidance for Students and Staff: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations>

## 21. Annex - International Year

### Mechatronic Engineering with International Year

<b>International Year Programme</b>
<p>Students registered for this Single Honours programme may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their period of study at Level 5 to the International Year option. Students accepted onto this option will have an extra year of study (the International Year) at an international partner institution after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele.</p> <p>Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the International Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfy the examiners in respect of the International Year will normally revert to the standard programme and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript.</p> <p>Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for the International Year option.</p>
<b>International Year Programme Aims</b>

In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the international year programme of study aims to provide students with:

1. Personal development as a student and a researcher with an appreciation of the international dimension of their subject
2. Experience of a different culture, academically, professionally and socially

### **Entry Requirements for the International Year**

Students may apply to the 4-year programme during Level 5. Admission to the International Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff.

The criteria to be applied are:

- Academic Performance (an average of 55% across all modules in Semester 1 at Level 5 is normally required. Places on the International Year are then conditional on achieving an average mark of 55% across all Level 5 modules. Students with up to 15 credits of re-assessment who meet the 55% requirement may progress to the International Year. Where no Semester 1 marks have been awarded performance in 1st year marks and ongoing 2nd year assessments are taken into account)
- General Aptitude (to be demonstrated by application for study abroad, interview during the 2nd semester of year 2 (Level 5), and by recommendation of the student's Academic Mentor, 1st and 2nd year tutors and programme director)

Students may not register for both an International Year and a Placement Year.

### **Student Support**

Students will be supported whilst on the International Year via the following methods:

- Phone or Skype conversations with Study Abroad tutor, in line with recommended Academic Mentoring meeting points.
- Support from the University's Global Education Team

### **Learning Outcomes**

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete a Keele undergraduate programme with International Year will be able to:

1. Describe, discuss and reflect upon the cultural and international differences and similarities of different learning environments
2. Discuss the benefits and challenges of global citizenship and internationalisation
3. Explain how their perspective on their academic discipline has been influenced by locating it within an international setting.
4. Demonstrate the use of critical thinking skills, augmented by creativity and curiosity, in discussing the application of their International Year studies to Mechatronic Engineering.

These learning outcomes will all be assessed by the submission of a satisfactory individual learning agreement, the successful completion of assessments at the partner institution and the submission of the reflective portfolio element of the international year module.

### **Regulations**

Students registered for the International Year are subject to the programme-specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the International Year, the following regulations will apply:

Students undertaking the International Year must complete 120 credits, which must comprise *at least 40%* in the student's discipline area.

This may impact on your choice of modules to study, for example you will have to choose certain modules to ensure you have the discipline specific credits required.

Students are barred from studying any module with significant overlap to the Level 6 modules they will study on their return. Significant overlap with Level 5 modules previously studied should also be avoided.

### **Additional costs for the International Year**

Tuition fees for students on the International Year will be charged at 15% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The International Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation, to find out more about your personal eligibility see: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

Students will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their destination university, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the destination they are studying at additional costs may include visas, study permits, residence permits, and compulsory health checks. Students should expect the total costs of studying abroad be greater than if they study in the UK, information is made available from the Global Education Team throughout the process, as costs will vary depending on destination.

Students who meet external eligibility criteria may be eligible for grants as part of this programme. Students studying outside of this programme may be eligible income dependent bursaries at Keele.

Students travel on a comprehensive Keele University insurance plan, for which there are currently no additional charges. Some Governments and/or universities require additional compulsory health coverage plans; costs for this will be advised during the application process.

## **22. Annex - Work Placement Year**

### **Mechatronic Engineering with Work Placement Year**

#### **Work Placement Year summary**

Students registered for this programme may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their studies to the 'with Work Placement Year' option (NB: for Combined Honours students the rules relating to the work placement year in the subject where the placement is organised are to be followed). Students accepted onto this programme will have an extra year of study (the Work Placement Year) with a relevant placement provider after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele.

Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the Work Placement Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfactorily complete the Work Placement Year will normally revert to the 3-year programme and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript.

Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for the Work Placement Year option.

#### **Work Placement Year Programme Aims**

In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the Work Placement Year aims to provide students with:

1. Insight and hands-on experience of the workplace within industrial, academic, or public contexts either in the UK or abroad.

#### **Entry Requirements for the Work Placement Year**

Admission to the Work Placement Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff. Students have the opportunity to apply directly for the 4-year 'with work placement year' degree programme, or to transfer onto the 4-year programme at the end of Year-1 and in Year-2 at the end of Semester 1. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking the year-long work placement. Students who fail to pass the work placement year, and those who fail to meet the minimum requirements of the work placement year module (minimum 30 weeks full time (1,050 hours), or equivalent, work placement), will be automatically transferred onto the 3-year degree programme.

The criteria to be applied are:

- A good University attendance record and be in 'good academic standing'.
- Academic Performance (an average of 50% across all modules in Semester 1 at Level 5 is normally required. Places on the Work Placement Year are then conditional on achieving an average mark of 50% across all Level 5 modules. Students with up to 15 credits of re-assessment who meet the 50% requirement may progress to the Work Placement Year. Where no Semester 1 marks have been awarded performance in 1st year marks and ongoing 2nd year assessments are taken into account)
- Students undertaking work placements will be expected to complete a Health and Safety checklist prior to commencing their work experience and will be required to satisfy the Health and Safety regulations of the company or organisation at which they are based.
- (*International students only*) Due to visa requirements, it is not possible for international students who require a Tier 4 Visa to apply for direct entry onto the 4-year with Work Placement Year degree programme. Students wishing to transfer onto this programme should discuss this with student support, the academic tutor for the work placement year, and the Programme Lead. Students should be aware that there are visa implications for this transfer, and it is the student's responsibility to complete any and all necessary processes to be eligible for this programme. There may be additional costs, including applying for a new Visa from outside of the UK for international students associated with a transfer to the work placement programme.

Students may not register for both an International Year and a Work Placement Year.

### **Student Support**

Students will be supported whilst on the Work Placement Year via the following methods:

- Regular contact between the student and a named member of staff who will be assigned to the student as their University supervisor. The University supervisor will be in regular contact with the student throughout the year, and be on hand to provide advice (pastoral or academic) and liaise with the Placement supervisor on the student's behalf if required.
- Two formal contacts with the student during the placement year: the University supervisor will visit the student in their placement organization at around 5 weeks after the placement has commenced, and then visit again (or conduct a telephone/video call tutorial) at around 15 weeks into the placement.
- Weekly supervision sessions will take place with the placement supervisor (or his/her nominee) throughout the duration of the placement.

### **Learning Outcomes**

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete the 'with Work Placement Year' option will be able to:

1. Identify areas for skills development, in relation to a specific career or sector.
2. Demonstrate skills and attribute development through engagement with a placement.
3. Reflect on the broader personal and professional development throughout the placement experience.
4. Devise an action plan for future careers development.

These learning outcomes will be assessed through the non-credit bearing Work Placement Year module Professional Placement Year (NAT-30010).

### **Regulations**

Students registered for the 'with Work Placement Year' option are subject to programme-specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the Work Placement Year, the following regulations will apply:

- Students undertaking the Work Placement Year must successfully complete the zero-credit rated Professional Placement Year module (NAT-30010)
- In order to ensure a high quality placement experience, each placement agency will sign up to a placement contract (analogous to a service level agreement).
- Once a student has been accepted by a placement organisation, the student will make a pre-placement visit and a member of staff identified within the placement contract will be assigned as the placement supervisor. The placement supervisor will be responsible for ensuring that the placement experience meets the agreed contract agreed with the University.
- The placement student will also sign up an agreement outlining his/her responsibilities in relation to the requirements of each organisation.

Students will be expected to behave professionally in terms of:

(i) conforming to the work practices of the organisation; and

(ii) remembering that they are representatives of the University and their actions will reflect on the School and have an impact on that organisation's willingness (or otherwise) to remain engaged with the placement.

### **Additional costs for the Work Placement Year**

Tuition fees for students on the Work Placement Year will be charged at 20% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The Work Placement Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation; to find out more about your personal eligibility see: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

Students will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their placement provider, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the placement provider additional costs may include parking permits, travel and transport, suitable clothing, DBS checks, and compulsory health checks.

A small stipend may be available to students from the placement provider during the placement but this will need to be explored on a placement-by-placement basis as some organisations, such as charities, may not have any extra money available. Students should budget with the assumption that their placement will be unpaid.

Eligibility for student finance will depend on the type of placement and whether it is paid or not. If it is paid, this is likely to affect student finance eligibility, however if it is voluntary and therefore unpaid, should not affect student finance eligibility. Students are required to confirm eligibility with their student finance provider.

International students who require a Tier 4 visa should check with the Immigration Compliance team prior to commencing any type of paid placement to ensure that they are not contravening their visa requirements.

## **23. Annex - Programme-specific regulations**

### **Programme Regulations: BEng (Hons) Mechatronic Engineering**

<b>Final Award and Award Titles</b>	BEng (Hons) Mechatronic Engineering BEng (Hons) Mechatronic Engineering with International Year BEng (Hons) Mechatronic Engineering with Work Placement Year
<b>Intermediate Award(s)</b>	Diploma in Higher Education Certificate in Higher Education
<b>Last modified</b>	n/a
<b>Programme Specification</b>	<a href="https://www.keele.ac.uk/ga/programmespecifications">https://www.keele.ac.uk/ga/programmespecifications</a>

The University's Academic Regulations which can be found on the Keele University website (<https://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations/>)[1] apply to and regulate the programme, other than in instances where the specific programme regulations listed below over-ride them. These programme regulations list:

- *Exemptions* which are characterised by the omission of the relevant regulation.
- *Variations* which are characterised by the replacement of part of the regulation with alternative wording.
- *Additional Requirements* which set out what additional rules that apply to students in relation to this programme.

The following **exemptions, variations** and **additional requirements** to the University regulations have been checked by Academic Services and have been approved by the Faculty Education Committee.

## A) EXEMPTIONS

The clause(s) listed below describe where an exemption from the University's Academic Regulations exists:

For the whole duration of their studies, students on this Programme are exempt from the following regulations:

- **No exemptions apply.**

## B) VARIATIONS

The clause(s) listed below describe where a variation from the University's Academic Regulations exists:

### Variation 1: Condonement

EGN-30003 and EGN-30005 must be passed with a minimum module mark of 40% and are not eligible for condonement due to professional body requirements.

### Additional Requirements

The programme requirements listed below are in addition to the University's Academic Regulations:

#### Additional requirement 1: Laboratory and Practical Classes

1. Any student failing to follow the health and safety guidelines in the laboratory will be asked to leave. This may include inappropriate dress, refusal to follow reasonable requests of staff, late attendance resulting in missed safety briefings, or attending under the influence of alcohol or other substances.

#### Additional requirement 2: Transfer between BEng and MEng Mechatronic Engineering

Regulation C6, paragraph 2.3 states that the rules governing eligibility for transfer onto an integrated masters

programme shall be governed by the relevant Programme Regulations.

BEng Mechatronic Engineering students are permitted to transfer onto the MEng Mechatronic Engineering programme at any point up to the start of semester 2, Level 6 subject to having met any relevant progression criteria and with the approval of the Programme Director.

MEng Mechatronic Engineering students are permitted to transfer onto the BEng Mechatronic Engineering programme at any point up to semester 2, Level 6.

### **Additional Requirement 3: Transfer between different Engineering programmes**

Mechatronic Engineering students are permitted to transfer between different engineering programmes at any point up to week 3, Level 5 subject to having met any relevant progression criteria and with the approval of the Programme Director.

### **Additional Requirement 4: International students only**

Due to UK Home Office Visa (UKVI) restrictions, students are not able to transfer between programmes as stated in additional requirements 2 and 3 above, without the change meeting UKVI requirements. Therefore, it is recommended to speak with Immigration Compliance and Support ([visa@keele.ac.uk](mailto:visa@keele.ac.uk)) before requesting a programme transfer as this could affect current and future Visa options.

[1] References to University Regulations in this document apply to the content of the University's Regulatory Framework as set out on the University website here <https://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations/>.

## **Version History**

### **This document**

**Date Approved:** 13 April 2026

### **Previous documents**

<b>Version No</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Date Approved</b>	<b>Summary of and rationale for changes</b>
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