

European Head and Neck Course 2025

Course Brochure



8th - 11th December 2025

Edgbaston Park Hotel, Birmingham, UK

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Organising Committee

Dr. Paul Nankivell

Senior Clinical Lecturer, Honorary Consultant ENT/Head & Neck Surgeon, University of Birmingham

Prof. Camilla Dawson

Consultant Speech and Language Therapist, Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham

Dr. Jonathan Fussey

ENT Head and Neck Surgery Consultant, University Hospitals Birmingham

Paul Pracy

Consultant ENT & Head and Neck Surgeon, The Priory Hospital

Prav Praveen

Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon, University Hospitals Birmingham

Neil Sharma

Clinician Scientist & Consultant Head and Neck Surgeon, University of Birmingham

Key Information

Course Overview:

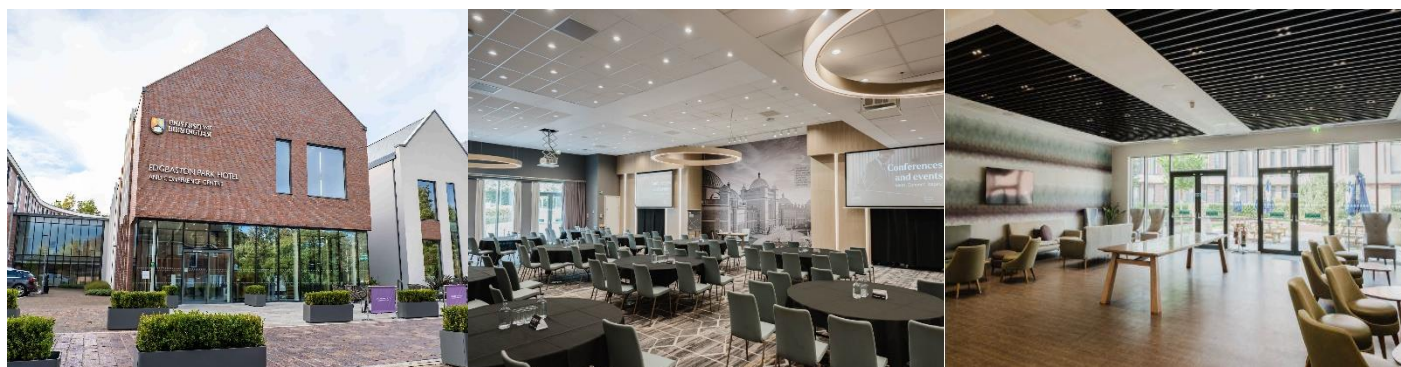
The European Head and Neck course has become a key educational cornerstone in the education of healthcare professionals interested in head and neck cancer. The course is suitable for trainees (residents and fellows) in ENT, maxillofacial, plastics and oncology in preparation for exams, as well as providing a stimulating update for practising surgeons and physicians. The three days will cover the current management of head and neck cancers within a multidisciplinary framework. The format will consist of a series of keynote addresses dealing with some of the more controversial topics, in addition to lectures, panel discussions and operative techniques. Importantly, time is always allocated for audience participation through question and answer sessions, allowing a real engagement of delegates with the experienced faculty.

Objectives:

The course aims to present a multidisciplinary approach towards the management of patients with head and neck cancer through the use of surgery, radiotherapy and systemic treatments. There will be a full discussion of the diagnosis and management of patients with head and neck cancer with particular emphasis given to areas of controversy, and recent advances in diagnostic tools, therapeutic regimes and surgical techniques. Through panel discussion and question and answer sessions, delegates will benefit from the experience of a faculty assembled from many of the leading head and neck cancer centres in Europe, North America and India.

Exhibition:

Our sponsors will have an exhibition stand in the Fry Lounge. They have chosen to sponsor this event because they believe their products and services may interest you. We encourage you to visit each exhibition stand during the breaks.



Conference Registration and Query Desk

Day	Opening Times	Location
Monday 8 th December	8:00 – 17:30	Fry Suite Lounge, Edgbaston Park Hotel
Tuesday 9 th December	8:00 – 18:30	Fry Suite Lounge, Edgbaston Park Hotel
Wednesday 10 th December	9:00 – 16:00	Fry Suite Lounge, Edgbaston Park Hotel
Thursday 11 th December	8:30 – 16:30	Fry Suite Lounge, Edgbaston Park Hotel

Course Programme

Please see the full course programme below. Please be aware that all programmes have been grouped together as follows:

- Monday 8th December - Main Course Only
- Tuesday 9th December - Main Course and Functional Outcomes Programmes
- Wednesday 10th December - Main Course and Functional Outcomes Programmes
- Thursday 11th December - Thyroid Cancer Course Only

Monday 8th December - Main Course Only

8:00 – 8:50	Registration
Session 1	
Chair - Paul Nankivell	
Time	Fry Suite
8:50 – 9:00	Welcome Sat Parmar, Paul Pracy, René Leemans, Wojciech Golusiński
9:00 – 9:30	Keynote Speaker: General concepts in the management of head and neck cancer Gouri Pantvaidya
9:30 – 9:50	State of the art imaging for head and neck cancer Steve Colley
9:50 – 10:20	Keynote Speaker: Optimising functional outcomes Julia MacLean
10:20 – 11:00	Refreshments and exhibition
Session 2	
Chair - Hannah Nieto	
Time	Fry Suite
11:00 – 11:30	Advances in radiation oncology Sarah Hargreaves
11:30 – 12:00	Advances in systemic therapies and future developments Kevin Harrington
12:00 – 12:30	Keynote Speaker: State of the art surgical reconstruction Brett Miles
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch and exhibition
Session 3: Robotics	
Chair - Paul Pracy	
Time	Fry Suite
13:30 – 13:50	Robotics in head and neck cancer Laura Warner
13:50 – 14:10	Management of the unknown primary René Leemans
14:10 – 14:30	Refreshments and exhibition
Session 4: Oropharynx cancer	
Chair - René Leemans	
Time	Fry Suite
14:30 – 15:00	Contemporary management of the oropharynx cancer Sarah Hargreaves
15:00 – 15:15	Current challenges in the oropharyngeal cancer management Gouri Pantvaidya

15:15 – 16:50	Case discussions: Oropharyngeal Cancer Kevin Harrington (Chair), Gouri Pantvaidya, Brett Miles, Julia MacLean, Christian Simon, Sarah Hargreaves
16:50 – 17:00	Summary and future perspectives Kevin Harrington
17:00	Close

Tuesday 9th December - Main Course and Functional Outcomes

8:00 – 8:25	Refreshments and Exhibition	
Session 5		
Chair - Sat Parmar		
Time	Fry Suite	
8:25 – 8:30	Sponsor Talk Severn Healthcare Technologies Ltd	
8:30 – 9:00	Contemporary management of oral cancer Gouri Pantvaidya	
9:00 – 9:15	Current challenges in oral cancer manager Clare Schilling	
9:15 – 10:45	Case Discussions: Oral Cancer Brett Miles (Chair), Camilla Dawson, Gouri Pantvaidya, Clare Schilling, Kevin Harrington	
10:45 – 10:55	Summary and future perspectives Brett Miles	
10:55 – 11:15	Refreshments and Exhibition	
Session 6		
Time	Fry Suite - Main Course Chair - Wojciech Golusiński	Pevsner Room - Functional Outcomes
11:15 - 11:35	Head and Neck Pararganglioma Paul Nankivell	Keynote Speaker: Addressing the needs of younger patients with tongue cancer Barbara Fountain
11:35 - 12:05	Keynote Speaker: Treatment with re-irradiation Vincent Gregoire	Improving function following CRT and managing late effects Jo Patterson
12:05 - 12:25	Management of lateral skull base cancers Hannah Nieto	Cultural competence in head and neck practice Nazrana Munsif
12:25 - 13:15	Lunch and Exhibition	
Session 7: Larynx & Hypopharynx Cancer		
Chair - Hannah Nieto		
Time	Fry Suite	
13:15 - 13:45	Contemporary Management of Larynx & Hypopharynx Cancer Ralph Gilbert	
13:45 - 14:00	Current challenges in larynx & hypopharynx cancer management Jonathan Fussey	
14:00 - 15:20	Case Discussions: Larynx & Hypopharynx Cancer Christian Simon (Chair), Brett Miles, Laura Warner, Cesare Piazza, Georgina Casswell	
15:20 - 15:30	Summary and future perspectives Christian Simon	
15:30 - 16:00	Refreshments and Exhibition	

Session 8: Nasopharynx and skull base Chair - Jonathan Fussey	
Time	Fry Suite
16:00 - 16:30	Nasopharyngeal Cancer Georgina Casswell
16:30 - 17:00	Keynote Speaker: Contemporary management of anterior skull base tumours Piero Nicolai
17:00	Close

Wednesday 10th December - Main Course and Functional Outcomes

8:00 - 8:45		Refreshments and Exhibition
Session 9		
8:45 - 9:30	The future of Head and Neck oncology training - an international challenge Moderator - Dylan Chew Leonor Cruz e Silva, Eduardo Ferrandis Pereperez, Patricia Marques, Arild Oesthus and Adam Pasz	
Time	Fry Suite - Main Course Chair - René Leemans	Pevsner Room - Functional Outcomes
9:30 - 10:00	Keynote Speaker: Contemporary management of salivary gland cancer Cesare Piazza	Keynote Speaker: Contemporary management of surgical voice restoration Julia MacLean
10:00 - 10:15	Current challenges in salivary gland cancer management Laura Warner	Current challenges in surgical voice restoration management Margaret Coffey
10:15 - 11:45	Case discussions: Salivary Gland Cancer Ralph Gilbert (Chair), Laura Warner, Robert Metcalf, Vincent Gregoire, Piero Nicolai, Paweł Golusiński	Research update in surgical voice restoration-where next? Freya Sparks
11:45 - 12:00	Summary and future perspectives Ralph Gilbert	Case discussions: Surgical voice restoration Camilla Dawson (Chair) Julia Maclean, Margaret Coffey, Jo Wheeler, Freya Sparks, Paul Pracy
11:55 - 12:00		Summary and future perspectives Camilla Dawson
12:00 - 13:00		Lunch and Exhibition
Session 10 Chair - Wojciech Golusiński		
Time	Fry Suite	
13:00 - 13:30	Complex reconstruction and principles in the salvage setting Sat Parmar	
13:30 - 13:55	State of the art prosthetics Birmingham prosthetics team	
13:55 - 14:15	Keynote Speaker: AI and machine learning in HNC Christian Simon	
14:15 - 14:45	Refreshments and Exhibition	

Session 11	
Chair - Paul Nankivell	
Time	Fry Suite
14:45 - 15:05	Frailty in head and neck cancer - Selection and functional impact Camilla Dawson
15:05 - 15:35	Palliative care - What every clinician should consider John Speakman
15:35 - 16:00	A look to the future of HNC treatment Brett Miles
16:00	Closing Comments and Course End

Thursday 11th December – Thyroid Cancer Course Only

8:30 - 9:00	Registration and refreshments
Time	Fry Suite
9:00 - 9:05	Introduction to the course Neil Sharma
9:05 - 9:25	Work up and management of lower risk cancers Hannah Nieto
9:25 - 9:45	Follow up for low-risk thyroid cancer and the impact of the new ATA guidelines Kristien Boelaert
Session 1: Advanced Thyroid Cancer	
Time	Fry Suite
9:45 - 10:10	Extended surgery for advanced thyroid cancer Neil Sharma
10:10 - 10:35	Neoadjuvant treatment for advanced thyroid cancer Jillian Maclean
10:35 - 11:15	Panel Discussion: Advanced Thyroid Cancer Chair - Jonathan Fussey
11:15 - 11:30	Refreshment Break
Session 2: Recurrent Thyroid Cancer	
Time	Fry Suite
11:30 - 11:50	Surgical management of recurrence Alison Waghorn
11:50 - 12:10	Beyond the knife – Non surgical treatment of recurrent disease Jillian MacLean
12:10 - 12:30	Panel Discussion: Recurrent thyroid cancer Chair - Paul Nankivell
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch
Session 3: Medullary Thyroid Cancer and Genetics	
Time	Fry Suite
13:30 - 13:50	Genetic syndromes associated with thyroid cancer Rebecca Igbokwe
13:50 - 14:20	Decision making in treatment for MTC and surgical approaches for advanced disease Brett Miles
14:30 - 15:00	Panel Discussion: MTC Chair - Nadia Schoenmakers
15:00 - 15:30	Refreshment Break
15:30 - 16:30	Final Panel Discussion Chair - Neil Sharma
16:30	Close

Keynote Speakers



Prof. Vincent Grégoire

Head of the Radiation Oncology Department,
Léon Bérard Cancer Center

Professor Vincent Grégoire graduated as a Medical Doctor (MD) in 1987 from the Université Catholique de Louvain in Belgium. He was board certified in Radiation Oncology in Belgium in 1994 and obtained his PhD in Radiation Biology in 1996 after a fellowship at the Netherlands Cancer Institute in Amsterdam (The Netherlands) and at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston (USA).

Since his return from the USA, Prof. Grégoire was appointed at the Academic Hospital of the Catholic University of Louvain in Brussels (Belgium) where he was the Director of the Center for Molecular Imaging, Oncology and Radiotherapy, Full Professor in Radiation Oncology, and Head of Clinic in the Department of Radiation Oncology. From May 1st 2018, Prof. Vincent Grégoire is the Head of the Radiation Oncology Dept. at the Léon Bérard Cancer Center in Lyon (France). He coordinates the Head and Neck Radiation Oncology program where the publication of the consensus guidelines for selection and delineation of target volumes brought him worldwide recognition.

Beside his clinical activities, Vincent Grégoire has been running a translational research program on tumor microenvironment, on the integration of functional and molecular imaging for treatment planning, and on the molecular basis of increased radiosensitivity in HPV-infected cells. Vincent Grégoire has directed or co-directed 15 PhD theses and has authored or co-authored more than 350 peer-reviewed publications and 20 book chapters. He has delivered close to 1000 abstract presentations, lectures or teaching seminars worldwide, including award lectures such as the IFHNOS KK Ang lecture in 2014 and the Blair Hesketh BAHNO Memorial Lecture in 2015. He is member of the editorial board of Radiotherapy & Oncology and is a member of numerous scientific societies, including ASTRO and ESTRO, on which he serves on various committees. He has been the President of ESTRO from 2007 to 2009. Vincent GREGOIRE is the past vice-President of the board of EORTC, past-Chairman of the Radiation Oncology Group of the EORTC and of the Head & Neck group of the EORTC. Vincent Grégoire was acting chairman of an ICRU Report Committee on “dose prescription, specification and reporting in IMRT”. He has been nominated chairman of ICRU in October 2018. In 2008, he was awarded Honorary Fellow of the British Royal College of Radiology, and in 2016 Honorary Fellow of the Irish College of Radiology. In 2014 he received the Breur Award from ESTRO and in 2015, he was awarded Honorary ESTRO Physicist. In 2018, he received the Jens Overgaard legacy award from ESTRO.



Dr. Julia Maclean

Clinical Specialist in Speech Pathology,
St George Hospital

Professor Julia Maclean, PhD, is the Clinical Specialist in Speech Pathology at St George Hospital, Sydney, and a Conjoint Professor at the University of New South Wales. She is internationally recognised as a leader in the clinical management and education of swallowing and airway disorders, particularly in patients recovering from complex head and neck surgery and oncology treatments, including through the Masters of Deglutology program at KU Leuven.

Julia completed her PhD in 2010, investigating swallowing outcomes following total laryngectomy and obtained a Master of Science in Medicine in 2006, focusing on dysphagia in individuals with Chronic Airflow Limitation. Alongside her clinical and academic roles, she holds a postdoctoral research position in the Motility Unit within the Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, where she contributes to developing novel interventions for upper oesophageal sphincter dysfunction and late radiation fibrosis. Her current research focuses on the use of High-Resolution Pharyngeal Manometry to personalise and optimise assessment and treatment outcomes for people with swallowing disorders.

Julia was the first Allied Health professional to serve as President of the Australian and New Zealand Head and Neck Cancer Society — a role that reflects her strong commitment to multidisciplinary models of care and dedication to improving long-term outcomes for those affected by head and neck cancer treatment.



Dr. Brett Miles

Vice President and Regional Director of
Otolaryngology, Northwell Health Cancer Institute

A Diplomate of both the American Board of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery and the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Dr. Miles is Professor and Chair the Department of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery in the Northwell Health System in New York at Lenox Hill Hospital, Manhattan Eye Ear Throat Hospital. He has extensive expertise in head and neck oncology, microvascular reconstructive surgery, and robotic surgery and is the surgical lead for the disease management team for head and neck cancer at the Northwell Cancer Institute.



Dr. Gouri Pantvaidya

Professor and Head of the Department of Head Neck Surgery, Tata Memorial Centre

Dr. Pantvaidya holds an MS (General Surgery) and a DNB (General Surgery), both awarded in 2001. She also attained an MRCS (Edin) from The Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, United Kingdom, in 2003. She completed her training in surgical oncology from the Tata Memorial hospital in 2006. Dr. Pantvaidya has been associated with the Tata Memorial Hospital which is the largest tertiary care cancer hospital in India, for the last 18 years. She has extensive experience in the planning, treatment and holistic management of all types of head and neck cancers for over 20 years. She has held progressive roles, including Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, and Professor, leading up to her current role as Professor & Head of the Department since August 2023. Dr Pantvaidya is proficient in surgery for advanced and recurrent head neck cancers with special focus on surgery for advanced thyroid cancers, transoral robotic surgery and laser microsurgery. Dr Pantvaidya is the current Head of Department of Head and Neck surgery at the Tata Memorial Hospital in Mumbai. She has also held numerous administrative roles in her institution. Her research focus revolves around thyroid cancers and management of neck nodes and she is the Principal Investigator for two randomized trials in thyroid cancer. She has also secured significant grants for her research, such as the Terry Fox international grant for her work on intraoperative neuromonitoring. Her work has resulted in numerous publications in prestigious journals, covering topics like Transoral Robotic Surgery (TORS) , management of the neck in oral cancers and various aspects of adjuvant radiation therapy. She is also a co-Investigator on multiple investigator initiated studies looking at improving outcomes in pateints with head and neck cancers.



Prof. Cesare Piazza

Professor and Chief of the Department of Otorhinolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery, University of Brescia, School of Medicine

Cesare Piazza, MD, born in Cremona in 1971, is Full Professor and Chief of the Department of Otorhinolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery of the University of Brescia, School of Medicine, since 2020. He received his MD degree at the University of Pavia, Italy in 1996 and completed his Residency Program in Otorhinolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery in Brescia in 2001. He became Assistant Professor in 2007 and Associate Professor – Chief of the Department of Otorhinolaryngology, Maxillofacial, and Thyroid Surgery of the National Cancer Institute, University of Milan, Italy in 2017. His clinical and research activities are focused on head and neck oncology, with special emphasis to laryngo-hypopharyngeal, tracheal, oral, thyroid, parotid, sarcoma, laser, and reconstructive microsurgery.

Prof. Piazza is an active member of the European Laryngological Society since 2000, part of its Scientific Council since September 2010, and Past President since June 2023. He authored or co-authored 354 papers in peer-reviewed journals as well as 82 book chapters. His H-index is 50. He delivered over 1200 proffered papers and invited lectures in national and international Congresses and Courses. He serves as Editor of the Current Opinion in Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery journal for the Head and Neck Oncology issue since 2010 and is Member of its Editorial Board since 2013. He is Editor in Chief of the Acta Otorhinolaryngologica Italica journal since January 2023.

His surgical activity has been always mainly devoted to head and neck cancer treatment, with more than 8000 surgical procedures performed in this field (of whom 1500 free flap).



Dr. Prof. Christian Simon

Professor and Chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery, University Medical Center Vaud (CHUV), University of Lausanne

Prof. Dr. Christian Simon, born on 14.07.1969 in Würzburg/ Germany, is the Chair of the ENT University Clinic in the CHUV in Lausanne since February 2012, the Chief Medical Officer of the Center for Head and

Neck Tumors at the CHUV since April 2022, and the Director of the Department of Surgery of the CHUV, UNIL, in Lausanne since December 2022. He is an ENT and head and neck surgeon with a special qualification in robotic head and neck surgery. He conducted his basic ENT training at the University of Tübingen, and additional fellowship training at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Washington University in St. Louis, and at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. His scientific work is reflected in numerous studies, translational and international projects on head and neck cancer. He was the Chair of the EORTC Head and Neck Group (HNCG) from 2017 to 2021, the vice chair of the Swiss Head and Neck Group for clinical cancer research (SAKK) between 2019 and 2022, and he is the current secretary of the EORTC-HNCG since 2023. He is board member and treasurer of the European Head and Neck Society (EHNS) and member of the steering committee of the Head and Neck Cancer “Make Sense Campaign”. He is also honorary member of the German Society for Otolaryngology (DGHNO).

Invited Speakers

Dr. Georgina Casswell

Clinical Oncology Consultant, University Hospitals Bristol and Weston

Dr. Steve Colley

Consultant Head & Neck Radiologist, University Hospital Birmingham

Dr. Margaret Coffey

Honorary Clinical Research Fellow, Department of Surgery & Cancer - Faculty of Medicine, Imperial College London

Barbara Fountain

CEO & Founder, Young Tongues

Dr. Ralph Gilbert

Professor, Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery, University of Toronto

Prof. Paweł Golusiński

Professor and Chair, Department of Otolaryngology and Maxillofacial Surgery, University of Zielona Gora

Prof. Wojciech Golusiński

ENT Surgeon and Researcher, Head of the Department of Head and Neck Surgery and Laryngological Oncology, Poznań University of Medical Sciences

Prof. Kevin J. Harrington

Professor in Biological Cancer Therapies, Institute of Cancer Research

Dr. Sarah Hargreaves

Consultant Clinical Oncologist, University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust

Rebecca Igbokwe

Consultant in Clinical Genetics, West Midlands Clinical Genetics

Prof. René Leemans

Chair of Department of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery, Amsterdam University Medical Center

Dr. Robert Metcalf

Honorary Consultant in Medical Oncology, The Christie NHS Foundation Trust

Jillian MacLean

Consultant Clinical Oncologist Velindre, Velindre University NHS Trust

Nazrana Munsif

Speech And Language Therapist, University Hospitals Birmingham

Dr. Hannah Nieto

Clinician Scientist, University of Birmingham

Sat Parmar

Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial /Head and Neck /Reconstructive Surgeon, University Hospital Birmingham

Prof. Jo Patterson

Professor of Speech & Language Therapy, University of Liverpool

Prof. Nadia Schoenmakers

Professor of Endocrinology, University of Birmingham

Clare Schilling

Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon, University College London Hospitals

Dr. Freya Sparks

Clinical Lead Speech and Language Therapist for Head and Neck Cancer, Barts Health NHS Trust. Honorary Research Fellow, City St George's, University of London

Dr. John Speakman

Consultant in Palliative Medicine, Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham

Alison Waghorn

Consultant Endocrine Surgeon, Liverpool University Hospitals Foundation Trust

Laura Warner

Consultant ENT Surgeon, The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals

Jo Wheeler

Speech & Language Therapist, The Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham

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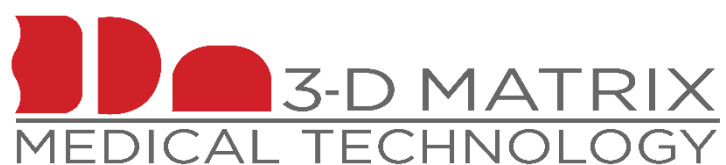


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Venue Map

-  Blue Badge holder parking
-  Bus stops
-  Automated External Defibrillator
-  Visitors car park
-  Electric Vehicle Charging Point



Campus Map



Edgbaston
Park Hotel

Winterbourne
House and Garden

Old Joe
Clocktower