

Canterbury Innovation Centre

Canterbury, Kent

Canterbury Innovation Centre, on the outskirts of Canterbury and adjacent to the University of Kent, is owned by East Kent Spatial Development Company and funded by SEEDA working in collaboration with the University of Kent. It is managed by Basepoint, which has 26 centres across the midlands and the south of England.

The centre seeks to accommodate innovative, high value enterprises, ideally specialising in the nanotechnology, biomedical, biometrics and environmental technology fields. Companies must provide innovative services or products and offer new ideas or solutions. The centre also offers 25% of its space to companies who offer specialist financing and business planning support to companies and are encouraged to do business with other tenants. Companies including electric motor cycle supplier [Lean Machines \(Kent\) Ltd](#) and nanotechnology company [Naneum Ltd](#) are already based at the centre.

It has a variety of space available, including workshops, studios and virtual offices, which provide start-ups and SMEs with an address and redirected telephone numbers. It offers companies attractive monthly easy in/out licences and incubator space which includes furniture, broadband connection and a digital phone line to allow instant start-up. All tenants benefit from the use of meeting rooms, central atrium and coffee shop, breakout area and a decked veranda. Free business 'clinics' are also available from Kent's Innovation Growth Team, which offers feedback and advice to growing companies and has a presence at the centre.



It is a highly sustainable building set in 500 acres of parkland and features photovoltaic and solar panels, rainwater harvesting, biomass boiler and benefits from a topographical site design, meeting the BREEAM 'Excellent' standards. The centre has forged excellent links between its tenants and specific academic departments at the University of Kent at Canterbury and with its business development unit, Kent Innovation & Enterprise (KIE).

Terry John, Director of Lean Machines (Kent):
"Sometimes it can feel very isolated in a new start-up business. Here at Canterbury Innovation Centre, we're all in it together because of the networks and business support we constantly have access to."

For more information about Canterbury Innovation Centre visit www.canterburyinnovationcentre.co.uk or call 01227 811700.