



SUPPORT FOR LEARNING

W
Woking
College



At Woking College we passionately believe in facilitating all students to maximise their potential.

We are committed to providing each of our students all the support, guidance and opportunities they need for their success.

Every one of our students is a unique individual and our support is individually tailored to meet their needs. We ensure that all of our students receive the highest quality experience from the moment we receive their application and throughout every interaction with us, be that academic feedback, careers and university advice or help and support with personal problems. We are here to help.



PERSONAL SUPPORT

Personal tutors

When you enrol at Woking College you will be allocated a specialist personal tutor. They provide a comprehensive induction to help you in your transition from school to college. You will meet with your tutor every week and they will keep you up to date on key news and exciting opportunities in College as well as delivering the #WE18YOSK sessions. Your personal tutor will also meet with you regularly for one to one reviews. They will monitor your progress and set you challenging targets to ensure you meet your full potential.

Your personal tutor will guide you through your options after college and help you to make those big decisions about your future, assisting you in applications to university, apprenticeships and employment. Early in the first term parents are invited to meet personal tutors and are actively encouraged to get in touch with them if they have any concerns or questions.

Heads of Year

Our highly experienced Heads of Year are here for you if you have a more complex issue. Whether personal or academic, they can provide comprehensive guidance offering safe and non-judgemental support and advice to students regarding a wide range of issues.

"I know that support is available whenever I need it. My Head of Year always has time to listen but he never judges me. He always gives me good advice."

Amy Morrison
Diploma in Sport, Public Services
Previous school: SJB



What Every 18 Year Old Should Know #WE18YOSK

At the heart of our pastoral curriculum is our #WE18YOSK programme. A continually evolving programme of activities, events and opportunities designed to provide all our students with the kinds of skills, knowledge and cultural awareness that we would expect from every young adult.

With interesting and interactive sessions covering everything from driving safety, current affairs and budgeting through to how to use a washing machine and change a tyre, the programme aims to equip you with a range of practical and useful skills and knowledge ready for you to take your next steps into living independently at university or within the world of work.

Counselling

Available every day throughout the week, our team of counsellors are available to meet with individual students by appointment, which can be arranged through your personal tutor, Head of Year or directly via moodle.

Chaplaincy

Working closely with religious organisations in the local community, a number of Youth Workers are available in College to mentor and support all students from all faith backgrounds.

The Hubs

The Hubs are available for you to use, should you need a quiet space for some time out during the college day.

Financial Support

The College has set aside a Learner Support Fund to provide help to students experiencing financial difficulty whilst incurring expenses relating to their academic courses, such as an essential academic trip or buying specialist equipment. All requests are treated sensitively.

Safeguarding

The College takes its safeguarding duty very seriously and a dedicated team work to ensure that every student is monitored and safe. All members of staff receive high quality regular safeguarding training.

Students are supported through a range of services, including counselling and chaplaincy. Where necessary, or where it is in the best interests of the student, the College may draw on the professional experience of external agencies, this would usually be done in consultation with parents. The College is committed to keeping students safe online. The College also has a duty to prevent students being radicalised by extremist groups, which is treated as a safeguarding matter.

Equality and Diversity

We celebrate the wide range of backgrounds our students come from in a range of different ways throughout the year. All staff are committed to promoting equality and diversity in all interactions with students. A number of enrichments, including our Gender & Sexuality Alliance, International Club as well as the Student Equality and Diversity group all work to make Woking College the fully inclusive environment that we are proud to be a part of.

SUPPORT FOR LEARNING

Our Support for Learning department extends over two locations within the College, providing help and guidance in the LRC and, for students who prefer a smaller space, upstairs in Room 47.

Our friendly and helpful Learning Support Assistants are available throughout the college day in both locations to help you to achieve your potential. All students are screened during our comprehensive induction process to identify any additional needs. The level of support provided by the department is tailored to your needs.



“Room 47 is a very quiet, welcoming place to work where you can really concentrate, so it is a useful alternative to the LRC. There are also people to ask if you get stuck with your work.”

Tara Fuas
A Level Economics, English
Literature and German
Previous school: Global Academy

Learning Support Assistants

Our Learning Support Assistants work closely with students, supporting in class and offering one to one and small group support sessions. Highly sensitive to the needs of those they support, our LSAs provide personalised guidance.

Independent Learning Mentors

Independent Learning Mentors are available for students who need a little extra help adjusting to the more independent mode of study experienced at College. ILMs provide one to one support on a six week programme, offering guidance tailored to individual needs.

Learning Skills Enrichment

Our Learning Skills Enrichment programme supports students across College to increase their independent learning skills and improve their progress across all subjects. Topics explored include the benefits of using feedback and resources effectively, organisational and time management skills and revision skills.

Subject Workshops

Subject specialist workshops are offered in all department areas to help you with your academic progress, revision and provide extra help if you get stuck. These can be provided in a one to one or group setting.

Easter Revision

Most subjects offer revision workshops through the Easter break to support you in your preparation for your summer exams.

“I meet with my mentor every week and I am able to talk through anything that has come up or caused me stress and that really helps me to cope with College life. I have LSA support in my GCSE Maths class which helps me to answer the questions. My LSA explains what I need to do if the teacher is occupied with other students and also stops me from getting distracted as I find the subject hard!”

Rachel Bowden
Health & Social Care and GCSE Maths
Previous school: Winston Churchill



ADDITIONAL STUDY PROGRAMMES

“The teachers here are really good, if I have any questions I know I can ask them. Any questions I had about my EPQ, I knew I could ask my supervisor and always get help. I feel really well supported both inside and outside the classroom.”

Jaylen Simmons
A Level Classical Civilisations, Sociology
and English Literature
Previous school: Abroad

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

The EPQ is a qualification you can choose to complete alongside your other courses. You can make something, you can organise an event, you can perform, you can conduct field research or write an extended dissertation. It develops research, communication and project management skills which all support your studies at Woking College and provide you with the confidence and experience you need for your next steps.

Excellence Programme

The Excellence Programme is designed to support our most ambitious and talented students and give them every opportunity to achieve their potential. All teachers across the College ensure that learners produce the highest quality work and challenge the most able, often working alongside universities to stretch learning.

The Excellence Programme has a number of pathways encompassing excellence in the Arts and Humanities, STEM and Oxbridge applications. A broad variety of activities are on offer, including workshops, group debates, competitions and external speakers. For students looking to apply to Oxbridge, Medical School or Veterinary Science degrees our successful and comprehensive programme of support is available, designed to significantly enhance your application.



COLLEGE LIFE

The Students' Union

The Students' Union is a body elected by students, which discusses issues affecting the College community with senior staff and trustees. They also organise social, charity and other activities for students. All students have the opportunity to stand in the elections for a variety of specialist roles. Taking on a role within the Students' Union will provide you with a range of great transferable skills that are highly sought after by employers and universities, it's also a huge amount of fun!

Extra Curricular

We pride ourselves on our wide range of extra curricular activities and encourage all students to get involved with over 70 different activities on offer, including our Wellbeing Group, Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) and Board Games. So whether you're sporty, musical, enjoy acting or debating there is an extra curricular activity for you.



“The extra curricular activities at College have really helped me to grow in confidence. The teachers treat you like adults and I know when I go to my lessons I will never be judged and I will always receive help.”

Bella Di Manno
A Level Sociology, Psychology,
Mathematics
Previous school: SJB

CAREERS

“The Careers Department give great advice about your next steps, whether that is to university, an apprenticeship or into the workplace. Every year there are big events held at the College to help you make decisions about your future. You get very thorough help filling in your UCAS form, or if university is not for you there is loads of advice about CV writing and interview techniques.”

Harvey Podwysocki
President of the Student Union 2018/2019



From our very first interaction with you, you can expect the highest quality support in reaching your future goals.

Our Careers Department offers advice, guidance and information relating to every aspect of your progression from college. Whether you intend to go on to university, are already sure that you will be going straight into employment, or are completely unsure and confused about your next steps, we are here to help.

A comprehensive programme of events runs throughout the year designed to introduce students to the variety of opportunities available to them. This includes our highly regarded Careers Day, which encompasses over 70 different university and employer talks to choose from and a Careers Fair with over 100 university and employer stalls to visit.

We encourage all students to consider university study and a majority of our students do go on to higher education. We provide specialist advice on university admissions, beginning with offering initial guidance on choosing universities

through to assistance with personal statements, information on university open days and offering mock interviews. For students considering entrance to highly-competitive universities, including Oxford, Cambridge and other Russell Group universities, we provide a specially-tailored programme of events, university visits and advice.

Whilst encouraging all students to consider the benefits of higher education, we actively seek out ways to help every student make the right choices for them. We inform students about a wide range of apprenticeships, higher apprenticeships and school leaver programmes, which provide qualifications and paid employment straight from college. Every student has access to various forms of work-related learning during their time at College, including traditional work experience opportunities as well as employability workshops offered in College and access to speakers from industry and commerce.

We offer CV writing help and guidance, mock job interviews, application form checking, and help in finding work, including advice on approaching employment agencies, using online job sites and writing supporting statements and covering letters.

All students are welcome to book one to one appointments with us at any time and we offer a friendly, helpful and confidential service to all. We also offer students university or career advice for a year after they have left College.





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