

# We are New College Leicester



Annual Information 2019

A rounded education for all young people

# Welcome

## NEW COLLEGE LEICESTER

At New College Leicester we work closely together to promote a supportive learning environment to improve outcomes and life chances for all our young people. Our mission is to provide a rounded and inspirational education. We do this by instilling the 4 R's: Respect; Responsibility; Resilience and Resourcefulness – the values we hold most dear.

### Respect

- We treat each other with respect and show good manners at all times
- We respect our building and everyone's property so that the college environment is a positive place to work and be in
- We respect and follow all of the rules and procedures set out by the college
- We respect and value each other's differences

### Responsibility

- We are responsible for our own excellent attendance and punctuality
- We take personal responsibility in our appearance and uniform and in our work
- We take personal responsibility for our attitude, behaviour, learning and other people's education
- We act responsibly in all situations

### Resilience

- We show resilience by never giving up, even when things are hard or times are tough
- We show resilience by remembering that every day is a new day
- We show resilience by not letting our emotions negatively affect our behaviour
- We show resilience by working hard to meet our aspirational targets

### Resourcefulness

- We are resourceful because we know when, and how, to ask for help and accept that help and support
- We show our resourcefulness by contributing to the wider life of the college
- We are resourceful because we are always fully equipped and ready to learn
- We show we are resourceful by using our initiative in all situations



# Teaching and Learning

## The Curriculum

Every child matters at New College Leicester.

We aim to provide every student with the quality of education and care they deserve. We believe our personalised, yet broad curriculum can offer every child the chance to **achieve their potential**.

At all levels throughout the college the ability to work independently is encouraged and support is given to your child to acquire research skills and independent study habits. Homework and personal study play vital roles in this respect.

Years 7, 8 and 9 study a combination of core and foundation subjects, with students participating in Art, Design and Technology, Dance, Drama, Music and Physical Education, as well as the more traditional academic subjects.

In Years 10 and 11, your child will have the opportunity to study a wide range of GCSEs and Vocational Qualifications.

At Sixth Form level, student programmes have five main parts:

- Follow a major course: Vocational Qualifications e.g. BTEC, NVQs
- Have tutorial time: individual time with a Review Tutor
- Have personal study: independent study time in and out of the Sixth Form Area
- Study PSHEE: Social, Moral, Cultural, Ethical and Health Studies
- Have work experience opportunities as part of their experience

## Homework

Homework is a vital ingredient in student's progress. It teaches and encourages organisational skills, personal development, independence and responsibility for learning. We expect students to complete all homework set.

Students are given, and are expected to carry a planner, to record homework that has been set and to seek parents'/carers comments.

The planner contains lots of information including:

- The timetable
- Subject information
- Attendance tracking
- Progress tracking
- Careers guidance
- Revision strategies
- Helplines
- Resilience toolkit

Parents/carers are asked to sign the planner each week. It may also be used as a communication tool between home and college.

## RE/Collective Worship

Religious Education is taught to all students according to the Local Authority's agreed syllabus.

In accordance with Section 1 of the Education Reform Act, assemblies are part of the college's contribution to promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of students.



## Sex Education

In order to support your child to develop responsible relationships, Sex Education is taught as part of the curriculum.

In Year 7 your child will be taught about the facts of puberty and body changes, reproduction and childbirth. In Years 8 and 9, male and female physiology, contraception and sexually transmitted diseases are taught. Other references to Sex Education are included in the wider context of the citizenship and science courses.

Note: Parents/Carers who have any objections to their child attending Collective Worship or Religious or Sex Education lessons have the right to withdraw them from these activities. Any parent/carer wishing to do so should arrange a meeting with the Head of Year, to discuss alternative arrangements.

## Trips/visits

Students are regularly invited to take part in trips and visits outside of the college to enhance their learning. Letters will be sent to parents informing them of the opportunity and any costs. Payments for trips are made through the Parent Pay system.

## University

Students are given regular opportunities to visit and engage with our local Universities.

Students from De Montfort University, Leicester University and Loughborough University also work in college with our students on a variety of projects all year round – ranging from academic mentoring to providing masterclasses for gifted students.

# Arts and Culture

## School Show

To allow our students to fulfil their potential within the performing arts, our college performances bring together dance, drama and music allowing individuals to explore their creativity by developing their technical and interpretative skills in rehearsals and the performance. Alongside this, we run an annual theatre trip to explore stage performances further. Students also work extensively behind the scenes which allows those interested in design, engineering, lighting, sound, hair, make-up, wardrobe, administration and finance to be part of the experience.

## Instrumental tuition

We offer students the opportunity to receive individual or group tuition with specialist teachers. Students are currently taking up opportunities to receive tuition in brass instruments; string instruments and vocal coaching. Students who take part in these heavily subsidised lessons are given the opportunity to perform at whole school events such as the Christmas Concert, award evenings and talent shows.

## Arts Award

The Arts Award is an arts qualification where students have to explore, discover, participate in and reflect on their learning within the arts. We deliver this at a whole school level in Key Stage 3 through our arts and culture days as well as links with professional artists, galleries, musicians, actors and poets at Key Stage 4. The Arts Awards are available at three different levels.

## Arts Ambassadors

To drive the arts and culture in the school from a student level we have a proactive student body of Arts Ambassadors. In the last year they have organised arts and culture days, met with external arts organisations, supported events through leading groups of students and have been a voice for the student body at New College Leicester.



# Sports and Physical Activity

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## PE and Sport

Our PE curriculum is exciting and inclusive. We offer new innovative sports and activities alongside more traditional ones.

Staff are committed to providing high standards of teaching/coaching and encourage all students to develop their potential. We use sports to motivate and engage, as well as using it to promote the active lifestyles that are essential for our students to remain healthy throughout their lives.

## Sports Coaching

Students are given the opportunity to work with specialist coaches in gymnastics, table tennis, rugby, football, boxing and cycling. Your child may also be introduced to one of the many specialist clubs or coaches within their PE lessons.

## Teams

There are a number of sports teams active throughout the year. These include: football; rugby; rounders; netball; athletics; table tennis; trampolining; gymnastics and many more. Our teams are successful in school, regional and national competitions.

## Sports Leaders

Our students have the opportunity to train to become Sports Leaders. In this role they support other students and regularly organise competitions for primary school pupils. We run the Sports Leaders level 1 and 2 award with many students selecting this as an additional option within PE. We regularly support the Local Schools Partnership at their competitions; leading and coaching the primary schools.

## Ski trip

Each year the students in Years 8-10 are given the opportunity to take part in our ski trip. This trip is a week long trip which offers a multitude of experiences to the students. They take part in a variety of activities including 6 full days of ski lessons led by professional instructors and students bring back many fond memories from their enjoyable trip.



# Health and Wellbeing

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## Attendance

Excellent attendance is crucial for academic success. If your child is not in college, their chances of being successful in their exams and in later life will be greatly reduced.

The college will not approve holidays taken in term time. If your child is absent then please ring the college on 0116 231 8512 by 9.15 am on the first morning of absence to inform us. Please also ensure that your child brings a written and dated note explaining their absence on the day that they return to college.

We work very closely with the Educational Welfare Officer to support all students to maintain excellent attendance. Students who have excellent attendance are rewarded in a variety of ways including reward trips at the end of the autumn and summer terms.

We expect 100% attendance. **Please note:** Students whose attendance falls below 97% will not be eligible to attend any of the rewards trips offered.

## Behaviour

Hard work is rewarded, poor behaviour always has consequences.

Our Behaviour Policy (available on our website) supports our positive college ethos. It recognises we depend on each other to make it possible to learn successfully, safely and happily.

The Behaviour Policy provides a structured college environment with very clear expectations of behaviour, well communicated social norms and routines, which are reinforced with highly consistent consequence systems.

Those few students who choose to behave in ways that create barriers to their own learning and to the learning of other students, have to accept the consequences of their actions. There is a set of consequences, of increasing seriousness which are recorded and parents are involved at an early stage if their child's behaviour is presenting a barrier to learning. The consequence system is in place to ensure that every student is aware of unacceptable behaviour and the negative effect it has upon their progress and success at college. **Please note:** Students who gain more than 40 consequence points will not be eligible to attend any of the non-compulsory college trips.

Every 17 days missed in college will result in your child losing one GCSE grade, so your child should only be absent if they are very ill or under exceptional circumstances.

## Rewards

At New College Leicester we believe in celebrating the success of all our students at every opportunity as we recognise how important it is to acknowledge and reward students' efforts, contributions and attainment.

Achievement, in all forms, is recognised every day through praise in class and comments on work and students have the opportunity to earn Reward points which can be exchanged for prizes or saved to pay for trips. Reward points are earned in lessons, for excellent homework, in tutor time as well as around the college. Parents are informed about the Reward points gained through our Parent App which allows parents to track the attendance and behaviours of their child.

At the end of each academic year we hold a formal Awards Ceremony which celebrates the achievements of nominated students and we welcome parents/carers to join us.

## College Parliament

Students are encouraged to play an active part in the college community.

The Student Voice at New College Leicester comprises of Year and Faculty councils, and student representatives from these are then elected to the College Parliament.

Year, Faculty and the College Parliament give the students a forum every half-term to express their opinions and ideas on how we can continue to drive forward all aspects of the college.

## Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

Students in each year group are given the opportunity to train as anti-bullying ambassadors. The initial training is carried out by the national body – The Diana Award. Anti-bullying ambassadors are available to support any young person when they need that support. No-one at New College Leicester will tolerate bullying.

## World Ambassadors

There are approximately 54 different languages spoken at New College Leicester. Our World Ambassador scheme ensures that new to English students are well supported as they begin to master the English language. World Ambassadors are also available to support parents/carers at Parents Evenings/Parent events.



# Essential Information

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## Home – College Partnership

At New College Leicester we have positive and supportive relationships with parents/carers. We know that a strong partnership between home and college helps to support our students to achieve the standards of personal excellence we expect.

As parent/carer you and your child will receive a copy of the Home-College Partnership Agreement, which we believe is the foundation of our positive relationships. We also believe that if all our students are aware of the shared goals of home and college, then we can continue to build upon excellent relationships to the benefit of students' learning and attainment.

We ask you as parents/carers to:

- Talk to your child about their learning experience
- Ensure your child always attends college on time
- Notify us of any unavoidable absence from college immediately and provide a written and signed note on return to college
- Ensure your child wears the correct uniform
- Check and sign your child's planner each week
- Ensure your child brings an appropriate bag with the necessary books, equipment, kit for each day
- Promptly return all slips from reports, letters etc.
- Attend Parents Evenings and SEN Review appointments

## College Day

Your child should arrive at the college between 8.45am and 8.50am. This is the time New College Leicester accepts responsibility for him/her on site.

Each day consists of:

- Tutor time 9.00 - 9.15 am
- Lesson 1 9.15 - 10.15 am
- Lesson 2 10.15 - 11.15 am
- Break 11.15 - 11.30 am
- Lesson 3 11.30 - 12.30 pm
- Lunch 12.30 - 1.05 pm
- Lesson 4 1.05 - 2.05 pm
- Lesson 5 2.05 - 3.05 pm

Students are not allowed to leave site at lunchtime. Hot meals and sandwiches are available to purchase or they can bring their lunch with them. Payment for food and drink is made through the Parent Pay system. Please note that online transfers of money to the Parent Pay system must be completed before 10 am for the money to reach your child's account by lunchtime that day.

## Uniform

Being a student at New College Leicester means your child will be expected to wear our uniform. Wearing the correct uniform prepares students' minds for learning and instils in them a sense of pride and belonging.

The uniform at New College Leicester consists of:

- College blazer
- Clip-on tie
- Plain black full length school trousers (no skinny or jean type trousers)
- Plain black knee length skirt
- Plain black V-neck jumper or cardigan can be worn

- Tights/socks must be plain black or white and ankle length
- White shirt that buttons up to the neck
- Plain all black leather look formal shoes
- Plain black outdoor coat

Please see our website for further details and the latest information.

### Jewellery

One small pair of gold or silver studs, one in each ear lobe, and a watch is acceptable.

### College bag

A big and strong enough bag to hold all exercise books, textbooks and equipment is needed.

### Hairstyles/Make-Up/Piercings

Make-up for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 is not allowed, however very discreet make-up for students in Year 10 and 11 may be worn.

Hair should be worn in an appropriate business-like style and colour. Facial or body piercing jewellery is not allowed. Ear stretchers, false eyelashes, false nails and nail polish are not allowed.

The college reserves the right to decide whether any individual's uniform, hair or use of make-up is acceptable.

### Mobile Phones/Valuables

We take no responsibility for mobile phones or any other valuables and they should not be brought into the college.

**Please note:** Mobile phones will be confiscated if they are seen. They will be returned to students at 3.30 pm on Friday only or to parents following a pre-arranged parental appointment with the Head of Year.



### Equipment

Your child will need to have the following equipment:

- Clear plastic pencil case
- Pencils (2 minimum)
- Pens (minimum 2 black, 2 red and 2 purple)
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Pencil sharpener
- Protractor
- Scientific calculator and compass
- Water Bottle

PE kit needed for all year groups consist of: black shorts, black tracksuit bottoms, college purple polo shirt or college purple round neck sweatshirt/hoodie (optional), black football socks (optional), trainers, football boots, swimming costume/trunks (swimming in Year 7 only).

Please ensure you label your child's clothes with first and last name. Any lost property without a name on it will be held for one month then passed on to the local charity shop.

### Keeping in touch

**Parents/carers are always welcome in college but please telephone first, on 0116 231 8500 to make an appointment. Please note we will not be able to see you without an appointment.**

We will keep you fully informed of your child's progress through college reports, letters, on-line app and Parents' Evenings.

The college newsletter and website provides information about the large number of activities and events going on in the college.

The college releases information daily via Twitter @NewCollegeLeics, on Facebook and on Instagram.

### Admissions

The college's Admission Policy is aligned to the Local Authority. The Leicester City admission criteria is used to decide which students will be allocated places in the college.

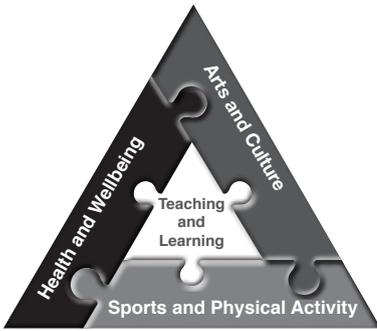
These students who (in order of priority):

- Are in the care of a Local Authority
- Are on the "list of children subject to child protection plans" and need to attend an alternative school to avoid the abuser
- Live in the priority catchment area for the college
- Have a brother or sister attending the same school in year groups 7 to 10 from the proposed time of entry
- Live in the area of a closed school whose parents name on one of the linked schools to that area
- Are the children of parents/carers fearing domestic violence
- Live nearest to the college

To ensure your child secures a place at New College Leicester you should identify us as your first choice. However, if your child's name needs to go onto our waiting list and a place becomes available after Year 7 transfer, the above allocation criteria is used.

Application forms are available on Leicester City Council's website. Applications from people who are new to the city can also be made via the Local Authority.

Parents/carers and students who want to visit the college can make contact via reception on 0116 231 8500. We currently schedule monthly tours where you will have the opportunity to see the college at work. Further details regarding the Education Authority's Admissions Procedure including the appeals process can be obtained from the Leicester City Council Admissions Department on 0116 454 1009.



## NEW COLLEGE LEICESTER

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