



# The Deanery Sixth Form College LOCAL OFFER

<b>Setting Name and Address</b>	Deanery Sixth Form Frog Lane Wigan WN1 1HQ	<b>Telephone Number</b>	01942 597517
		<b>Website Address</b>	www.deanery.wigan.sch.uk
<b>What age range of learners does the post 16 setting cater for?</b>	We can support young people from 16-18		
<b>Contact details: Name</b>	Anthea Friend – Assistant Head/Head of Sixth Form		
<b>Telephone:</b>	01942 597517		

## Our offer

The Deanery Sixth Form is a Voluntary Aided Sixth Form college and part of the 11-18 provision at the Deanery High School and Sixth Form College. We are an inclusive college and able to provide individualised study programmes based on student need. We provide support for students with complex needs, communication difficulties, ASD and sensory impairments.

Our core curriculum comprises of A Level subjects, L3 BTEC qualifications, L2 BTEC qualifications and Resit GCSE Maths and English. A Levels can be combined with BTECs. A full list of the courses on offer can be seen on our website. We are able to combine our core offer with a bespoke programme in some cases, for example small group Maths and English teaching, work placements and Supported Internships to help learners prepare for the workplace. Level 1 courses in Maths and English may also be available where required. The pathways we have on offer allow students to progress from Level 2 qualifications to Level 3 qualifications if successful.

The Sixth Form comprises of a common room, private study area, Sixth Form classrooms and High Needs 'Learning Zone'. Sixth Form lessons are held within the Sixth Form centre and within the main school. All areas of the school are adapted for wheelchair access (e.g. via lift).

During the application process we will discuss the needs of the student with all stakeholders to determine the study programme that is most suitable for the learner. This may include courses at level 1, 2 or 3, learning support within the classroom, small group teaching and 1-1 or small group support outside of the classroom.

The Deanery Sixth Form is situated in the town centre of Wigan within close proximity to the bus station and train stations.

## **Safeguarding and well-being of your Children and Young People**

Safeguarding of all students and staff is of the highest importance at the Deanery Sixth Form and we follow closely the recommendations for Keeping Children Safe in Education. We have specialist staff trained in safeguarding issues; our safeguarding lead is Mrs L Turner. Staff have regular training in relation to safeguarding to keep them up to date with national strategies. Our policies reflect the importance of safeguarding and these include policies covering safeguarding and child protection, e-safety, anti-bullying, data protection and health and safety. Sixth Form students carry student ID cards which allow access to the site. The site is protected from intruders via perimeter fencing. We have an electronic registration system to monitor student presence on site and use a text message service to alert parents of absence if we have not received prior notification. Risk assessments are made when required. Supervision may be available during break and lunch times according to individual needs. We liaise with external agencies when required to ensure the well-being and safety of the student is maintained. Our Sixth Form assemblies often have a health and well-being theme, and student well-being is also promoted during our 'Successful Life Skills days', for example via stress relief, mental health awareness and healthy eating sessions.

## **Communication with families**

Communication with families is vital to the success of our students, and we are keen to work in partnership with parents/guardians. We communicate academic data four times a year, and issue letters home with additional general or specific information throughout the year. Text messages are also used to communicate information regarding attendance on the first day of absence. Our newsletter, the Post-16 Post is produced at four points during the year and available on our website to inform families of key Sixth Form events and activities. We have an Information Evening in September for Y12 parents and an annual Parents Evening each December for lower and upper sixth students. Students with particular needs will have annual reviews in liaison with parents/carers and other agencies. Meetings are available with the Head of Sixth Form/ Headteacher/SEN Coordinator by appointment.

## **Help and Support available**

Post-16 study is a time of immense change for students; new subjects, new teachers, a new environment and new peer groups. All this change leads to new challenges. Support is often needed on a variety of levels - academic support, pastoral support, career-related support for example. At the Deanery sixth Form students with particular needs receive support from our specialist post-16 Learning Assistants, who support students with additional needs both within and outside the classroom. Pastoral support is available via our post-16 Guidance and Welfare Officer, and where necessary the support extends in liaison with other agencies for example CAHMS. Students also receive pastoral guidance and academic support via their Personal Tutor who has regular contact with their students each week. These appointments allow the tutor to monitor academic progress and discuss any pastoral issues with the student. Students may be eligible for a means-tested bursary which provides financial support for

students. Eligible students are offered free school meals.

We also have a specialised post-16 Careers Advisor who offers advice and guidance to sixth form students relating to their future plans. This service is available to students every Thursday. Students can arrange their own appointments and parents are very welcome to attend these appointments if desired. Students are required to have at least one appointment during their L6th year and a further appointment during their U6th year.

Exam concessions are arranged for eligible students to receive support with external examinations, e.g additional rooms rather than examination halls and the provision of scribes, readers and extra time.

In addition the following support is also available to all Sixth Form Students

- We offer an on-site counselling service for students.
- We have a first aid point for students to visit in the event of illness or emergency.
- We offer sessions for students to help them develop healthy thinking e.g. 'State of Mind'
- NHS nurses visit college on a regular basis to offer Sexual Health advice.

## Transition to and from the institution

### **Transition into the Deanery Sixth Form**

Pre-enrolment guidance is offered to students to enable course selection. Guidance is available to students who make applications from other high schools within the Local Authority or wider area, and each applicant is invited to interview to discuss their application and visit the site. We welcome visits to the Sixth Form during the college day, and these can be arranged by appointment. All applicants are invited to an induction day in July to familiarise themselves with the environment and prepare for post-16 study. During the enrolment and induction process students are provided with an induction pack to help them make a good start to post-16 study. This includes a parental handbook as well as a student handbook so that parents can also support their son/daughter during the transition process

In addition, we hold Open Evenings in October and January to provide information to prospective parents/student, and Sixth Form taster days are held in July for Y10 students to provide experiences and information prior to the application process during Y11.

### **Transition from the Deanery Sixth Form into Higher Education, Employment or Apprenticeships**

We provide many opportunities for students to gain knowledge, skills and experiences that will help them make the transition from the Sixth Form into the next stage of their education or career and adulthood. For example:

- Subject areas visit relevant industries as part of the curriculum offer
- We offer Work Experience Placements as part of our Sixth form Enhancement programme
- We offer Supported Internships for students who need additional support to gain the confidence and skills to be ready for the workplace
- Students moving into employment attend 'Employability' sessions
- Students have access to Unifrog which allows them to build a CV, record their key skills and competencies and search for apprenticeships and courses
- Employers are invited into college to speak to students, e.g. from the NHS, Network Rail, MBDA, Ministry of Defence
- We offer road safety awareness and finance sessions for high needs students to help prepare for adulthood

## Enrichment/Additionality

Many subject areas offer trips and visits to local industry, universities, events, theatre etc. Residential visits take place within some subject areas e.g. a Biology Field Course and a Revision course for Psychology and Sociology students. We offer Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award and the Extended Project Qualification. The Sixth formers get involved in charity fund raising events for example crowdfunding for Oxfam and Children in Need. All students attend a 'Safe Drive Stay Alive' conference in Manchester. Small group visits take place to local employers such as 'Uncle Joe's Mintballs', 'Nicepak' and 'Fur Clemp'.

One afternoon per week for lower sixth students is 'Enhancement Time' Students can choose to follow the college enhancement programme, arrange a work placement or follow the Teachers of Tomorrow Programme. Student Voice meetings are held on a fortnightly basis. Please see our Sixth Form newsletter 'The Post-16 Post' on our website for detailed information about the most recent enrichment activities at the Deanery Sixth Form.