



St John Rigby College



Setting Name and Address	St John Rigby College, Gathurst Road, Orrell, Wigan, WN5 0LJ	Telephone Number	01942 214797
		Website Address	www.sjr.ac.uk
What age range of learners does the post 16 setting cater for?	16-19		
Contact details: Name	Peter Dewhurst – Learning Support Manager		
Telephone:	01942 214797 ext219		
Email:	Peter.dewhurst@sjr.ac.uk		

Our offer

SJR is a Catholic College dedicated to the education and development of the whole person and supporting all students to realise their full potential. Being an Ofsted outstanding learning organisation we have a strong sense of purpose and a commitment to shared values within a Christian community. We establish a unique and challenging environment where every individual is valued, talents are recognised and nurtured, achievements are celebrated and dedication is rewarded. We as a community will:

- Welcome all students who are happy to be educated within a Christian environment
- Value the uniqueness and dignity of each individual
- Deliver the highest standards of teaching and learning
- All show a commitment to our work and the Christian values of the college
- Provide equality of opportunity, with mutual respect and positive encouragement
- Build and further develop local, national and international partnerships

Core values in daily life at St John Rigby College are expressed as:

- Genuine concern for others
- Support for and challenge of one another
- High standards and expectations
- Consistency and perseverance
- Recognition of talents, progress and achievements

We are a college of approximately 1400 students and offer programs of study at

- Level 3 (A level)
- Level 2 (equivalent to GCSE level)
- Level 1 (pre-GCSE level)
- Entry Level (pre-GCSE level).

We offer both BTEC qualifications and A-Level qualifications. We also offer Supported Internships to students with EHC plans. To find more details on the specific courses we offer see our Prospectus by following this link:

<http://sjr.ac.uk/prospectus/index.html?page=1>

The College can offer specialist provision to learners with Learning Difficulty and Disability (LDD) as detailed below, and has successfully supported learners from Entry Level to Level 3 A level with barriers to learning including:

- SpLD / Dyslexia
- Dyspraxia
- Asperger's Syndrome / ASD
- Autism
- ADD/ ADHD
- Visual impairment
- Hearing impairment
- Mental health difficulties
- Medical issues
- Physical disabilities

If you have specific needs which you feel do not fit into any of the above categories, please contact us to discuss your particular needs.

Safeguarding and well-being of your Children and Young People

St John Rigby College fully recognises the importance of its responsibility to the wellbeing of its students and to the guidance it provides for its staff. We are committed to the contribution we can make to protecting and safeguarding young people by:

Raising Awareness

By informing staff, learners and visitors about the College's continuing commitment to protecting and safeguarding learners and other vulnerable people.

Prevention

For all staff to be aware of the potential range of learner needs and to encourage an ethos and to promote a strong pastoral system, in which learners find staff approachable to enable communication of any problems which may be affecting their lives.

Protection

By following agreed procedures, ensuring that staff are informed and aware of the College's Policy, Guidelines and Procedures, and are supported to respond quickly and appropriately and sensitively to Child Protection and Safeguarding concerns.

Support

By offering appropriate support to learners who have concerns about abuse and to College staff who support them.

Collaboration

When working with young people from partner institutions it is the responsibility of that home institution to ensure that all Child Protection and Safeguarding legislation and procedures are ensured for their learners. This responsibility is with the College when our students are engaged in College activities off site.

Risk assessments are conducted for all College trips and outings where LDD learner needs are individualised.

The College has a dedicated 'Nurture Room' where LDD learners, have the space to develop their social, moral and emotional wellbeing.

Designated Person for Safeguarding: Paula Nolan – Vice Principal

Communication with families

At St John Rigby we pride ourselves on having excellent communication with parents and carers. Learning mentors are in contact (as often as required) with the parents/carers of high needs learners on a regular basis by either telephone or email.

Formally SEND learners are reviewed three times throughout the year and the parents/carers are invited in to play an active role in the second review, this provides opportunity to discuss current progress and allow planning for the future.

We hold two parent's conferences specifically for SEND learners in which we invite parents/carers into college to inform them of the specific support that the college will be offering.

Parents/carers are contacted six times a year with the results of subject assessment checks, specific subject attendance and comments on effort and the meeting of deadlines.

We have two subject parent's evenings each year giving parents the opportunity to discuss subject specific performance with teachers. We also have various parental information evenings throughout the year giving important information about students next steps.

Parents/carers are contacted via text message if students are absent from college if we have not received a message to inform us of the student's absence, this plays a vital role in the safeguarding of our students.

Parents/carers are encouraged to contact college to speak with teachers, the Learning Support Manager or Learning Mentors at any time to discuss any concerns they may have.

Help and Support available

Specialist Teachers:

We have a number of specialist teachers who are qualified to assess students for specific learning needs and who can apply to the examination boards to put into place any exam access arrangements to support students through their exams.

Learning Mentors:

We have a large team of experienced Learning Mentors who are trained in supporting students with specific needs. We have a wealth of experience in supporting students with physical difficulties, emotional difficulties, social difficulties hearing impairments, visual impairments, dyslexia and medical conditions.

Facilities:

We are a mainstream college based in Orrell in a campus environment. Our campus is adapted for wheelchair access. We have many accessible toilets on site including a fully fitted hygiene suite fitted with hoists and a changing bed.

We have a nurture room, to enable students with additional needs the space to relax at break and lunchtime away from the busy social areas of the college. This room is staffed through break and lunchtimes.

We have a fully functional Gym, offering memberships to students and parents, which is staffed by fully qualified personal trainers.

We have an Open Learning Centre which can be accessed before and after college for independent study and is fully equipped with both Windows and Mac computers.

We have a Library stocked with vital resources that will support you in your studies.

Careers Advisor:

We have an experienced Careers Advisor based at college who is able to give students support and advice on applying for university, apprenticeships, supported internships, part time employment and full time employment.

Counsellor:

We have a Counsellor based in college, students can self-refer to see the counsellor or they can be referred by teachers or parents with the students consent. Students are offered a confidential and safe space to see the counsellor.

Equipment:

We have specialist equipment to support students with hearing impairments, visual impairments, physical disabilities, dyslexia including screen-reading technologies, reading pens, dictation software, coloured overlays and other specialist equipment.

Laptops are available on identifying needs on a loan basis.

Agencies:

We have strong links with various agencies such as Wigan Supported Employment, Wigan Sensory Service, CAMHS, Social Services, NHS Specialists.

Transition to and from the institution

Transition to college:

The Learning Support Manager works extremely closely with parents, learners and feeder schools to ensure new learners experience a smooth transition from high school to college.

The Learning Support Manager and his team are available on all open evenings to have discussions with students and parents/carers. From this communication with learners and parents we can then contact the relevant staff in partner high schools, Careers Advisors and external agencies.

The Learning Support Manager will attend school transition meetings with the school and Local Education Authority.

Once the learner has applied to college, the student will be invited to a course discussion evening, the Learning Support Manager can be a part of these discussions.

The Learning Support Manager will then invite students and their parents in to college as many times as necessary to allow the students to get used to the college and to meet staff before starting college in September.

Enrolment support and Induction support can be provided if there is a need to do so.

Transition from college to work:

Supported Internships:

We offer Supported Internships to SEND students with EHC Plans. These courses include a work placement and with one day of study in college.

Support on placements is provided by Wigan Supported Employment service. Placements are arranged to suit individual student's interests and needs.

We support students through the Supported Internship and into permanent employment.

Transition from college to University:

We can also support to SEND learners in the transition to university by helping complete university application forms and accompanying them on university open day events.

Employer links:

We have strong links with various different employers and organisations with whom we work with to enhance the student experience and to enable learners to get an insight into the world of work. We have links with Wrightington Hospital, UK Fast, Prison Service, Wigan Council and other employers.

Transition to adult services:

We ensure that all SEND students have a plan for when they have completed their studies. Planning begins during the second review in which we invite in students, parents and the Local education authority.

Case studies:

Student 1

Student 1 joined us on a level 3 A level program studying Art, Psychology and Maths, she received full support in college due to her social and emotional needs.

On completing her studies, she felt that university wasn't the right option at the moment and felt that some support in the work place would suit her.

She was placed with Wigan Council in a Business Administration Role. At the start of her placement she received some support from college staff and Wigan Supported Employment staff, the level of support was reduced quickly due to her success on the program.

Student 1 was coming towards the end of her program when she was advised to apply for the position of Business Administration Apprentice in the department where she had been placed.

She received support from college staff and Wigan Supported Employment and she was successful in securing the position.

She is very happy in her work and thankful for the support she received to give her the confidence in the workplace.

Student 2

Student 2 joined us on at Level 1 on the Foundation Studies course, he progressed with us and moved on to study a Level 2 BTEC in Business Studies, on completing this he felt that he wanted to gain employment but was lacking the confidence or experience to do so.

Student 2 enrolled onto the Supported Internship program and completed a successful placement with Wigan and Leigh Homes. During this work placement student 2 gained the skills and experience needed to enable him to gain employment with Wigan Council as a Business Administration Apprentice.

Student 3

Student 3 joined us at Entry 3 on the Foundation Studies course, she progressed on to study at Level 1 and then moved onto a Supported Internship completing a placement at B&M bargains working as a sales assistant.

Student 3 required support at the beginning of her placement due to her lacking in confidence and lack of skills and experience. Once she gained her confidence she made a fantastic impression within the store and was awarded Employee of the Month.

On completing her studies and placement she was offered permanent employment with B&M Bargains.

Student 4

Student 4 joined us on a Level 2 Business BTEC on completing this he progressed on to study a Level 3 Business BTEC with us.

He received full in class support to enable him to access the course due to his specific learning needs.

He was supported to apply to University and has recently graduated with a First Class Honours Degree in Business Management.

Enrichment/Additionality

Enrichment at St John Rigby is vital to the student experience, we offer a wide range of activities to support your studies, enhance your learning experience and offer enjoyment whilst you are studying at college.

We have competitive sports teams competing in college leagues in the following sports:

Football (both male and female teams)

Rugby League (both male and female teams)

Netball and Basketball with fixtures taking place on Wednesday afternoons.

We also offer non-competitive sporting activities such as:

Yoga

Badminton

Cheerleading, Fencing and Rock climbing.

We also offer:

The Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

Student action groups

Public speaking

Music Production

Music Theory

Film Clubs

Chaplaincy meetings

Latin for beginners

Sign Language clubs

Maths Challenge clubs

LGBTQ groups.

Throughout the year there are various opportunities for overseas trips within subject areas to places such as:

China

Paris

Barcelona

Geneva

Iceland

as well as many day trips within this country.

Useful links

www.sjr.ac.uk

<http://sjr.ac.uk/iroam/iroam.asp> - Virtual College Tour

<http://sjr.ac.uk/prospectus/index.html?page=1> – College Prospectus