

SECONDARY & FURTHER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

2023 - 2024



**Warrington
& Vale Royal
College**



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YOUR CAREER COLLEGE

Working closely with schools across Warrington, Cheshire, Wigan, St Helens, Halton and Greater Manchester.

Warrington & Vale Royal College is committed to supporting your pupils to make informed decisions about a future that is right for them. By providing quality information, advice and guidance throughout Key Stage 3, 4 and beyond, we aim to ensure that your pupils have the opportunity to learn about all post-16 options and future career possibilities, whilst assisting your school to meet its Gatsby Benchmarks, and comply to Provider Access Legislation.

It matters to all of us at the college that every young person in the region is empowered to fulfil their potential and progress into a successful career and/or higher education. By working together, we believe that your pupils will feel confident navigating their next steps and that the best opportunities for young people in our area will be ensured.



Nichola Newton

Principal & Chief Executive



SECONDARY & FURTHER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

All local secondary schools are automatically enrolled onto our Secondary & Further Education Partnership Programme, benefitting from a diverse package of activities, flexible to suit the priorities of your curriculum and interests of your pupils.

Outlined on pages **6 - 11** are the many different ways your school can engage with the college. Please note that the activities within this booklet are flexible and can be tailored to suit your careers delivery and desired learning outcomes. If your school is planning an event, please do not hesitate to contact our School Engagement Team and we will be happy to support you.

In addition, our school partners can take advantage of:

- Our experts working with your experts to shape curriculum
- Monthly application reports, helping to track your pupils' journey to college
- Bespoke teaching support/delivery
- Use of our commercial and teaching facilities
- Conference and networking opportunities
- Awards sponsorship.

Helping you to meet Gatsby Benchmarks

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. A stable careers programme | 5. Encounters with employers and employees |
| 2. Learning from career and labour market information (LMI) | 6. Experiences of workplaces |
| 3. Addressing the needs of each pupil | 7. Encounters with further and higher education |
| 4. Linking curriculum learning to careers | 8. Personal guidance |



MEET THE SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT TEAM



Megan Stanley

School Engagement
Executive

mstanley@wvr.ac.uk
01925 494 571

From:
Warrington

Previous roles:

I was previously Assistant Programme Manager of a community youth programme. Other previous roles include Employer Engagement Officer, Sales Assistant and Student Recruitment Advisor.

Favourite session to deliver:
Discover Day



Ella Pollard

Senior School Engagement
Officer

epollard@wvr.ac.uk
01925 494 664

From:
Warrington

Previous roles:

I have worked as a Customer Service Team Leader, Retail Supervisor, Employee Benefit Trust Representative and Sales Assistant.

Favourite session to deliver:
Drop-in Advice Session



Ellena Rolfe

School Engagement Officer

erolfe@wvr.ac.uk
01925 494 414

From:
Runcorn

Previous roles:

I have worked as a Digital Marketing Coordinator at a further education college, as well as front of house team leading within the hospitality sector.

Favourite session to deliver:
Mock Interviews

OUR SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT MENU

Year Group Assembly

Years 9, 10 & 11

Gatsby Benchmark 1

A member of our team will deliver an engaging and informative presentation on vocational pathways, our courses and college life. We offer three different types of assemblies: general school leaver information, T Levels and apprenticeships.

Drop-in Advice Session

Years 9, 10 & 11

Gatsby Benchmark 8

A member of our team will be available to provide information, advice and guidance about post-16 options and our college offer. This session can take place during form time, over lunch, or at your specific request.

Mock Interviews

Years 10 & 11

Gatsby Benchmark 5

A member of our team can support your mock interview days, giving pupils the opportunity to participate in an interview and receive constructive feedback.

Application Workshop

Year 11

Gatsby Benchmark 7

Taking place during form time, over lunch or at your specific request, this workshop provides pupils with an overview of our college offer and the application process. A member of our team can support pupils in completing their college application, advise on what happens next and provide them with key information about their transition to college.

Course Discussions

Year 11

Once pupils have applied, the team can conduct course discussion appointments in school to help them secure an offer of a place. This can be arranged for all pupils who have applied, or for smaller groups who have difficulty attending their appointment at college.

School Careers Fairs & Events

All year groups

Gatsby Benchmark 7

A member of the team will support your school careers fair by offering information, advice and guidance on our courses and college life.

Parents' Evening Support

Years 9, 10 & 11

Gatsby Benchmark 7

A member of the team can be present at these events with a stand, providing college information, advice and guidance.

CV Writing

Years 10 & 11

Gatsby Benchmark 5

Tips and advice on how to create a professional CV, helping to prepare students for the world of work.

Interview Skills

Years 10 & 11

Gatsby Benchmark 7

An engaging session on how to prepare for and answer interview questions that today's employers are asking, including practical activities to identify their skills and practise interview responses.

Campus Tours

Years 10 & 11

Gatsby Benchmark 3

A member of the team can provide a guided tour of the college classrooms and facilities, provide course information and support with applying. Tours are offered on either a one-to-one or group basis.

Bespoke Curriculum Masterclasses

Years 10 & 11

Gatsby Benchmark 7

If you have a group of pupils who are interested in a particular curriculum area, our tutor/s will deliver an interactive experience to help prepare them for college. This can take place either in school or at college.

TASTER DAY

Year 10



Held at our Warrington campus, these fun, informative events welcome your Year 10 cohort to explore all the college has to offer.

Designed to expand your pupils' careers awareness and encourage them to feel excited about their next steps, pupils have the opportunity to try three taster sessions in courses of interest to them, participate in engaging enrichment activities, and experience a real taste of college life!

Transport and lunch for pupils and school staff on the day is provided.

Early booking is recommended.

"Students really enjoyed the practical elements and were treated like college students; the independence was highly promoted throughout the day."

Teacher
Beamont Collegiate Academy

"The day was really well organised and well thought out. My pupils had a great experience overall, there was a variety of courses on offer, the food was great, and they realised that college isn't as scary as they thought!"

Head of Year 11
Sir Thomas Boteler CofE High School

"An excellent day. Great organisation before and during the event. Pupils were engaged and sessions were delivered perfectly, they gained a very useful information at a very critical time. Thank you and please invite us again next year!"

Careers Advisor
Beamont Collegiate Academy

DISCOVER DAY

Years 9, 10 & 11



The team will be joined by our expert tutors to host a bespoke Warrington & Vale Royal College fair. Tutors from various curriculum areas will display an interactive stand where pupils can engage in fun, course-related activities and find out more about their post-16 options and career opportunities.

"We (staff) but especially the students are really appreciative of the time and effort your staff put in to make it a useful, informative, fun and really engaging event. I have had praise from both staff and students alike. Once again, thank you."

Careers Support
Bridgewater High School

SCHOOL COMPETITIONS & ACADEMIES

Every year, Warrington & Vale Royal College host a number of exciting competitions and academies for local to give young people a platform to showcase their skills and support their career aspirations, the college is d the North West. Whether your pupils are passionate about creative arts, dream of starring in a West End prod Michelin-star chef, there is something they can get involved in.



WVR Performing Arts Academy

Years 10 & 11

A 4-week academy for pupils to experience a choice of bespoke acting, singing or dance workshops after-school, delivered by our expert performing arts team in our Advanced Creative & Digital Skills (ACDS) Academy.

Over the course of the academy, pupils will perfect their theatrical skills and improve their confidence, before two Young Performers of the Year are awarded, with the winners receiving a £50 gift card each to spend at UK theatres.

Academy dates: Every Wednesday, 4.00pm - 5.00pm, from 1st November - 22nd November 2023



Young Artist of the Year

Years 10 & 11

We are always on the lookout for pupils who are passionate about creativity to demonstrate their artistic and technical skills in our annual competition. With two categories to enter - Creative Art and Digital Art - pupils can submit artwork from watercolours, modelling and illustration, to photography, sketching and even fashion!

All artwork is then displayed in a live exhibition in the college's new Advanced Creative & Digital Skills (ACDS) Academy, and celebrated by entrants, their friends, family and school teachers.

Entry deadline: Friday 1st March 2024

Exhibition & Awards Ceremony: Wednesday 20th March 2024

ACADEMIES

secondary school pupils to take part in. Designed to celebrate young talent from all over the region, or want to be the next beauty influencer or



Junior MasterChef

Years 9 & 10

A fantastic opportunity for pupils with a talent for cooking to showcase their culinary and teamwork skills by working in pairs to create and enter a unique two-course themed menu.

Teams whose menu impress our expert judges will be invited into our award-winning onsite restaurant, Buckley's, to work in industry-standard kitchens in an exciting final cook-off. Along with 2024's title, the winning team will receive £100 in vouchers to spend at some of the country's most-loved restaurants.

Menu submission deadline: Friday 17th May 2024

Cook-off: Friday 21st June 2024

KEY COLLEGE EVENTS

Year 11 Open Evenings 2023-2024

Warrington campus, 5.00pm - 8.00pm

- Tuesday 10th October 2023
- Wednesday 18th October 2023
- Monday 6th November 2023
- Wednesday 7th February 2024

College Experience Evenings

- Tuesday 30th January 2024
- Tuesday 26th March 2024

New Student Welcome Day

- Tuesday 9th July 2024

OUR COURSES

Technical courses

A hands-on, practical alternative to A Levels, perfect for those who are looking to develop skills employers are looking for but want the choice of progressing straight into employment, onto university or an apprenticeship. Offering courses ranging from entry level to level 3 (A Level equivalent) in a variety of subject areas, there are plenty of options.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| • Art, Design & Fashion | • Digital & IT | • Hair & Beauty | • Skills for Independence, Life & Work |
| • Business | • Engineering & Science | • Health & Social Care | • Sport, Military & Emergency Services |
| • Childcare | • Foundation Learning | • Hospitality & Catering | • Travel & Tourism |
| • Construction & Construction Trades | • Graphics, Games Design & Media | • Motor Vehicle | |
| | | • Performing & Production Arts | |

T Levels

A brand-new qualification designed to give students a head start towards the future they want. These two-year courses follow GCSEs and are equivalent to 3 A Levels, combining academic, classroom-based learning with an industry placement.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| • Accounting | • Digital | • Hairdressing | • Media |
| • Beauty Therapy | • Early Years | • Health | • Motor Vehicle |
| • Business | • Engineering & Manufacturing | • Healthcare Science | • Science |
| • Construction & Construction Trades | • Finance | • Legal Services | |

T Level Foundation Year

These one-year, post-GCSE courses are designed to prepare students to progress onto and succeed in their chosen T Level. They will develop the industry-relevant skills and knowledge before furthering their qualification and skillset on a two-year T Level course.

- | | | | |
|------------|---|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Business | • Construction Design, Surveying & Planning | • Digital & Media | • Engineering & Motor Vehicle |
| | | • Early Years | • Health & Science |

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships allow students to work and study at the same time, combining practical training in the workplace with college studies, so that they can earn while they learn. Please note, we advise that school leavers applying for an apprenticeship also apply for a full-time course as a back-up, in case they don't have an employer ready to hire them when leaving school. Once they have started the full-time course, our dedicated Apprenticeships Team can support them in finding an apprenticeship position.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Accounting | • Customer Services | • Hairdressing | • Multi-Channel Marketing |
| • Adult Care Worker | • Data Technician | • Human Resources | • Plumbing & Heating |
| • Bricklaying | • Early Years Practitioner | • ICT | • Science Manufacturing Technician |
| • Business | • Electrical Installation | • Laboratory Technician | |
| • Carpentry & Joinery | • Engineering | • Motor Vehicle | |

COURSE LEVELS & ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Warrington & Vale Royal College is passionate about offering a wide range of courses to suit all levels of ability, ensuring learning is accessible to all students. Upon leaving school, your pupils can choose from a variety of vocational courses, T Levels and apprenticeships, ranging from entry level to level 3.

T Levels

Minimum of 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including maths and English. For some T Levels a grade 4 in science is also essential.

Level 3

Minimum of 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including maths and/or English, or successful completion of a level 2 course. If pupils do not manage to achieve a grade 4 or above in maths and/or English, they will need to resit this as part of their level 3 course.

T Level Foundation Year

Minimum of a grade 4 in maths or English, plus 3 GCSEs at grade 3 or above, or successful completion of a level 1 course. For some T Level Foundation Year courses a grade 3 in science is also essential. If you do not manage to achieve a grade 4 or above in maths or English, you will need to re-sit this as part of your course to ensure you can progress onto a T Level.

Level 2

Minimum of 4 GCSEs at grade 3 or above, including maths and/or English, or successful completion of a level 1 course. If pupils do not manage to achieve a grade 4 or above in maths and/or English, they will need to resit this as part of their level 2 course.

Level 1

Minimum of 4 GCSEs at grade 2 or above.

Entry Level

No minimum grades required. Everyday skills in reading and writing, basic literacy and numeracy skills and a willingness to learn.

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

Student support is central to everything we do at Warrington & Vale Royal College. We pride ourselves in our ability to support each and every student through their college experience.

Pastoral Support

All students have a Progress Coach who meets with them on a 1-1 basis, monitors their attendance and performance, and offers advice and guidance. Our highly-trained Safeguarding Team work closely with Progress Coaches to help students overcome any issues affecting their wellbeing, including physical and mental health, welfare, financial worries and personal issues.

Additional Learning Support

Our dedicated Additional Learning Support (ALS) Team work closely with students to develop the skills, behaviours and attitudes to enable them to realise their full potential and prepare for their next steps.

When applying for a course, pupils are encouraged to disclose any disability or learning difficulty so that we can ensure the appropriate support is in place for when they start college.

Support may include:

- Exam access arrangements
 - In-class support (prompts, readers and scribes)
 - Lunchtime and break support
 - Meet and greet
 - Mobility support
 - Modification of learning materials
 - Orientation
 - Specialist resources and equipment (laptops with assistive software, Dictaphone and reader pens).
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Transition & Education Health and Care Plan

If pupils have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), we will produce a bespoke support plan outlining the support that they need at college. We also take part in annual reviews at school and offer various transition visits to help them adjust to college life.

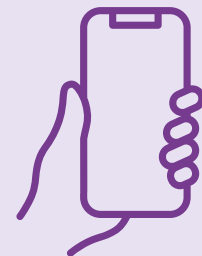


OUR STUDENT JOURNEY

1. APPLY

Pupils can apply either online at **wvr.ac.uk** or by completing a paper application form at a school or college event. Once they have applied, they can download our college app to track their application and keep up-to-date with college events and news. The 'MyWVR' app can be downloaded for free on the App Store or Google Play.

When applying, we would also encourage pupils to register their place on one of our free college bus services at **wvr.ac.uk/bus**



2. ATTEND A COURSE DISCUSSION

Pupils who apply will be invited to a mandatory course discussion with the tutor, where they can find out more information about the course and ask any questions about college. It is at this appointment where pupils secure an offer of a place on their course, subject to their GCSE grades and school reference. Please note, if pupils apply for multiple courses, they will need to attend a course discussion for each course they have applied for.

If pupils miss two appointments and our Admissions Team are unable to contact them, their application is automatically withdrawn until they advise on how they would like to proceed.



3. ACCEPT OFFER

Following their course discussion, pupils will receive confirmation of their offer of a place from our Admissions Team by email. If Warrington & Vale Royal College is their first choice, we would encourage them to **secure their place** by accepting their offer.



4. ATTEND APPLICANT EVENTS

Pupils who apply will be invited to our College Experience Evenings and New Student Welcome Day. These exclusive applicant events take place throughout Year 11 to provide pupils with the opportunity to try the course they have applied for, helping them to feel sure they have made the right choice.



ENROL ON GCSE RESULTS DAY

Once pupils have received their GCSE results, they can come into college and enrol on their course! If they don't quite achieve the entry requirements for their course, please encourage them to still come along to discuss their grades and we can support them in exploring alternative courses.



FREE BUS TO COLLEGE

Travelling to college has never been easier!

Due to popular demand, we will be offering the following FREE* dedicated bus services to all our 16-18 year old students.

Warrington campus:

WVR 1 - Irlam, Glazebrook, Culcheth, Birchwood, Fearnhead, Padgate

WVR 2 - Winsford, Weaverham, Hartford

WVR 3 - Leigh, Lowton, Golborne, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Haydock, Newton-le-Willows

WVR 4 - St Helens, Widnes, Penketh, Great Sankey, Westbrook, Chapelford, Hood Manor, Bewsey

WVR 5 - Northwich Bus Station, Barnton

WVR 6 - Brookvale, Heath, Runcorn Old Town, Halton Lodge, Sandymoor, Latchford

WVR 7 - Lymm, Thelwall, Grappenhall, Latchford **NEW FOR 2024!**

Reserved for our full-time students only, all bus services arrive at college in time for students to enjoy their FREE breakfast before lessons start and leave after classes finish.

Winsford campus:

Full-time 16-18 year old students studying at our Winsford campus, who live more than one mile away, will be offered a FREE* D&G bus pass.

Please note, services are subject to demand and places are offered on a first-come, first-served basis, so please encourage pupils to register their interest early.

Register at wvr.ac.uk/bus

*Subject to demand. Terms & conditions apply.



schools@wvr.ac.uk

01925 494 494