

Top Tips and Useful Information



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Moving from school to college or an apprenticeship can be an exciting time, but it can also be a big change and perhaps a little bit worrying.

Preparing for the move and knowing what to expect can help the move go smoothly.

Becoming Independent

This is an expected and natural part of everyone's life. College is a great place to continue developing skills, confidence, and freedom to make your own choices, like what you wear, eat, and who your friends will be. However, as part of becoming more independent, you will be expected to take responsibility for managing your own time.

There are no more lesson bells at college, so it will be important to know your timetable and where you are going. Getting to the right room on time may be harder than you think... at first. There will always be staff on hand to help you find your way!

Get Organised

Getting organised reduces stress and keeps you on track.

Top Tips

- Keep up to date with changes to your timetable; check it the night before so you can bring the correct uniform and equipment (on the right days), and don't forget to bring a pen/pencil!
- Don't forget your student ID lanyard; you are required to wear it at all times while in college. If you forget, go straight to reception and request a temporary lanyard.
- There will be inevitable stresses as you settle in, but hang in there and ask for help along the way. You are not alone on this journey, and you will not be the only one trying to work things out.

Contact Us



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Our Facilities

Learning Centres

Our centres on each campus offer a range of resources to support your independent learning in an inclusive environment. You will have access to textbooks, e-books, journals, and magazines all set within modern, flexible environments where you can focus, collaborate, or simply enjoy learning at your own pace.

Refectories

Our cafes and refectories provide the perfect fuel for your day. Learners can enjoy a complimentary breakfast every day from 8am-9am.

Our experienced chefs prepare nutritious meals daily using locally sourced produce.

Our cafes and refectories are great places to relax with friends, recharge your devices, enjoy breakfast, lunch, and breaks, and immerse yourself in College life.

Information Sharing

During enrolment, learners will provide both routine and emergency contact details. The college can only share information with the named contacts provided. If these details are not given, we are unable to communicate with parents or carers about the learner's time at college. Learners can update their contact information at any time.

Medical Conditions

Learners are required to disclose and complete their own medical form. We kindly ask that you complete this accurately and promptly.

Timetable changes

Unlike school, college timetables can be subject to change. The learner has access to their timetable via the college systems. Learners should be encouraged to routinely check for any changes.

Dress Code

We encourage learners to express themselves, but we also expect everyone to dress in a way that is appropriate, respectful, and professional. This helps create a positive and inclusive environment for all.

Clothing should be suitable for a learning setting and reflect the standards expected in a professional or workplace environment.

DRESS CODE

at Chelmsford College

All learners and staff should be dressed modestly and appropriately for our community environment.

DO'S



TOPS



Tops (hoodies, t-shirts, polos, dress shirts, and blouses) that completely cover the chest, shoulders, and midriff, and **DO NOT** have provocative, offensive, or violent references,

BOTTOMS



Shorts and skirts must be loose-fitting, hemmed, and no shorter than six (6) inches above the knee. Loose-fitting sweatpants and jeans are allowed.

SHOES AND HEAD WEAR



Any shoe with a hard sole is allowed. All sandals should have a back strap for safety reasons. No sliders, flip-flops or slip-ons. Headwear is allowed if it does not obscure the face.

DON'TS



TOPS



Tops that show shoulders, chest, or midriff are not allowed. Shirts should also be free of any violent, provocative, or inappropriate language, pictures, or slogans. No 'see-through' clothing should be worn.

BOTTOMS



Shorts/skirts that are more than six (6) inches above the knee, sleepwear, jeans with holes that expose skin, see through leggings are not permitted.

SHOES AND HEAD WEAR



Learners may NOT wear house slippers or any other soft-sole shoes with wheels, no sliders, flip-flops or slip-ons. Hoods, helmets or hats should not be worn inside college buildings, (excluding workshop PPE)

Items of clothing worn for cultural/religious reasons are permitted. If in doubt about any items, please speak with the campus officers team.

Making Friends

Starting at college brings plenty of chances for a fresh start and to meet new people. However, it can also be pretty intimidating when you're in a new place, and you don't know anyone that well.

Reach Out

- Introduce yourself with a smile to whoever you sit next to in class.
- Compliment someone when you speak to them for the first time - everyone loves a compliment. It can be about lots of things, like their style or a comment you heard them make in class.
- Ask about something you see them doing, like the book they are reading or the music they are listening to.

Ask if you can sit with an unfamiliar group or person at lunchtime.

Ask Questions and Actively Listen

- One of the best ways to get to know people is to get them to talk about themselves. Open-ended questions are a great way to get people to open up. Not only does this take the pressure off you to talk, but it leads to a much more interesting conversation than yes/no questions. For example, instead of asking, 'So, do you like Fashion?' ask, 'What made you choose Fashion at college?'
- Listening to the answers is just as important as asking the question. People enjoy conversations a lot more when they feel as though they are being heard. If you really listen to what they are saying, you'll naturally follow up with more questions or comments based on what they said, and that's how a real conversation gets started.

Spend More Time With Your Friends

Join a College Club

One of the best ways to meet people who share your interests is to find a social place, like a College Club. These clubs are organised by college learners; you can find out about the social clubs from the Life Skills department.

Even if you are unsure about a club, but your new friends are going, you could tag along, you never know, you could be the start of a new hobby!

College Gym

Moulsham Street Gym is open and FREE to learners between 12-4pm daily.

Things to remember

Most people are in the same situation, especially on the first day. If your first attempt doesn't work, you can always try again.

It can take time to connect with people, but you will find your friends soon enough

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