



## PARENTS' EVENING Q&A

11.08.21

### **SUPPORT:**

#### **What support do you offer at St Brendan's?**

At St Brendan's, we are very lucky to have a wide range of support available to students. As well as support from their teachers, there is also the following:

**Academic Mentors** – every student has an Academic Mentor throughout their time at College. Academic Mentors get to know their students really well and are there to support them throughout all aspects of college life whether that is academic or pastoral. They are also a point of contact for parents and carers.

**Learning Development and Safeguarding** – offer specialised support to any students who may need it. This could be if a student has a special educational need, disability, learning difficulty or mental health difficulty.

**Careers Team** – provide help and guidance to all students, to support with their progression planning. The Careers Team offer group and 1-1 support for students, as well as a range of opportunities to access careers events virtually and in person.

#### **Will students be given support/guidance if they feel anxious after such a long time out of the classroom?**

At St Brendan's we have a wide range of support available to students. We understand this has been a very difficult year for students and their families. We will have a lot of things in place to make sure that all students and staff members feel supported when they start back in September.

#### **Is there support for work experience?**

Yes there is. We have our very own Careers Team at St Brendan's. We have qualified Careers Advisors to help students with anything from UCAS applications, work experience



and University applications. Students can simply book an appointment with them, and they will help and guide students to understand all their options.

### **TRANSPORT:**

#### **How do we book onto the college bus?**

Students will receive an email shortly re this, but should also keep an eye on the website for information. In w/c 16<sup>th</sup> August, there will be a form to complete which will be on our website. To secure a place, students will be asked to pay £80 and complete a DD form.

#### **Is there a cut off point for requesting a place on the college bus?**

There is no cut off point, although we do allocate seats in the order that the forms come in. Your seat would be reserved for you for 5 days a week - because of the demand we are unable to accept applications for particular days.

<https://www.stbrn.ac.uk/info/travelling-to-college/getting-to-college/>

### **BURSARY:**

#### **When can students apply for a Bursary fund?**

We will be releasing information from the 16<sup>th</sup> August on the website on how to apply. We will send an email once the system is up and running, so please keep checking the website for up to date information.

<https://www.stbrn.ac.uk/info/bursary-support/are-you-worried-about-the-costs/>

### **ENROLMENT:**

#### **When is enrolment?**

Enrolment is running from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> August to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

#### **How long will enrolment take?**



It is a 20 minute appointment where courses are finalised and information is given about your online induction which will run from 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021.

### **What if I can't make my enrolment appointment?**

If you can't make your enrolment appointment, please email [applicationadmin@stbrn.ac.uk](mailto:applicationadmin@stbrn.ac.uk) and we will do our best to reschedule your appointment for another date.

### **Is enrolment face to face or virtual?**

Enrolment will be in college, so face to face.

### **Is there parking on site for enrolment?**

We have made sure people are scheduled in for appointments, so in terms of parking, there shouldn't be any issues. We have a separate student car park which you can park in, but there will be extra open spaces and disabled parking available, so you can access the site easily.

### **What do I need to bring with me on enrolment?**

You will need to bring your GCSE results with you, along with a form of ID such as, Passport, Provisional Driving Licence or Birth Certificate.

### **What if my grades haven't achieved the required entry criteria?**

It is really important that attend your enrolment appointment no matter what your results are - if things haven't quite gone to plan and you haven't got the grades for your first choice courses, we will be able to look at alternative programmes for you.

### **Can I change courses on enrolment?**

Yes, at enrolment we will be able to give the students advice and guidance to make sure their programme of study is appropriate, and it will match their aspirations and what their plans are post-college. Prior to their enrolment appointment, if the student would like to change courses, we really encourage them to go onto the college website and look at subjects that interest them, and look at all the individual topics, modules and how they assessed.

In addition, please be aware some of our popular courses are on waiting lists. You will be able to see straight away on the individual subject pages if they are on a waiting list.



Students will then spend a few minutes filling out a short form with their details, so if a space becomes available on that course, we will be able to contact the student.

### **TIMETABLES / EXTRA CURRICULUR ACTIVITIES:**

#### **When do students receive their timetables?**

Timetables will be ready by the weekend of 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> September and will be emailed to students. Physical lessons in college will start from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

#### **What extra curriculum options do you provide?**

We have a wide enrichment offer, which include sports teams such as boys and girls Football, Basketball and Netball and full use of the gym on site. Plus, we have a myriad of other clubs and societies that are run by our Student Union such as Debate Society, Film Club and Zero Carbon Society.

**BioMed** – The St Brendan’s BioMed group is for students interested in Biology, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary and Nursing Careers.

**STEM** – For students who are interested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

#### **When will students know if they can be part of the AGP (Aspire) Programme?**

Students will find this out during enrolment as it is based on your average GCSE score. For students who do fit the entry criteria for the Aspire programme, there are still plenty of opportunities to take part in masterclasses, etc.

### **FOOD:**

#### **Is there food available to purchase at College?**

Absolutely, we have two cafes on site for students to purchase hot and cold, food and drink. Both cafes are open Monday-Friday 8:30-3:30PM. Both cafes accept either cash or card.

Students are also free to leave site and can purchase food from the many food stores and take-away outlets nearby.



**Do you cater for food intolerances i.e. gluten free options?**

Yes we do. If you let the college know during enrolment that your child has any special dietary requirements, we can then put things in place and to make sure our catering staff are aware.

**COVID 19:**

**Will you be insisting that new students get the vaccination when offered?**

We will not be insisting that students need to be vaccinated. However, we want to continue to make sure our students and staff members remain safe whilst at college and so we will still have particular protocols place in September.

**Will students have to continue taking lateral flow tests?**

Yes, current Government guidelines state that students will need to do a lateral flow test twice a week before they come on site. Guidelines do change, so we will keep students up to date with the latest information.

**ABSENCES:**

**What is the procedure of reporting an absence?**

We have an online system where you fill out a Microsoft form to let the Attendance Officer know, this can be accessed through our website. If you are on site and need to leave, you can also go and see them. It is really important that this procedure is followed, so we can update our registers accordingly and most importantly, to keep students safe.