

Stamford College

PARENT, GUARDIAN & CARER GUIDE

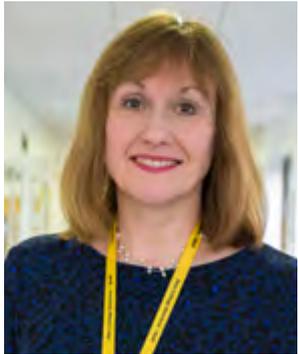
2020



Stamford
College

WELCOME

Introduction from **Janet Meenaghan**
Principal of Stamford College



Our aim is to give every young person the opportunities to achieve to the best of their abilities, so they can progress to further study with us, to find employment or an apprenticeship, or progress to higher education.

We are committed to ensuring our students get the best education possible and will do everything we can to help them achieve their goals.

We look forward to a successful partnership, working with you to ensure your young person's success.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Meenaghan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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REASONS TO CHOOSE US

We understand that making decisions for your young person's education after school can be extremely daunting.

Like us, you want to give them the best possible start and choose the right education that will shape the rest of their lives. We know this can be confusing, but don't worry, we can help!

1 QUALITY

We are constantly improving and updating the facilities on our campus.

Students study in a realistic working environment with industry standard facilities and resources including our £4m Sports Centre, £1m Digital Skills Centre, £7m Construction Skills Centre and dedicated Sixth Form and University Centres.

2 OPPORTUNITY

We are passionate about preparing students for whatever their future may hold.

Our tutors have industry experience and excellent links with local and national employers. Students also have access to a dedicated Careers Advisor to help them on their way to career success and offer support in applying for jobs or university. We also have a Work Experience Team to help students secure work experience and industry placements.

3 SUCCESS

Our students' successes are something we are extremely proud of.

We've consistently trained our students and apprentices to go on to exciting careers and secure places at top universities. Many of our courses have 100% success rates with strong partnerships with employers and community partners to enhance our curriculum.

4 CHOICE

We support you to choose a course that's right for the student.

We offer courses from Entry Level right up to Level 3 and beyond, these include Diplomas, Apprenticeships, A Levels and university level courses across a huge range of subjects from Animal Care to Performing Arts.

5 FINANCIAL SUPPORT

There's lots of financial support available to help students whilst they study.

We can offer financial support to any student from low income households who face the greatest barriers to continuing in education or training. There are a number of funds you can apply for depending on your personal circumstance. Visit our [website](#) for the full details. Find out about other support available on Page 9.

QUALIFICATIONS EXPLAINED

Once your young person has finished their GCSEs, there are a number of different ways they can continue with their education.

For many young people, this may be the first decision they make that will affect their future and as parents and carers you will usually receive questions from your child about what to do next.

THESE ROUTES CAN ALL LEAD TO UNIVERSITY

A LEVELS

A Levels are traditional academic qualifications, typically taught in the classroom.

- Theory and exam-based subjects
- Approached in a modern way at Stamford College with practical elements, live projects and community work
- Recommended for those looking to access the Aim Higher programme for support with specialist university applications such as Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science and Law
- **Duration:** 2 Years

- **Subjects Studied:** 3
- **Typical Days at College:** 4-5
- **Level:** 3
- **Typical Entry Requirements:** 5 GCSEs at grades 5/C or above including English and maths and typically a 6/B in the subject relevant to the course for which you have applied.



DIPLOMAS

Diplomas are practical qualifications that relate to a particular profession or technical skill

- Equivalent to A Levels at Level 3
- Accepted by 95% of universities
- Designed to prepare you for employment
- Valued by employers as they provide the knowledge and experience which makes you readily employable
- Designed to teach you the technical skills you need in real-life, with the equipment you would typically find in the workplace

- Perfect if you feel like you have outgrown school and prefer a hands-on approach to learning
- **Duration:** 2 Years
- **Subjects Studied:** 1
- **Typical Days at College:** 3-4
- **Level:** 3 (other levels are available)
- **Typical Entry Requirements:** 4 GCSEs at grades 5/C or above including English and maths.



APPRENTICESHIPS

Apprenticeships combine on-the-job training with study.

- To kick start any career you're likely to need a combination of experience and qualifications, apprenticeships give you both
- Earn while you learn. The minimum weekly wage for an apprentice aged 16-18 is £124.50
- Great alternative to a full-time course, allowing your young person to work as a paid employee and gain a nationally recognised qualification
- 90% of apprentices go in to work for further training

- **Duration:** Typically, 2 Years
- **Subjects Studied:** 1
- **Typical Days at College:** 1
- **Hours:** 30 per week
- **Holiday:** 20 days
- **Level:** 1, 2 and 3
- **Typical Entry Requirements:** Level 1's can require no formal qualifications, with grades increasing towards higher levels. Full entry requirements are available on our website.

COURSE LEVELS

ENTRY LEVEL

No formal qualifications

LEVEL 1

GCSE Grades 3/D - 1/G

LEVEL 2

GCSE Grades 9/A* - 4/C
Apprenticeship Standard Level 2
(Intermediate)

LEVEL 3

A Levels
Apprenticeship Standard Level 3
(Advanced)

LEVEL 4

Higher National Certificate (HNC)
Higher Apprenticeship Level 4 - 6

LEVEL 5

Higher National Diploma (HND)
Foundation Degrees

LEVEL 6

Bachelor Degree
(Top Up Degree)



STUDENT SUPPORT

As part of our commitment to supporting learning and helping all of our students achieve their education goals, we have a dedicated team to help support them throughout their time at College.

LEARNING SUPPORT

If your young person has a learning difficulty or disability we can offer bespoke personal support plans and extra help in our dedicated Study Centre.

STUDENT ADVISORS

Our Student Advisors will ensure your young person gets the best out of their time at Stamford College. They are on hand to support, guide and advise them throughout their course and with everyday concerns.

SAFEGUARDING

The College is fully committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all learners. With on-site security and mandatory ID badges for all staff, students and visitors you can be sure your young person is safe at College.

THE WELFARE TEAM & COLLEGE YOUTH TEAM

Our Welfare and College Youth teams form an integral part of the enrichment and welfare support network of the College. They're here to help students stay healthy, happy and successful. They can help with a range of issues, provide a listening service and have contacts to a wide range of organisations for further support.

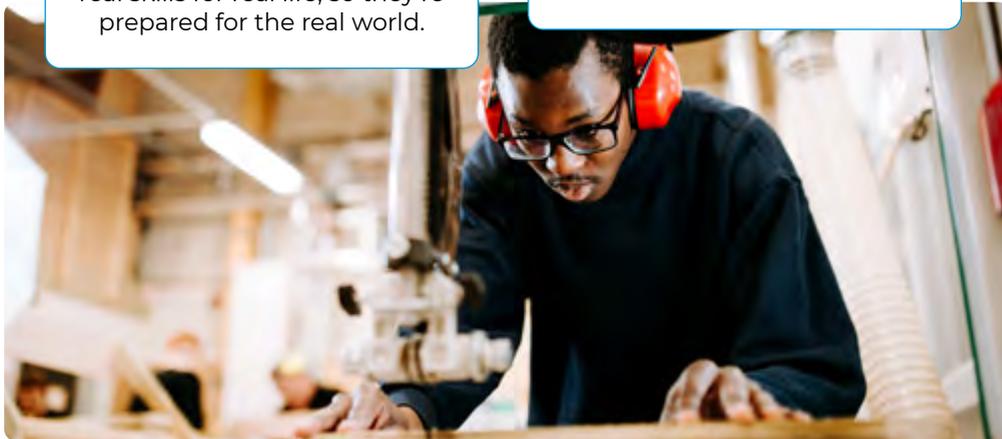
MYTHBUSTER

MYTH

A Levels are better than Diploma qualifications

FALSE

Most Level 3 courses are equivalent to three A Levels in terms of UCAS points. Diploma qualifications mean that students gain a more hands-on practical learning experience, studying amongst industry standard facilities that replicate employment environments and develop real skills for real life, so they're prepared for the real world.



MYTH

You need to study A Levels to get in to university

FALSE

Students studying Level 3 courses such as the Extended Diploma can gain up to 168 UCAS points (depending on their grades) equivalent to three A* at A Level. Apprentices can also progress to university level study with Higher Apprenticeships (Level 4).

MYTH

You have to go to university to get a degree

FALSE

You can study university level qualifications on campus at Stamford College through our partners at University Centre Peterborough. These career-focused courses are a great alternative to moving away to university, offer greater 1-2-1 support and smaller class sizes, as well as saving you thousands of pounds in living costs.



 University Centre Peterborough

MYTH

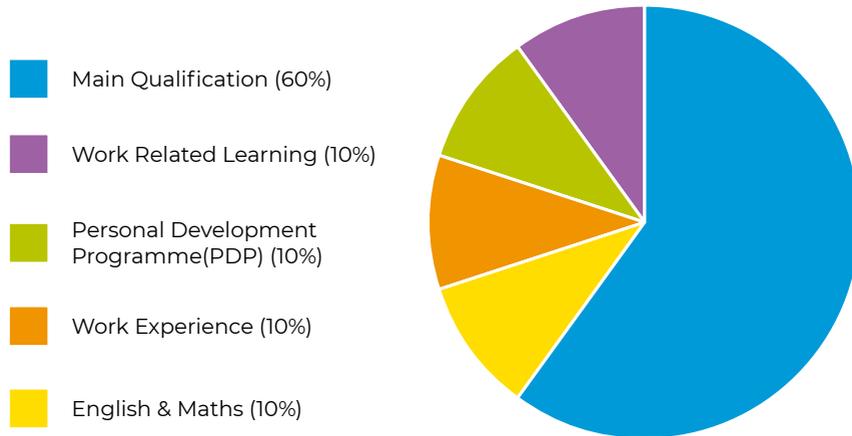
My young person is undecided and will miss the deadline

FALSE

We don't have a deadline for applications, in fact our applications stay open until late September! However, if your young person knows what they want to do, it's best to get their application in quickly as some courses are very popular. Even if they start a course they're not happy in, our 6-week transfer window will ensure they are on a course they love and are successful in. If they are undecided, book a place at one of our open events which are held throughout the year.

STUDY PROGRAMMES

Study Programmes have been designed to boost the employability skills of our students. Students enrol onto a Study Programme comprising of the following areas:



ENGLISH & MATHS

As English and maths qualifications are often a key requirement for any job role or university application, if your young person has not achieved a 4/C in GCSE English or maths or equivalent, they will continue to study English and maths alongside their main qualification to ensure they leave Stamford College with the grades they need for their future. We will assess their need for this at enrolment in the August before starting their course.



Maths Centre of Excellence

We are proud that Stamford College is one of 21 institutions across the country to be named a Maths Centre of Excellence, reflecting our long-standing reputation for English and maths achievement and performance.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Usually, students undertake a block week of 35 hours which has been identified for the course.

Students source their own placements and complete an online request 4 weeks prior to their start date.

Students in Early Years, Health and Social Care and Animal Studies complete a longer placement of which the duration is determined by qualification criteria.

Alternatively some students undertake internal placements within relevant areas of the College. Internal placements are often reserved for Level 1 students or those with specific requirements.

WORK RELATED LEARNING

Usually a project set by the course coordinator or an employer to give students the opportunity to develop knowledge, skills and understanding useful in work such as live briefs and learning work practices.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (PDP)

Students have weekly tutorial sessions where they will meet with their Student Advisors to discuss their progress to ensure they get the very best out of their time at College.

CAREERS

In support of your young person's Study Programme our Careers Advisor can provide impartial information, advice and guidance on:

- Deciding between Higher Education, employment or another course at Stamford College.
- University and UCAS applications
- Job applications, C.V.s and cover letters
- Interview techniques
- Job search and social media

LIFE AT COLLEGE

Stamford College is equipped with specially designed facilities across the campus to replicate industry, build independence outside of the classroom and prepare students for employment.



INSPIRE SALON

Our commercial salon which features the very best salon equipment. It's a real salon, with paying clients, so we can deliver the best possible training to our students.

PLACES TO EAT

Students can have a bite to eat in one of our many food outlets serving homemade hot and cold food and drinks and options for vegan and vegetarian diets.

Students can also access the Gallery Kitchen restaurant, open to the public, offering the finest gourmet dining and take away options freshly prepared by our Catering and Hospitality students.



BORDERVILLE SPORTS CENTRE

Also home to Stamford AFC and Stamford Fitness gym, Borderville is designed specifically for sport development and fitness training and boasts a 3G artificial grass pitch, FA rated pitch and 735sq metre sprung floor sports hall.



DIGITAL SKILLS CENTRE

A hub for IT students hosting state-of-the-art equipment perfectly suited to prepare students for the modern, digital world.



MONEY MATTERS

Stamford College may be able to help you with the cost of education including bursaries and support for equipment, transport and uniform.

16-18 SUPPORT FUND

Students aged 18 or under at the start of the academic year with a household income of less than £27,000, may be eligible for assistance towards College-related costs such as equipment, uniform, transport and Free College Meals.

If you are a guardian of a child in care, or the parent of a disabled young person in receipt of Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments as well as Employment Support Allowance or Universal Credit, they may be eligible for a bursary.

19+ SUPPORT FUND

This is a discretionary fund for students aged 19 and over at the start of the academic year. Support may be available to assist with College-related costs such as equipment, uniform, transport and Free College Meals plus childcare.



Click to read our Financial Support guides online

For more information please contact our Student Services Team **01780 484300** ext. 344 or **financial.support@stamford.ac.uk**

SUCCESS STORIES

“When I joined the Travel and Tourism course I had planned to progress to Cabin Crew especially with the College’s great links to professionals such as Jet 2 and British Airways. However the varied units and business modules on the course helped me find a new passion for Marketing and I’m now heading to university to study for my degree.”

Alice O’Reilly
Travel & Tourism



“The IT course is designed with careers in mind and offers a broad range of specialist

subjects which help kick-start your career in a competitive industry. I’m now COO of IT support specialists Microbyte, providing IT support to companies across the UK, London and Dubai.”

Lewis Livingston
IT



Want to hear more student success stories? Visit our website or follow our social feeds for all the latest news.



GETTING TO COLLEGE

We can help arrange subsidised transport where possible for students wishing to travel from bordering counties.

Our 15 College routes cover 101 different locations including, Oakham, Peterborough, Sawtry, Spalding and many more. Students travelling from Lincolnshire and Rutland areas such as Bourne and the Deepings may need to apply direct to their relevant County Councils first.

ROUTE FINDER

Not sure which route is the right one for you? Visit our Transport page on the website and enter your postcode to find your nearest stop.

CONTACT US

Have a query? Contact our dedicated Transport Team; transport@stamford.ac.uk

Keep on track with regular updates [@College_buses](https://twitter.com/College_buses)



HOW WE CAN HELP YOU

Applying to College is a big step so we want to ensure our application process is as simple as possible. Students can apply online on our website, by post or through UCAS Progress.

APPLICATION & ENROLMENT

When your young person has applied to study at Stamford College they will attend an interview with the lecturer of their chosen course.

Throughout the year we will send them information to remind them what they need to do in order to secure their place at College. We will also send you information at key times to update you on the status of their application.

PARENTS' EVENINGS

When your young person starts College, you will be invited to attend at least two parents' evenings. You will receive information on when these will be held nearer the time.

As a guide, this year they are being held in September and February. To ensure you are kept up-to-date with information on your young person's progress, please check we have your

current email address and mobile phone number.

INTERVIEWS

After your young person has applied, they will be invited to an interview where they will meet their tutors and find out more about the course.





Stamford College

Part of the **Inspire Education Group**

www.stamford.ac.uk
01780 484300
enquiries@stamford.ac.uk

